

## STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

### USDA Seeks Applications for Grants to Increase Health Care Access in the Delta Region

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29, 2018 – Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development Anne Hazlett today announced that USDA is seeking applications for grants to increase access to health care under USDA's [Delta Health Care Services Grant program](#).

The Delta Health Care Services Grant program provides financial assistance to address unmet health needs in the Delta Region through cooperation among health care professionals, institutions of higher education, research institutions, and economic development entities in the Delta Region. The Region is comprised of the 252 counties and parishes within the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee that are served by the Delta Regional Authority.

Grants are awarded on a competitive basis. They range from a minimum award of \$50,000 to a maximum grant award of \$1 million.

Questions about the application process may be directed to the USDA Rural Development State Office where the applicant is located. For a list of offices, visit the [state office website](#).

Paper applications are due Nov. 26, 2018. Electronic applications are due Nov. 19, 2018. For more information on how to apply for a grant, see page 44015 of the Aug. 29 [Federal Register](#). Potential applicants are encouraged to review the notice carefully since programmatic changes for this funding cycle may affect applicant or project status. Potential applicants are also strongly encouraged to file their application early to allow sufficient time to address any issues that may arise.

USDA encourages applications that will support recommendations made in the report to the President from the Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity to help improve life in rural America. Applicants are encouraged to consider projects that provide measurable results in helping rural communities build robust and sustainable economies through strategic investments in infrastructure, partnerships and innovation. Key strategies include:

- Achieving e-Connectivity for rural America
- Developing the rural economy
- Harnessing technological innovation
- Supporting a rural workforce
- Improving quality of life

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