



Request for Applications (RFA)

Healthcare Associated Infections (HAI) Prevention

RFA #	TOTAL FUNDING AVAILABLE	RELEASE DATE
RHTP 4.2b	\$383,500.00	04/10/2026
APPLICATION DUE DATE	PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE	APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND QUESTIONS
05/08/2026	01/01/2026 - 07/31/2027	DHHS.HAI-AR@nebraska.gov

Overview

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) was awarded Federal funds through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) as part of the Nebraska Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) Initiative 4.2b Healthcare-Associated Infection (HAI) Prevention. Through this initiative, DHHS will assist healthcare partners in their efforts to reduce preventable infections, limit antibiotic resistance, and improve healthcare outcomes in rural Nebraska. The period of performance is 01/01/2026- 07/31/27.

Eligibility Information

The following Nebraska healthcare facilities are eligible to apply for this funding opportunity:

- Outpatient healthcare facilities, including medical, surgical, and dental clinics/centers
- Hospitals, including acute-care hospitals, long-term acute care hospitals and critical access hospitals
- Long-term care facilities (LTCF), including nursing homes/skilled nursing facilities (SNF) and assisted living facilities (ALF).

Use of Funds

The funds are made available through cost reimbursement to healthcare facilities performing any of the following activities:

- Cost reimbursement for one of the following Antimicrobial Stewardship Training Programs upon successful completion of the certification: 1. Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacist (SIDP) Antimicrobial Stewardship certificate program 2. Making a Difference in infectious Diseases (MAD-ID) Basic Antimicrobial Stewardship Training Program 3. MAD-ID in-person Advanced Antimicrobial Stewardship Program or 4. The Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA) in-person Antibiotic Stewardship Training Course (Maximum 2 pharmacist per healthcare facility, with each choosing one of the above-mentioned training – reimbursement capped at \$600 per pharmacist for training #1, \$500 per pharmacist for training #2, \$3,400 per pharmacist for training #3 and \$3,800 for training #4; includes certification/training program fee for respective training, and travel expenses for in person conference). **[This activity is only available to hospitals.]**
- Cost reimbursement for infection preventionists (IPs) certification attempts through Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology, Inc (Maximum 2 IPs per healthcare facility – reimbursement

capped at \$1,300 per IP; includes certification fee and study materials expenses). **[This activity is available to all eligible facility types.]**

- Cost reimbursement for infection prevention and control and antimicrobial stewardship staff attending the Nebraska Infectious Diseases Conference (Maximum 2 staff per healthcare facility – reimbursement capped at \$500 per staff for facility within 50 miles of conference center, \$1000 per staff for facility between 50 to 250 miles; and \$1,500 per staff for facility over 250 miles from conference center; includes registration fees, hotel stay, mileage, meals and staff time spent at the conference). **[This activity is available to all eligible facility types.]**
- Cost reimbursement for IT staff time spent on onboarding/maintenance of outpatient antibiotic use dashboard provided by the Collaboration to Harmonize Antimicrobial Registry Measures (CHARM) project (reimbursement will be capped at \$7,500 per healthcare organization even if onboarding multiple clinics.). **[This activity is only available to hospitals, and outpatient healthcare facilities.]**

Funding Restrictions

Expenditure of these funds must be for necessary, allowable, and reasonable costs incurred during the Period of Performance from 1/1/26 to 7/31/27. The dates and allowable use of funds may be subject to change. Allowable costs follow 2 CFR 200 and 2 CFR 300, and do not include construction. Reimbursement for this project will only be provided for the expenses outlined in this RFA (see use of funds section above). No administrative costs are allowed for activities included in this RFA.

Reporting Requirements

Applicants must have a financial system in place to monitor their expenditures. Facilities will only be able to request cost reimbursement after completion of the activities. Proof of completion of activities will need to be submitted along with all receipts. Participating entities will be expected to adhere to requirements around data collection, reporting, and federal fund management. The requirements related to these funds will be more fully described in a subsequent agreement.

Application Instructions

The application will be approved on a first come first serve basis until the funding lasts for specific activities. The DHHS HAI-AR program will review each application for eligibility. The facility may need to provide additional information upon request during the review process. Incomplete applications or lack of response in a timely manner to the DHHS inquiry will lead to rejection of the application. **Application due date is Friday May 8, 2026.**

To apply, healthcare facility officials authorized to apply for grants on behalf of the agency should complete this web-based application: <https://redcap.link/HAIpreventionRFA>.

Question and Answer Sessions:

A Q&A session for this RFA will be held by Nebraska DHHS Healthcare Associated Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance (HAI/AR) Program on **Wednesday April 15, 2026, from 12:00-1:00pm CST**. Interested healthcare facilities can register for this session using this [link](#). Additional session dates may be announced later on the [DHHS RHTP webpage](#). Frequently asked questions will also be posted on the webpage after the session.

Questions regarding this project and application process can also be sent to: DHHS.HAI-AR@nebraska.gov.

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.