



Federal Telehealth and Telemedicine Programs

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

APRIL 16, 2020

FCC COVID-19 Telehealth Program

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Overview

- Administered by the Federal Communications Commission
- \$ 200 million - CARES Act
- Application open **April 13**
- No deadline set

Eligibility

- Open to nonprofit and public eligible health care providers that fall within the categories of health care providers in section 254(h)(7)(B) of the Telecommunications Act
- Costs incurred during the Pandemic on or after March 13.
- Full funding up to \$1 Million per applicant
- Rural and non-rural health care providers

Supported Service

- Telecommunications services for patients
- Information Services, including internet connectivity for patients.
- Connected devices (e.g. tablets, smart phones, data enabled blood pressure monitors, etc...)

FCC Connected Care Pilot Program

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Overview

- Administered by the FCC
- \$100 Million over 3 years
- Pilot program - data collection
- Funded through the universal service fund
- Focus on low-income and veteran patients
- Focused on “public health epidemics”
- Applications due 45 days after publication in the Fed. Reg.

Eligibility

- Open to nonprofit and public eligible health care providers that fall within the categories of health care providers in section 254(h)(7)(B) of the Telecommunications Act
- Open to Rural and Non rural providers
- Focus is on data collection and trialing healthcare delivery methods. **No applicant limit**

Supported Services

Covers 85% of:

- the cost of broadband connectivity for patients.
- Network equipment
- Information services

FCC Rural Healthcare Program

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Overview

- Helps rural healthcare facilities gain access to broadband and telecommunications services
- Two sub-programs:
 - Healthcare Connect Program
 - Telecommunications Program
- \$571 Million/year

Eligibility

- Rural healthcare provider
- Open to nonprofit and public eligible health care providers that fall within the categories of health care providers in section 254(h)(7)(B) of the Telecommunications Act
- Open to non-rural facilities that members of a mostly rural consortium.
- **Many Vermont Facilities already participate**

Supported Services

- Telecommunications program: Subsidizes the cost of rural vs. urban telephone rates.
- Healthcare connect supports formation of regional healthcare networks and broadband connectivity. 65% discount on:
 - Dark fiber
 - Business data
 - DSL and private carriage line

USDA Telehealth and Distance Learning Program

Overview

- Administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- Provides capital support for distance learning and Telemedicine
- New CARES Act Round gives away \$75 Million
- Deadline: July 13, 2020

Eligibility

- Providers of education and healthcare
 - Non-profits
 - For profit business
 - State & local Gov and Federally recognized tribes

Supported Services

- Acquisition of eligible capital assets, such as:
 - Broadband transmission facilities
 - Audio, video and interactive video equipment
 - Terminal and data terminal equipment
 - Computer hardware, network components and software
 - Inside wiring and similar infrastructure that further DLT services

Vermont State Broadband Statistics

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Speed Tier	Served	% Served	Not Served	% not Served
100/100 Mbps	53,777	17.5%	254,305	82.5%
25/3 Mbps	238,183	77.3%	68,899	22.7%
4/1 Mbps	287,104	93.2%	20,978	6.8%