

## Broadband Funding Guide

Department: Federal Communications Commission

1	Today's Date	2/7/2020
2	Federal Agency/Bureau	Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
3	Agency Overview	The FCC regulates interstate and international communications by radio, television, wire, satellite, and cable in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories. An independent U.S. government agency overseen by Congress, the Commission is the United States' primary authority for communications law, regulation, and technological innovation.
4	Program Name	Rural Health Care (RHC) Program
5	Program Website	<a href="https://www.usac.org/rural-health-care/">https://www.usac.org/rural-health-care/</a>
6	Program Overview	<p>The RHC Program provides funding to eligible public or non-profit health care providers for broadband and telecommunications services necessary for the provision of health care. RHC Program support is provided on a funding year basis. Funding years run from July 1 through June 30 of the subsequent year.</p> <p>The RHC Program provides funding through two programs: the Telecommunications (Telecom) Program and the Healthcare Connect Fund Program. The Telecom Program ensures that rural health care providers pay no more than their urban counterparts for eligible telecommunications services. The Healthcare Connect Fund Program, established in 2012, provides a flat 65% discount on an array of communications services to both individual rural health care providers and consortia, which can include non-rural health care providers (if the consortium has a majority of rural sites). These services include Internet access, dark fiber leases, business data, traditional DSL, and private carriage services, among others, along with funding for construction of health care provider-owned communications facilities.</p>
7	Link to Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) if applicable	
8	Program Purpose	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning (e.g., feasibility) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Broadband Infrastructure (e.g., construction) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Broadband Adoption <input type="checkbox"/> Digital Skills Training <input type="checkbox"/> Public Computer Access <input type="checkbox"/> Smart Cities <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Research <input type="checkbox"/> Broadband Financing <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

9	<b>Eligible Recipients</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Libraries <input type="checkbox"/> K-12 Schools <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Institutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hospitals <input type="checkbox"/> Public Safety Entities <input type="checkbox"/> State and Local Governments <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Entities <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial/Internet Service Providers <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Small Businesses <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Recipients <input type="checkbox"/> Electric Utilities/Co-ops <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Institutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Eligible health care providers and provider consortia
10	<b>Agency Contact</b>	Telecommunications Access Policy Division Wireline Competition Bureau Federal Communications Commission 445 12 <sup>th</sup> Street, SW 20554 (202) 418-7400
11	<b>FY2020 Funding Type and Amount</b>	Discount; ~\$593,782,000 [funding cap for 2019; the 2020 funding cap is not yet available]
12	<b>Additional Information</b>	<a href="https://www.usac.org/rural-health-care/">https://www.usac.org/rural-health-care/</a>