

Information Session: Rural Population Health Incubator Program (2026-2027 Cycle)

Nov. 17, 2025
Dec. 18, 2025

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Agenda

1. Mission
2. Grant overview
3. Program benefits
4. Grantee expectations
5. Eligibility + priority
6. Application instructions
7. Budget
8. Scoring
9. Key dates + program links
10. Questions

Incubator Mission

The mission of the Rural Population Health Incubator Program is to strengthen community health in rural Oregon by funding and supporting population health programs initiated by rural hospitals, clinics and community-based organizations.

Grant Overview

- Grants of up to \$10,000
- Total of 8 grants: four are set aside for either CAHs or CAH-owned RHCs, with opportunity for additional through Roundhouse partnership
- Eligible applicants: rural hospitals, clinics, public health, EMS and other community-based organizations
OR entity with an established partnership with a rural organization
- Programs must aim to increase community health, whether directly or indirectly
- Examples of past programs and grantees found on the Incubator website: ohsu.edu/orhincubator



Program Benefits

Selected grantees will:

- Receive up to \$10,000 to support their population health program;
- Join other Incubator grantees and attend quarterly cohort meetings
- Join workshops on topics identified by grantees
- Receive specialized support from ORH, including resources, information and referrals to experts to assist their program.

Grantee Expectations

Incubator grantees are expected to:

- Complete program surveys (baseline survey and final survey)
- Complete a midpoint report (due Oct. 16, 2026) and final report (due April 30, 2027)
 - Instructions will be sent 4-6 weeks ahead of time
- Attend all cohort meetings and workshops, to the best of your ability
- Communicate any changes to your program goals, outcomes and budget

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be located in a rural area as defined by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy and accessed through the [Am I Rural? Tool](#) (or apply in partnership with a rural organization)
- Address a population health need, whether directly or indirectly
- Be a hospital, clinic, public health department, EMS agency or community-based organization/nonprofit

Priority

Priority will be given to applications that:

1. Serve a high-needs service area as outlined in ORH's [Areas of Unmet Health Care Need Report](#).
2. Serve a group or groups with demonstrated population health needs;
3. Address a pressing community health need as identified by the organization's Community Health Needs Assessment or the county/CCO's Community Health Assessment
4. Bring together diverse community partners to address the specific population health need the applicant has identified.

Application Instructions

- The request for proposal document can be found on the Incubator website
- The RFP outlines the online form – prepare your answers ahead of time
 - Contact information
 - Project description
 - Target population
 - Program administration
 - Project goals, timeline and evaluation
 - Budget (use word doc in prep, enter values in the form)
 - Supplemental Material
- Submit final proposal online by 5pm on Jan. 23, 2026

Budget

- Applications that propose using funds solely for medical devices for direct patient care will not be approved.
 - However, purchasing supplies and equipment that support your overarching population health program and goals is allowable.
 - For example:
 - Allowable: A hospital who requests grant funds to support their programming for older adults and would like to use Incubator funding to purchase gym equipment that is needed for their weekly mobility classes.
 - Unallowable: A clinic applies for funding to buy 100 blood pressure cuffs.
- **Grant funds cannot be spent on food or drink**
- **Funds cannot be used to solely support salaries for direct patient care (i.e. to support a nurse's annual salary)**

Scoring

Scoring will be based on:

- Overall impact and approach

Does this program address a demonstrated population health need? Does the program description show how the applicant's approach will impact the priority population? Does the project address an area of high need per ORH's Areas of Unmet Health Care Needs Report? Applications will be scored on the program's overall impact on the priority population.
- Innovation, sustainability and replicability

Applications will be scored on their innovation, ability to last after the grant period and ability to be replicated in other areas.

Scoring

Scoring will be based on:

- Organization and project team

Applications will be scored on the expertise of the staff overseeing the program, in addition to community support and partnerships.

- Budget

The application's budget will be scored based on its alignment with the proposed grant activities and if it aligns with the allowable expenses (applications that support medical supplies for direct patient care and/or food/drink will not be considered).

Key Dates + Program Links

Key Dates:

Application period begins	Nov. 3, 2025
Incubator information session #1	Nov. 17, 2025
Incubator information session #2	Dec. 18, 2025
Deadline to submit proposals	5:00 p.m., Jan. 23, 2026
Notification of award	Feb. 27, 2026
Project period	April 15, 2026– April 14, 2027

Program Links:

- [Incubator Website](#)
 - [Incubator RFP](#)
 - [Incubator FAQ](#)
 - [Incubator Proposal Submission](#)

Questions?

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Learn more at ohsu.edu/orhincubator