

STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

USDA Seeks Applications for Grants to Help People in Rural and Tribal Communities Access Remote Education and Health Care

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29, 2024 – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Under Secretary Dr. Basil Gooden today announced that USDA is inviting applications for grants to help people in rural and Tribal communities access remote education and health care.

USDA is making approximately \$60 million in funding available under the [Distance Learning and Telemedicine \(DLT\) Grant Program](#). This program funds distance learning and telemedicine services, like audio and video equipment, to digitally connect people to education, training and health care resources that are limited or unavailable in remote parts of the country.

For example, DLT funding expands opportunities for:

- Students to participate in classes that may be in places that are too far to access in person.
- Teachers to provide their expertise, trainings and educational services to students across the country.
- Patients to seek specialized care and treatment from medical professionals without needing to leave their homes or communities.

Eligible applicants include state and local governmental entities, federally recognized Tribes, nonprofits and for-profit businesses.

USDA is particularly interested in applications that will advance Biden-Harris Administration priorities to:

- Reduce climate pollution and increase resilience to the impacts of climate change through economic support to rural communities.
- Ensure all rural residents have equitable access to Rural Development (RD) programs and benefit from RD-funded projects.
- Help rural communities recover economically through more and better market opportunities and through improved infrastructure.

Applications must be submitted electronically through [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) no later than April 29, 2024. Additional program information is available [online](#) and via the Feb. 29, 2024, [Federal Register](#).

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