

Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP)

Farm-to-School Procurement and Policy Technical Assistance (TA)

Informational/Question and Answer Session Announcement

The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) is issuing this Request for Applications (RFA) for the purpose of entering into a Grant agreement and awarding Federal funds to eligible and qualified agencies. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has approved funding for Nebraska to provide grants totaling approximately \$8,344,000.00 to support local food production, processing, aggregation, and distribution infrastructure in order to expand availability of kitchen-ready products and reduce preparation burden on school kitchens. Funding must be used to purchase food production, aggregation, processing, and distribution equipment that supports access to local foods, including proteins, that promote healthy eating. This funding is also intended to support farm-to-school procurement capacity, coordination between local producers and schools, and participation in related technical assistance activities. NDE will award funding to qualified Applicants who submit a complete application, as described below. A total award of this amount of funds is not guaranteed but is subject to the Applications received, to the actual money appropriated to the NDE, and to the NDE's discretion. (RHTP RFA 1.3)

RFA #	TOTAL FUNDING AVAILABLE	RELEASE DATE
RHTP INITIATIVE 1.3	\$8.2 million	June 12, 2026
APPLICATION DUE DATE	PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE	APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND QUESTIONS
8/31/2026	6/12/2026 – 10/31/2027	Kayte.partch@nebraska.gov
INFORMATIONAL/QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSIONS		
Date: July 15, 2026	Time: 9:30 a.m. CT	Meeting number: Meeting password:
Join by Link:	https://educationne.zoom.us/j/97455685005	
Join by Phone:	669-444-9171 97455685005#	
Date:		Meeting number: Meeting password:
Join by Link:		
Join by Phone:		

Questions regarding the program and applications should be sent to:

Kayte.Partch@nebraska.gov

Required Funding Statement:

The Rural Health Transformation Program is supported by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (US HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$218,529,075.01 with 100 percent funded by CMS/US HHS. The contents are those of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement by, CMS/US HHS, or the U.S. Government.