



ALASKA

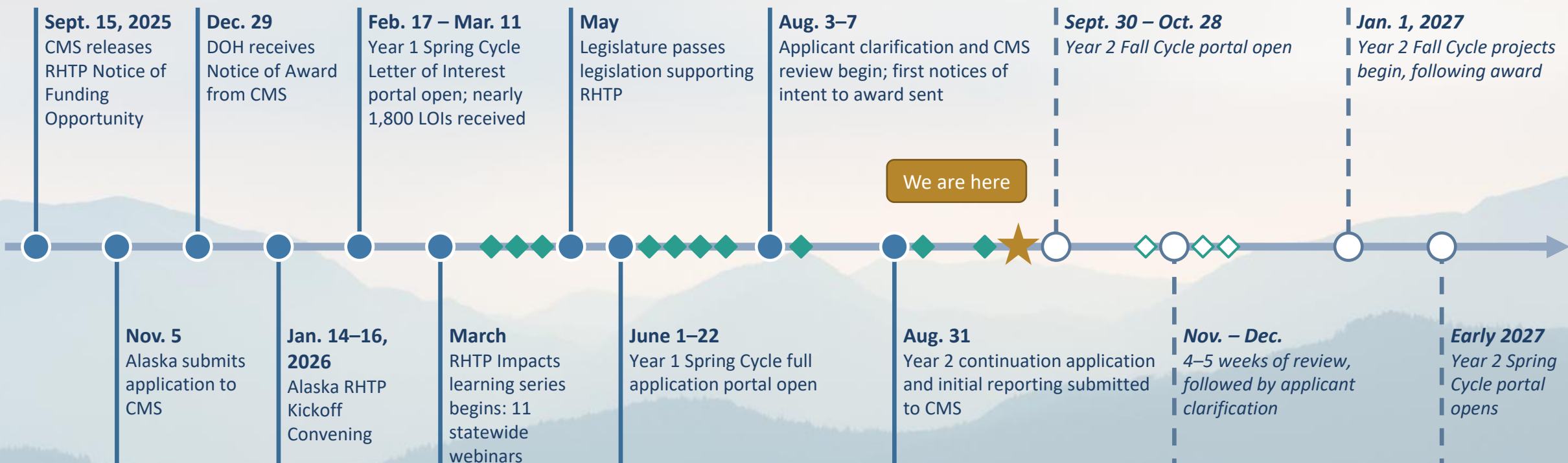
RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION



Advisory Council Meeting

September 23, 2026

Timeline to Date



◆ **Regional planning meetings** Community-led meetings to identify local priorities and shape a shared vision for rural health transformation in each region.

◆ **Held**

Seward – Apr. 29
Kenai Peninsula – Apr. 30
Interior – May 5
Mat-Su – June 4

Copper River Basin – June 25
Cordova – June 29–30
Dillingham – July 8
Ketchikan – Aug. 10

Valdez – Sept. 3
Greater Anchorage Area – Sept. 22

◇ **Planned**

Utqiagvik / North Slope – Oct. 27
Kodiak – Nov. 9
Juneau – Nov. 17

Implementation Award Timing



Award announcements are issued as selected projects complete the final steps

- First notices of intent to award went out August 7
- New awards are released weekly

Before an award is issued:

- Applicant clarification and follow-up questions after review
- Budget revisions to clarify, correct, or remove costs
- CMS review of activities and costs; federal guidance continues to evolve
- Required documentation

Year 1 Funding Awards to Date



Week 1 | Aug 7

\$4.5M

Project Awards

19

Projects

Week 2 | Aug 14

\$30.1M

Project Awards

37

Projects

Week 3 | Aug 21

\$130M

Project Awards

105

Projects

Week 4 | Aug 28

\$16.9M

Project Awards

24

Projects

Week 5 | Sept 4

\$27.1M

Project Awards

32

Projects

Week 6 | Sept 18

\$30.1M

Project Awards

27

Projects

Week 7

TBD

Cumulative
Total

\$239M

Project Awards

244

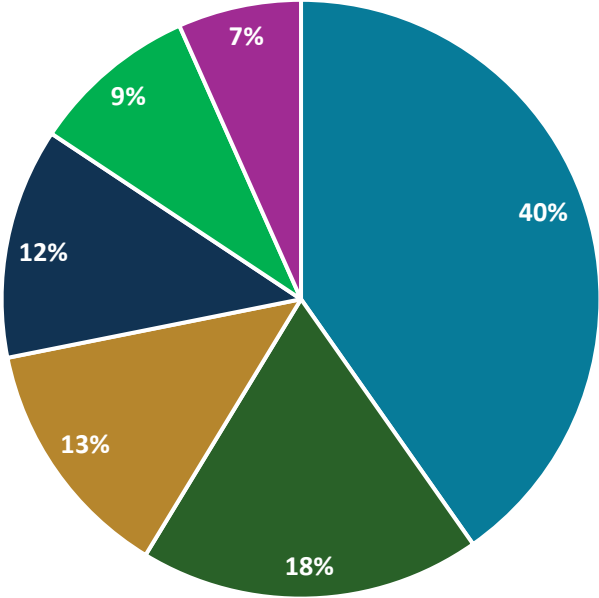
Projects

Please note that subaward budget finalization is still in progress. The data presented reflects projected award amounts as of September 18, and minor adjustments to award amounts may occur as the process is completed. We anticipate more award announcements in the coming weeks.

Where Year 1 Funding Is Being Invested



Awarded Funding by Initiative Area
(% of total announced)



- Health Care Access
- Spark Technology and Innovation
- Pay for Value
- Strengthen Workforce
- Healthy Communities
- Healthy Beginnings

Initiative	Description	Funding
Health Care Access	Expanding access to behavioral health, pharmacy, dental, specialty, and primary care services	\$96.2M
Spark Technology & Innovation	Modernizing health technology, telehealth, electronic records, and digital infrastructure	\$44.1M
Pay for Value	Improving financial sustainability and preparing providers for value-based care	\$31.5M
Strengthen Workforce	Building Alaska's health care workforce pipeline through training and recruitment	\$29.8M
Healthy Communities	Improving prevention, wellness, care coordination, and community health supports	\$21.5M
Healthy Beginnings	Supporting maternal health, early childhood services, and youth wellness	\$15.9M

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Lessons Learned in Year 1



Year 1 has been characterized by iterative learning and rapid adaptation at every stage.

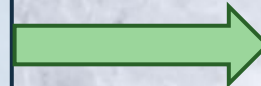
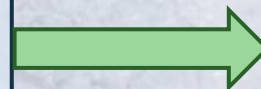
Year 1 Feedback

The application was too laborious and time-consuming.

Applicants needed more help turning big ideas into actionable proposals.

Application clarification took too long.

Small applicants don't see themselves in the process and need more technical support.



Year 2 Refinements

Critically evaluated and streamlined application components.

Clarified DOH priorities and developed targeted questions to help applicants define what they are proposing.

Year 2 application streamlines input of organization-level data and technical information.

Developed more robust technical assistance opportunities and resources.

Year 2 Operational Improvements



A shorter funding cycle, with more time for applicants to prepare and DOH review

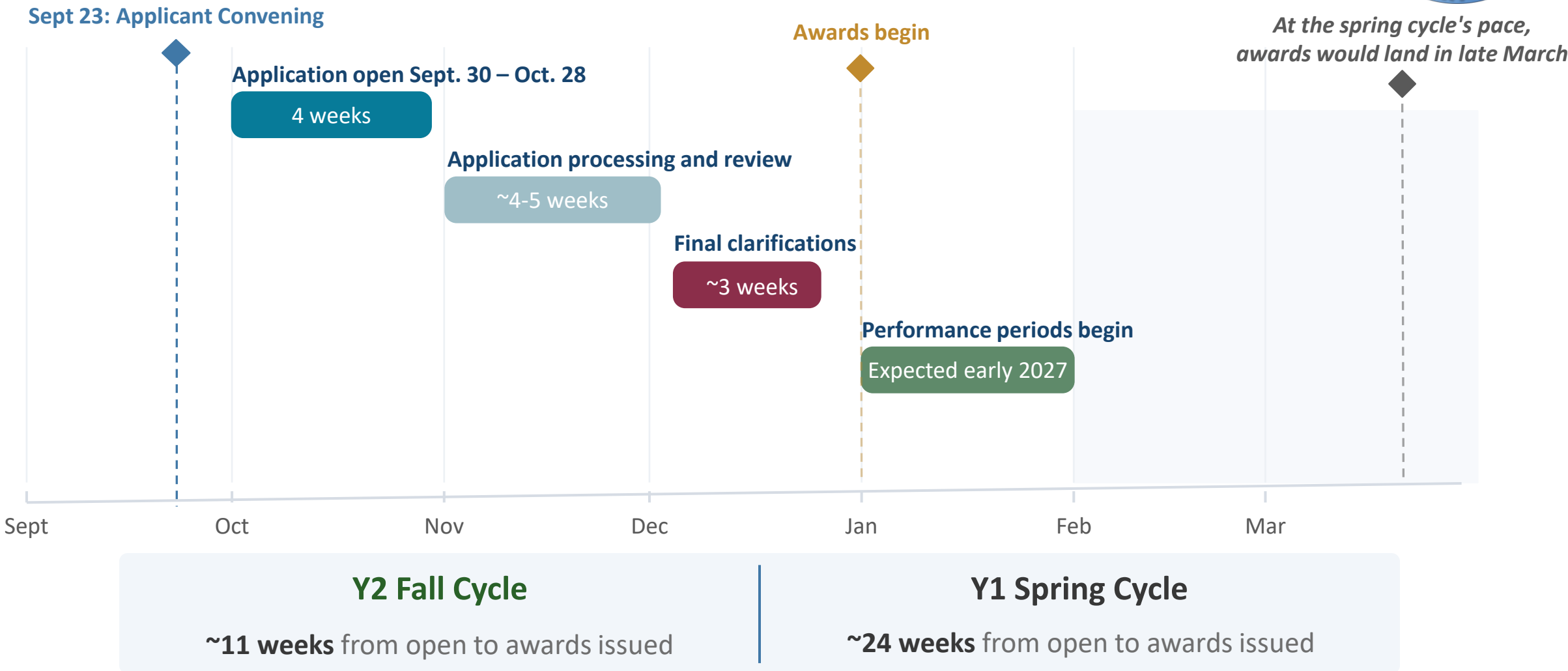


- **One application, not two stages**
No separate letter of interest. You apply once.
- **Questions that fit your project**
You answer the questions that apply to what you are proposing.
- **Up to five applications per organization**
Prioritized, more focused proposals.
- **Enhanced guidance before the cycle opens**
Budgets, renovations, and other complex requirements addressed earlier.
- **Two cycles a year, with the calendar published**
Dates published in advance, so you can decide which cycle to apply for.

Year 2 Fall 2026 Funding Cycle Timeline



Working timeframe: September – December 2026



Year 2 Funding Priorities



All six initiatives stay open, with a few priority areas highlighted each cycle

Fall 2026

Planned areas of focus

- **Pay for Value Readiness**
Building the data, care coordination, and administrative support needed to move toward value-based payment.
- **Care Coordination Readiness**
Connecting provider patient panels so patients leaving the hospital can be identified and supported.
- **Emergency Medical Services**
Strengthening EMS data integration and workforce capacity.

Looking ahead

What to expect in the spring cycle

- **Year 2 Spring Cycle Opens in 2027**
Will include DOH areas of focus, published in advance, and an open call.
- **Continuing a Year 1 project**
Requests to continue Year 1 projects will be reviewed in the next cycle, not this fall

Facilities and renovations: Spring 2027

Federal limits apply to renovations and equipment. Facility requests will be reviewed Spring 2027 cycle alongside Year 1 continuations. **Limited equipment replacement funding is available Fall 2026.**

EVERY CYCLE

Open call — all six initiatives

Projects that do not match a highlighted area of focus are submitted through the open call.

UNDER DEVELOPMENT

State-directed targeted innovation projects

State-led projects investments in areas where a coordinated statewide approach is needed.

Year 2 Organization Registration



Organization registration
Complete once



Project application
One for each project

When to register

Register before or alongside your first application.

It covers details that apply to all of your projects, so you won't re-enter them in each application.

What it collects

- Legal name and identifiers, such as your tax ID and UEI
- Addresses and payment setup
- Contacts and authorized signatory
- Financial management, audit, and policy information
- Certifications and signature

How it is used

Sets up payment for awarded projects and helps the Department understand your organization's readiness to manage federal funds.

It is not used to score project applications.

Tip: Use your organization's exact legal name on your registration and on every application.

Year 2 Project Application Structure



One portal. The questions narrow based on your project.

STEP 1
Choose one initiative



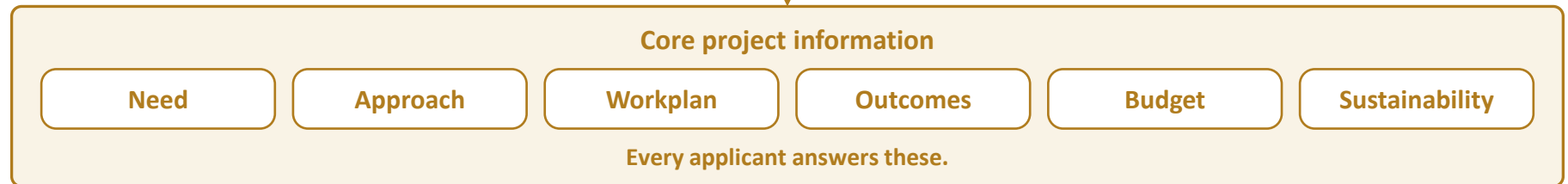
STEP 2
See what we are prioritizing
and where your project fits



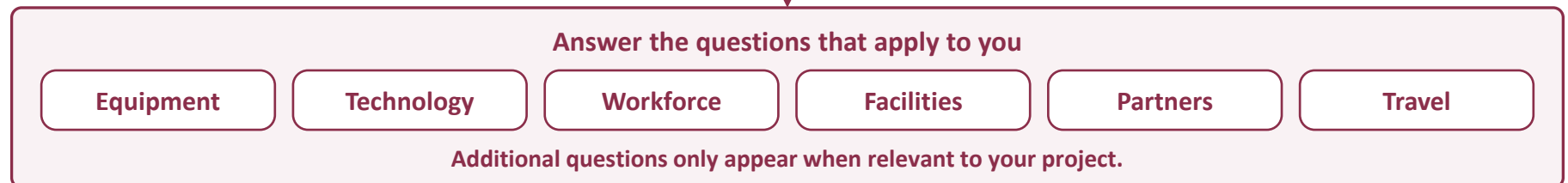
STEP 3
Choose your pathway



STEP 4
Tell us about your project



STEP 5
Answer what applies



Evaluation Frameworks Update



Draft frameworks go out for public comment before the Year 2 Fall Cycle opens

Materials for public review & comment

Summary of Changes

What changed from the prior frameworks, and why

Project Evaluation Framework

Implementation Pathway

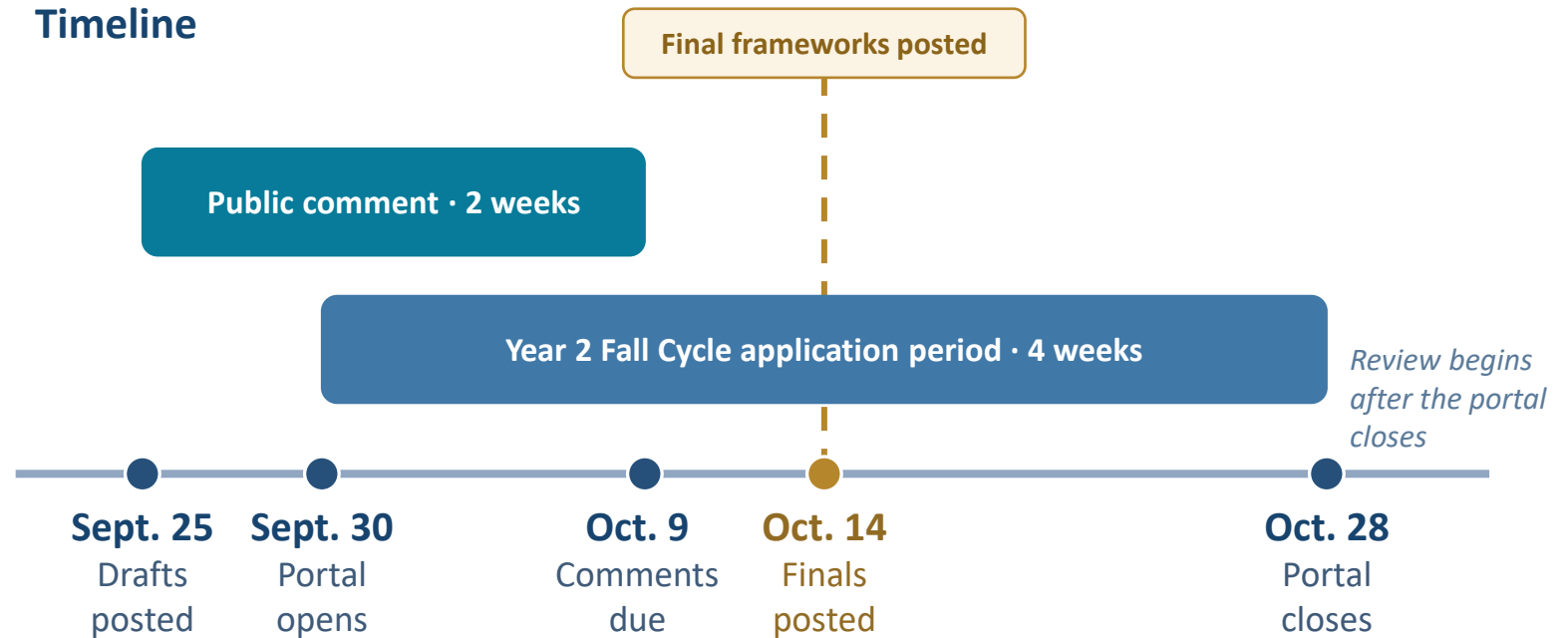
Project Evaluation Framework

Planning Pathway

Portfolio Analysis Review Framework

Considers the full set of projects together

Timeline



Applicants can review the draft frameworks before the portal opens, provide feedback during public comment, and see the final frameworks before applications are due and review begins.

Next Steps



Program and federal grant work over the coming months

Federal Award and Budget Period 2

Currently

- CMS review of Alaska's continuation application is underway

Near Future

- Year 1 obligation deadline and transition to Budget Period 2 at the end of October

Awareness

- DOH will work with CMS to finalize Budget Period 2 funding, milestones, and budget

Awards, Reporting & Oversight

Currently

- DOH continues to finalize and administer Year 1 awards

Upcoming

- First subrecipient reports are expected in January and will cover work through December
- Templates, guidance, and reporting webinars are under development and will be shared in advance

Awareness

- Subrecipient reporting will align with and feed into the state's reporting to CMS
- DOH will continue quarterly reporting to CMS on spending, milestones, and implementation

Funding Cycles & Applicant Support

Currently

- DOH continues to refine processes for issuing, paying, monitoring, and modifying awards
- Work is underway to build clearer applicant guidance and technical assistance, including budgets and other technical requirements
- Lessons from Year 1 are integrated into the upcoming Year 2 funding cycle

Looking Ahead



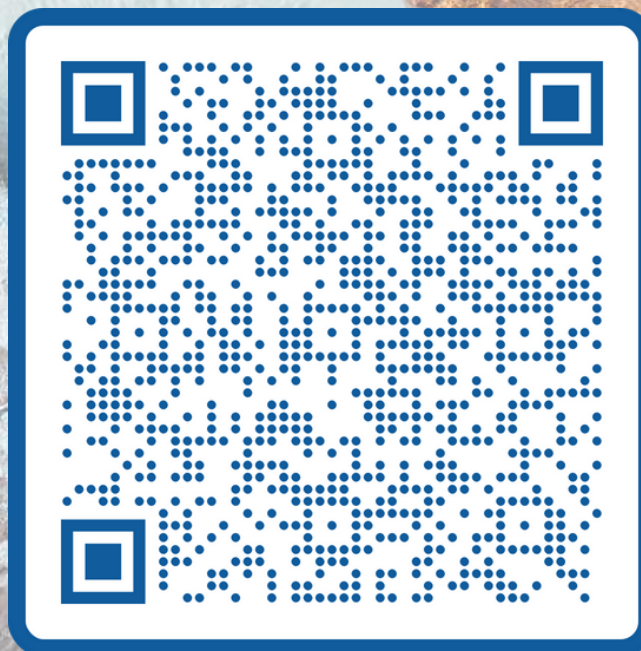
- **September 23** | RHTP Applicant Convening: Celebrating Year 1, Looking Ahead to Year 2
- **September 30** | Year 2 Fall Funding Cycle Opens
- **October 1** | Application Walkthrough Webinar
- **October 2** | Applicant Support Webinar
- **Upcoming Regional Meetings**
 - October 27 | Utqiagvik
 - November 9 | Kodiak
 - November 17 | Juneau
- **Year 2 Spring Funding Cycle** | More information coming soon





Thank You!

Learn more about the
Rural Health
Transformation Program:



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