



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
 OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

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 112B  
 DEC 17 2025

Lori A. Weaver  
 Commissioner

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December 9, 2025

The Honorable Ken Weyler, Chairman  
 Fiscal Committee of the General Court and

Her Excellency, Governor Kelly A. Ayotte  
 and the Honorable Council  
 State House  
 Concord, NH 03301

**REQUESTED ACTION**

Pursuant to the provisions of RSA 14:30-a, VI, authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, on behalf of the Governor's Office of New Opportunities & Rural Transformational Health ("GO-NORTH"), to accept and expend up to \$265,450,497 of Rural Health Transformation Grant funds, from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), to make rural healthcare more connected, resilient, and responsive, effective January 1, 2026, upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2027, and authorize the allocation of these funds in the account below. 100% Federal Funds.

**01-02-02-020310-XXXX0000 General Government, Executive Department, Executive Department, GO-NORTH, GO-NORTH**

**State Fiscal Year 2026**

000-TBD-16	Federal Funds	\$ -	\$ 70,868,177	\$ 70,868,177
Sub Total Revenue:		\$ -	\$ 70,868,177	\$ 70,868,177
<b>Expense</b>				
016-500141	Personal Services Non Classified	\$ -	\$745,630	\$ 745,630
020-500200	Current Expenses	\$ -	\$120,135	\$ 120,135
030-500301	Equipment New/Replacement	\$ -	\$5,000	\$ 5,000
037-500166	Technology - Hardware	\$ -	\$24,000	\$ 24,000
038-500175	Technology - Software	\$ -	\$7,200	\$ 7,200
039-500188	Telecommunications	\$ -	\$7,000	\$ 7,000
040-500800	Indirect Costs	\$ -	\$100,000	\$ 100,000
041-500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	\$ -	\$70,797	\$ 70,797
042-500620	Post Retirement	\$ -	\$100,000	\$ 100,000
060-500601	Benefits	\$ -	\$378,974	\$ 378,974
066-500543	Employee Training	\$ -	\$7,022	\$ 7,022
070-500704	In-State Travel	\$ -	\$6,455	\$ 6,455
074-500585	Grants for Pub Asst and Relief	\$ -	\$62,118,627	\$ 62,118,627
080-500710	Out of State Travel	\$ -	\$4,869	\$ 4,869
085-588595	Interagency Xfr Out of Fed	\$ -	\$116,963	\$ 116,963
102-500731	Contract for Program Services	\$ -	\$7,055,505	\$ 7,055,505
Sub Total Expense:		\$ -	\$ 70,868,177	\$ 70,868,177

**State Fiscal Year 2027**

<b>Class/Object</b>	<b>Class Title</b>	<b>Current Authorized Budget</b>	<b>Requested Change</b>	<b>Adjusted Budget</b>
<b>Revenue</b>				
000-TBD-16	Federal Funds	\$ -	\$ 185,582,320	\$ 185,582,320
Sub Total Revenue:		\$ -	\$ 185,582,320	\$ 185,582,320
<b>Expense</b>				
016-500141	Personal Services Non Classified	\$ -	\$ 1,799,074	\$ 1,799,074
020-500200	Current Expenses	\$ -	\$ 20,732	\$ 20,732
030-500301	Equipment New/Replacement	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
037-500166	Technology - Hardware	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
038-500175	Technology - Software	\$ -	\$ 6,200	\$ 6,200
039-500188	Telecommunications	\$ -	\$ 9,400	\$ 9,400
040-500800	Indirect Costs	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000
041-500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	\$ -	\$ 185,477	\$ 185,477
042-500620	Post Retirement	\$ -	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000
060-500601	Benefits	\$ -	\$ 824,299	\$ 824,299
066-500543	Employee Training	\$ -	\$ 47,022	\$ 47,022
070-500704	In-State Travel	\$ -	\$ 8,785	\$ 8,785
074-500585	Grants for Pub Asst and Relief	\$ -	\$ 165,986,802	\$ 165,986,802
080-500710	Out of State Travel	\$ -	\$ 6,627	\$ 6,627
085-588556	Interagency Xfr Out of Fed	\$ -	\$ 1,403,267	\$ 1,403,267
085-588595	Interagency Xfr Out of Fed	\$ -	\$ 233,926	\$ 233,926
102-500731	Contract for Program Services	\$ -	\$ 14,643,709	\$ 14,643,709
Sub Total Expense:		\$ -	\$ 185,582,320	\$ 185,582,320

**EXPLANATION**

The Department of Health and Human Services, on behalf of GO-NORTH, requests authorization to accept and expend the approximately \$256 million, which was the amount included in Rural Health Transformation Grant (RHTG) application submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Approval will allow GO-NORTH to avoid delays and work to begin on January 1, 2026, to reduce the likelihood of unspent federal funds. The final RHTG award will likely not be determined until late December and any funds included in this item in excess of that award will be written down. The Department is requesting authority to accept and expend the amount included in the RHTG application submitted to the CMS to avoid delays and allow GO-NORTH to immediately begin work on January 1, 2026. This is particularly important because the GO-NORTH has a limited time frame to spend the money and CMS has stated that unspent funds will be regularly reviewed and redistributed to other states. The RHTG is a five-year federal award beginning December 31, 2025, with authority to expend funds for up to six years, through September 30, 2031.

The Governor issued Executive Order 2025-06 on November 6, 2025, formally establishing the new office of GO-NORTH. As detailed in the Executive Order GO-NORTH, which is within the Governor’s Office, will act as the lead agency overseeing New Hampshire’s RHT program “Granite Strong. Future Ready.” RHTG will be utilized to build a stronger, modernized, and more connected health care system that will:

- **Improve everyone's quality of life** through access to primary and preventative care, chronic disease management, maternal health care, behavioral health services, and oral health care;
- **Deepen partnerships** among healthcare and community organizations to coordinate resources and promote more integrated care;
- **Use innovative technology to make care easier to access** at home, in the community, and at the provider's office;
- **Strengthen the rural health workforce** by investing in recruitment, retention, and training and building career paths to encourage skilled providers to stay in rural New Hampshire; and
- **Promote financial sustainability** with new technology, operational efficiencies, and payment models to help rural providers adapt to changes and continue to serve their communities for years to come.

The Governor's Office and Department of Health and Human Services (Department) actively assessed the needs of rural health in the state by holding public engagement sessions with interested providers, collecting written responses through a formal Request for Information process, and holding one-on-one conversations with leadership from across rural New Hampshire. Based on the conversations and information collected, the state submitted its RHTG grant application to CMS on November 5, 2025.

While the final award and budget has not been finalized by CMS, the Department requests to budget funds as follows:

- Class 016 – Personal Services Non-Classified – To pay for non-classified staff salaries of GO-NORTH staff established pursuant to RSA 4:12 and Executive Order 2025-06.
- Class 020 – Current Expenses – To purchase necessary office supplies to carry out the grant.
- Class 030 – Equipment New/Replacement – To purchase office equipment to support the grant.
- Class 037 – Technology Hardware – To purchase computers and monitors for staff.
- Class 038 – Technology Software – Funding for the provision of all necessary software licenses.
- Class 039 – Telecommunications – To cover monthly cellular communication costs.
- Class 040 – Indirect Costs – This expense class is used to record agency indirect cost recoveries and agency payments for central State services included in the Statewide Cost Allocation Plan (SWCAP).
- Class 041 – Audit Fund Set Aside – RSA 124:16 requires state agencies to set aside a percentage of federal funds for financial and compliance audits in an amount equal to the rate approved in the statewide indirect cost plan (i.e., 0.1%).
- Class 042 – Post Retirement - Post retirement is used to reimburse the general fund for payments for retiree health insurance.
- Class 060 – Benefits – Funds to support benefits of non-classified GO-NORTH staff.
- Class 066 – Employee Training – To support staff in developing expertise needed to guide RHTP activities.

Class 070 – In State Travel Reimbursement - Local travel to attend meeting and project activities.

Class 074 – Grants for Pub Asst and Relief – Support payments to subrecipients that will be contractually required to carry out rural health transformation initiatives and projects as approved by CMS.

Class 080 – Out of State Travel – Out of State Travel required to attend anticipated required RHTG trainings.

Class 085 – Interagency Transfer Federal – (1) To reimburse the Department of Health and Human Services for supporting services related to procurement, human resources, legal, facilities; and (2) To transfer funds to the NH Department of Education for implementation of school-based programming focused on physical activity and wellness

Class 102 – Contracts for Program Services - Contract payments to contractors providing direct services to GO-NORTH that support the rural health transformation statewide.

Source of Funds: 100% Federal Funds.

Upon receipt of the final award, GO-NORTH will submit an informational item to update the Fiscal Committee and Governor and Executive Council.

In the event that the Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lori A. Weaver  
Commissioner