

Request for Proposals Release Date: August 1, 2024

Letter of Intent Due Date: August 19, 2024

Full Proposal Invitation: Early September 2024

Selected applicants will receive initial recommendations (if applicable) and be invited to submit a full proposal.

Full Proposal Due Date: October 18, 2024 (For selected applicants only.)

Award Notice: Early November 2024

Project Start Date: January 1, 2025

The iCARE program supports organizations providing clinical and high-need services to rural communities. iCARE supports practices and providers offering primary and specialty care to rural communities through onsite or virtual services.

The SC Center for Rural and Primary Healthcare is accepting proposals for our 2025 iCARE program. The Center invites proposals from diverse perspectives and disciplines **to expand their provision of clinical services, mental and behavioral health services, children's health, OB/GYN or prenatal care services, and chronic disease to improve rural health.**

iCARE is intended to support the start-up and initial costs associated with establishing new access points to care; however, applicants should demonstrate a long-term commitment to the community and building a largely sustainable clinical enterprise as part of the proposal.

Eligibility Criteria

- Any public institution of higher education in South Carolina
- SC AccessHealth Networks
- Public or not-for-profit (501(c)3) organizations with an emphasis on rural health
- Direct providers of health care services (e.g., rural hospitals, rural health clinics, federally qualified health centers, and health systems serving rural)
- State government agencies
- Must serve predominantly rural populations

Awards

This funding opportunity will fund multiple cooperative agreements in amounts up to \$250,000 per year. All projects will have a two-year project period, with the opportunity to renew pending the need for services in the community and a demonstrated progression towards sustainability.

We fund direct costs only. Categories of allowable funding include, but are not limited to:

- Staff salary and fringe
- Medical equipment and supplies (please note, due to university policy, any single item over \$10,000 will require additional approval from the SC Department of Health & Human Services)
- Health promotion and education materials and support

- Advertising and outreach related to services

We do not fund:

- Applications that include covering the cost of patient copays and expenses
- Projects centered on one-touch events (health fairs, conferences, etc.)
- Participant incentives (e.g., gift cards)
- Salaries for personnel not directly involved with the project
- Equipment not directly related to the project
- Malpractice or insurance
- Indirect costs

***Currently funded programs should not apply to this funding opportunity and should look to receive information about the renewal process.**

We may contact you for additional information or with follow-up questions related to your application. If you have questions or concerns, you can email us at scruralhealthcare@uscmed.sc.edu.