



ALASKA

RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION



Advisory Council Meeting

July 1, 2026

Year 1 Progress



Dec

Engaged partners across Alaska to inform strategic, high-impact RHTP investments

Jan

Hosted a statewide RHTP kickoff convening, bringing together providers, partners, and technology leaders

Feb

Launched RHTP request for proposals, resulting in nearly 1,800 Letters of Interest

Mar

Developed an RHTP learning series that engaged hundreds of stakeholders through 11 statewide webinars

Apr

Initiated regional planning to identify rural health needs and inform regional care delivery strategies

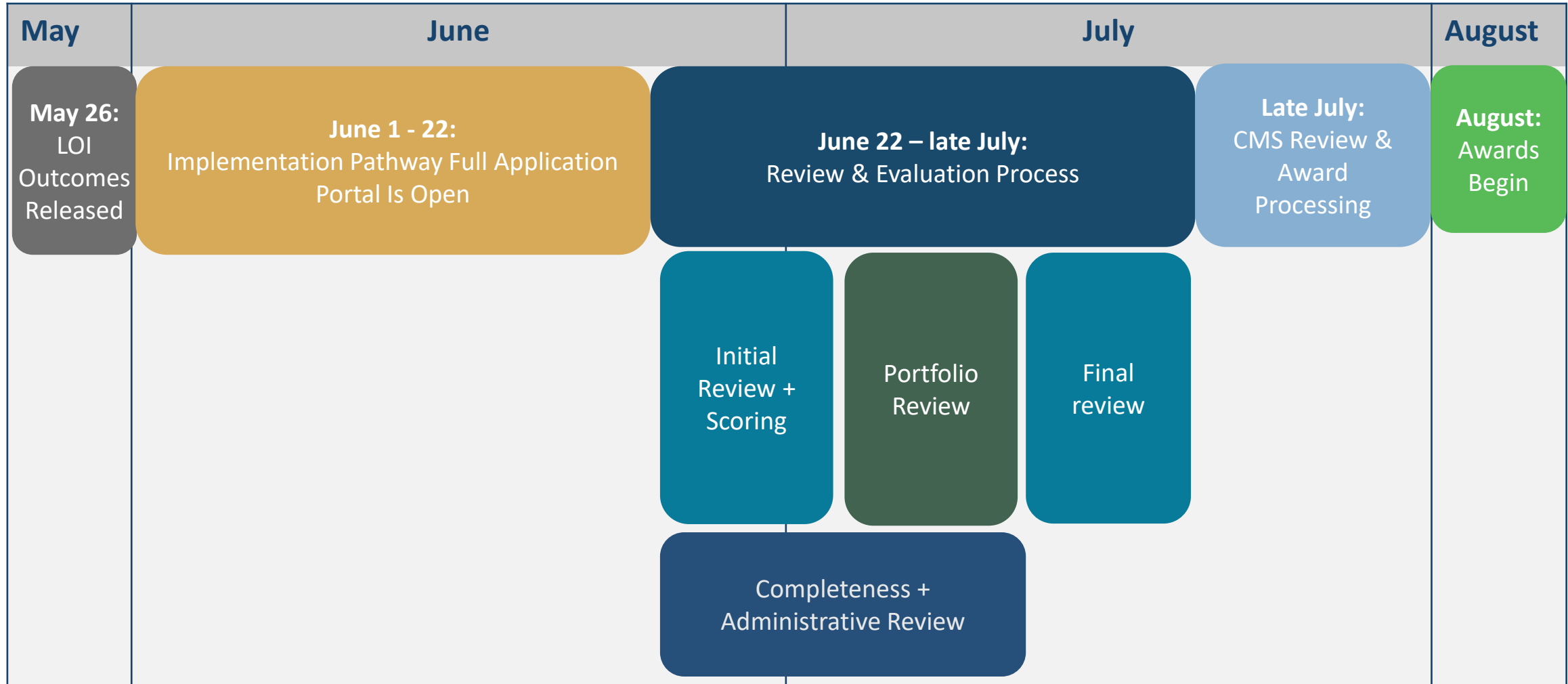
May

Passed key state legislation, establishing five State Policy Actions supporting Alaska's RHTP

Jun

Opened the implementation application period and advanced planning pathway review

LOI and Application Review Target Timeline



LOI Process Review and Outcomes



- 1,795 LOIs from 864 organizations
- 28 proposals identified to advance for planning pathway awards
- 403 proposals advanced to competitive implementation application
 - **365 proposals submitted**

Initiative	% of Advancing
Health Care Access	44%
Healthy Communities	12%
Strengthen Workforce	16%
Spark Technology & Innovation	14%
Healthy Beginnings	8%
Pay for Value	6%

LOI Process Review and Outcomes



DOH LOI Review Outcomes

The Commissioner made final LOI advancement decisions, informed by:

Slate of LOIs prepared by ACF

DOH review panel recommendations

Subject matter expert input

Portfolio considerations

Available funding and cost categories

Other strategic program priorities

Primary Considerations

Would this project advance rural health transformation, and was it ready for implementation?

Initiative alignment

Rural health system impact

Project readiness

Appropriate use of RHTP funds

Partnership and coordination needs

External dependencies

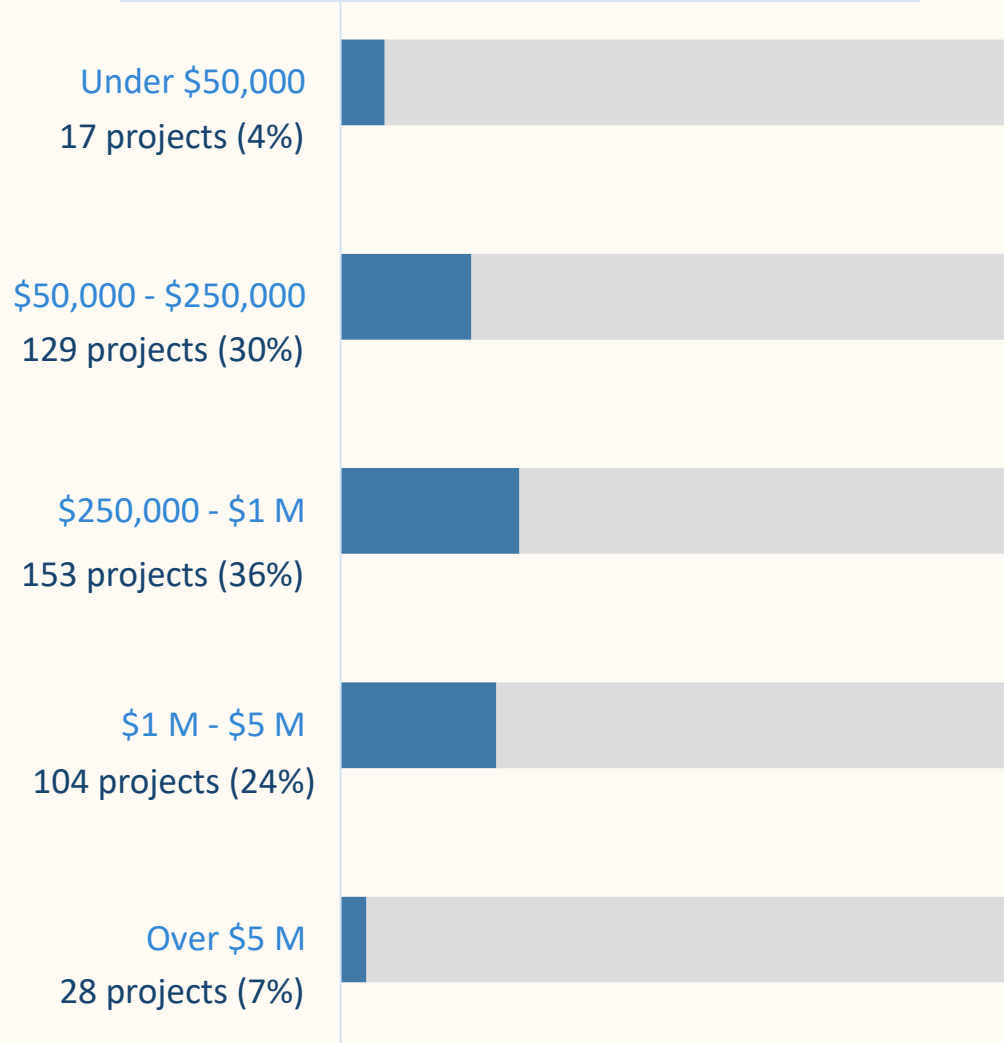
Portfolio balance

Advancing LOIs - Overview

431
Projects Advancing
403
Implementation
28
Planning
224
Unique
Organizations

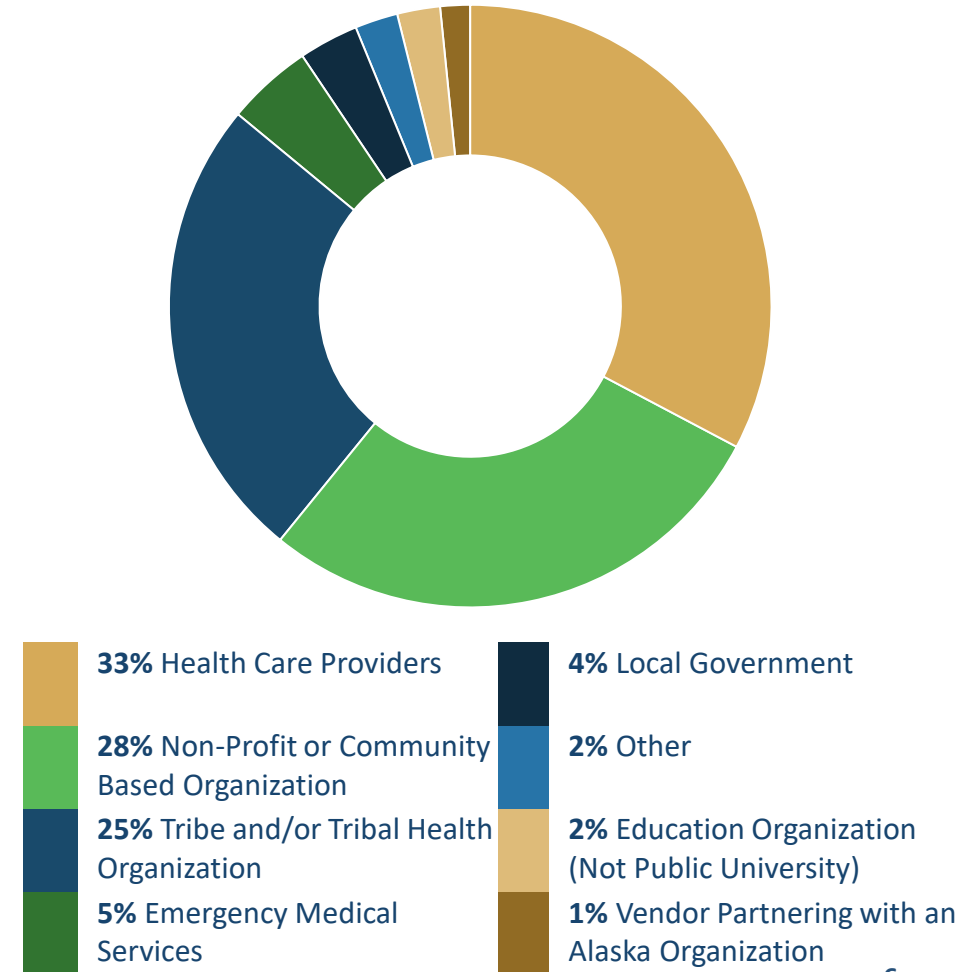
Preliminary Budget Estimate Distribution

Midpoint ask: \$637 M vs. \$272 M available



Primary Organization Type

Self Reported



Key Themes Across Advancing Proposals

Clinical Care & Access

Primary care, behavioral health, specialty services, EMS and mobile integrated health, oral health, maternal and perinatal care, long-term care, and home-based services

Health Facilities, Equipment & Diagnostics

Clinical facility renovations that expand care capacity, new medical and lab equipment, diagnostic imaging, portable and point-of-care tools, and pharmacy infrastructure

Workforce Development & Training

Training pipelines, community health aide programs, GME and residency programs, CHW development, provider recruitment and retention, and child care as workforce support

Health Information Technology & Data

EHR modernization, health information exchange, interoperability infrastructure, AI-assisted clinical documentation and diagnostics, data systems, and cybersecurity

Telehealth & Remote Monitoring

Telehealth expansion and infrastructure, remote patient monitoring, wearable devices, point-of-care connectivity, and drone pharmaceutical delivery concept development

Care Coordination & Navigation

Care management programs, patient navigation, care hubs, mobile integrated health programs, and post-discharge follow-up that connect patients to the right level of care

Provider Financial Sustainability & Operations

Revenue cycle modernization, Medicaid billing support, back-office infrastructure, ACO development, and value-based care infrastructure

Traditional Healing

Tribally-led programs integrating traditional healing practices, wellness, approaches, and frameworks fostering culturally appropriate, holistic care

Infant, Early Childhood & Maternal Health

Prenatal and postpartum care, early childhood developmental services, school-based health, and lactation and family support, building healthy foundations from birth

Implementation Application Components



Building on LOIs

- Project summary (expanded)
- Specific funding request
- Communities / populations served
- Statement of need
- Alignment with RHTP initiatives
- Sustainability approach

New or Expanded Information

- Implementation approach
- Workplan
- Monitoring and evaluation plan
- Anticipated risks and mitigation strategies
- Key personnel (including new positions)
- Project outcomes and rationale
- Transformative potential
- Partnerships and coordination
- Procurement policies

Attachments*

- Workplan
- Budget spreadsheet
- Budget narrative
- Partnership matrix and documentation
- Applicant-specific documentation (consistent with applicable Alaska regulations)
 - Tribal sovereignty waiver (for Alaska Native entities)

**Templates will be available in the application portal.*

Application Evaluation Process Overview



Project [application evaluation](#) and [portfolio analysis](#) frameworks are available on the DOH RHTP Website

Completeness & Administrative Review

Evaluation Tool: Application & Program Requirements

- Required attachments & certifications
- Budget completeness & allowability
- LOI reconciliation
- Administrative & compliance requirements
- **Outcome:** Applications that are substantially complete move forward for project evaluation

Project-Level Evaluation

Evaluation Tool: Project Application Evaluation Framework

- Alignment with RHTP Goals
- Demonstrated need
- Outcomes
- Rural impact
- Transformation potential
- Partnerships & coordination
- Sustainability
- Project approach, workplan & monitoring

Outcome: Projects must score at least a 3 in every category to advance to portfolio review.

Portfolio-Level Review

Evaluation Tool: Portfolio Analysis Review Framework

- Geographic distribution
- RHTP initiative alignment
- Populations served
- Organization & provider types
- Service types
- Federal funding limitations & budget caps

Outcome: Funding recommendations are developed based on project scores, portfolio considerations, available funding, and federal requirements.

Rubric-Based Review



Primary Review: Project Evaluation Phase

- Reviewers will assess and score projects on a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) across 8 different categories
- In order to be eligible for funding, projects must score **at least a 3 or higher** in every category

Secondary Review: Portfolio Analysis Phase

- DOH leadership will review projects potentially eligible for funding as a group, considering distribution across the portfolio criteria
- Reviewers may be called in for group calibration discussions or consultations as needed

Project application evaluation and portfolio analysis rubrics are available on the **DOH RHTP Website**

Project Application Evaluation Review Categories

1	Alignment with State & Federal RHTP Goals and Alaska RHTP Initiatives	5	Transformational Potential
2	Demonstrated Need Aligned with Intervention	6	Strength of Partnerships and Coordination
3	Outcomes	7	Sustainability
4	Rural Impact	8	Project Approach, Workplan and Monitoring

Portfolio Analysis Criteria

1	Project Service Area
2	Populations Served
3	Organization or Provider Type
4	Health Care Delivery or Support Service Type
5	Federal Budget Limitations

Final Stage

Commissioner Decision

Spring 2026 Funding Cycle



Federal Fiscal Year (FFY)	FFY 2026										FFY 2027										FFY 2028				
State Fiscal Year (SFY)	SFY 2026					SFY 2027															SFY 2028				
Calendar Year (CY)	CY 2026										CY 2027														
RHTP Budget Period (BP)	BP 1										BP 2										BP 3				
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Budget Period 1 Allocation	BP 1 Allocation																								
Budget Period 1 Expenditure Window											BP 1 Expenditure Window														
Spring Cycle Performance Period 1 (Planning)											Performance Period 1 (Planning)														
Spring Cycle Performance Period 1 (Implementation)											Performance Period 1 (Implementation)														

- **Budget periods** are the State's federal funding periods under the CMS cooperative agreement
- **Expenditure windows** are the federal deadlines for spending those funds
- **Performance periods** are the timeframes during which subrecipients carry out project activities and expend awarded funds. Performance periods end before the expenditure window closes to allow time for reporting, closeout, and, where appropriate, approved extensions

Spring Funding Cycle: Performance Periods



- Performance periods determine when subrecipients may carry out project activities and spend awarded funds. These periods are distinct from the State’s federal RHTP budget periods, which run November 1 – October 31
- **For performance period 1 (Spring 2026 cycle), subrecipients should plan to complete all project activities and spending by June 30, 2027**
- The grace period (July 1 – September 30) is intended for annual reporting and closeout activities

Performance Period	Start	End	Annual Report Due	Grace Period
Performance Period 1	August 1, 2026	June 30, 2027	July 31, 2027	July 1 – Sept 30, 2027
Performance Period 2	July 1, 2027	June 30, 2028	July 31, 2028	July 1 – Sept 30, 2028
Performance Period 3	July 1, 2028	June 30, 2029	July 31, 2029	July 1 – Sept 30, 2029
Performance Period 4	July 1, 2029	June 30, 2030	July 31, 2030	July 1 – Sept 30, 2030
Performance Period 5	July 1, 2030	June 30, 2031	July 31, 2031	July 1 – Sept 30, 2031



Observations and Insights

- **Lessons learned**
- **Process successes and challenges**
- **Targeted opportunities**
- **Advisory Committee reflections**
- **Dashboards**

~~Regional~~ and Community Planning



Regional and community planning is how Alaska's RHTP moves from statewide goals to actionable change on the ground. It enables regions to define priorities and shape solutions rooted in local context and inform future funding priorities.

Regional meetings held:

- Seward: April 29
- Kenai Peninsula: April 30
- Fairbanks: May 5
- Mat-Su: June 4
- Copper River Basin: June 25
- Cordova: June 30

Regional meetings scheduled:

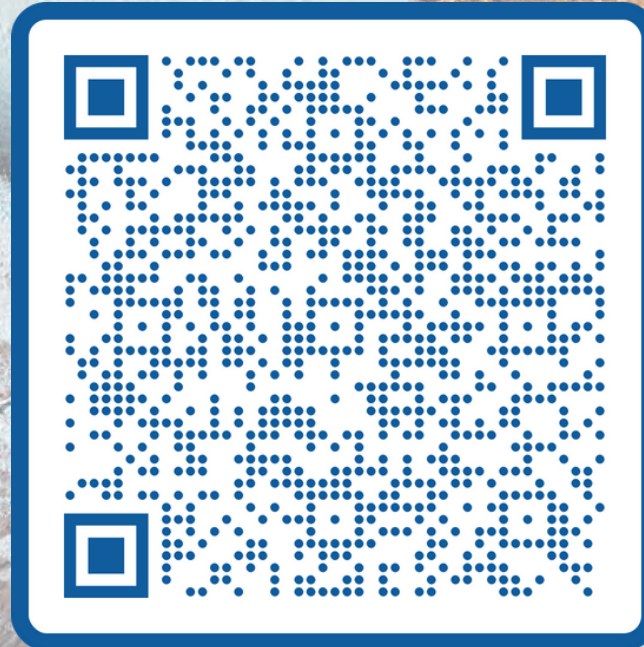
- Dillingham: July 8
- Ketchikan: August 10
- Greater Anchorage Area: September 22





Thank You!

**Learn more about the
Rural Health
Transformation Program:**



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