

4.14.2026



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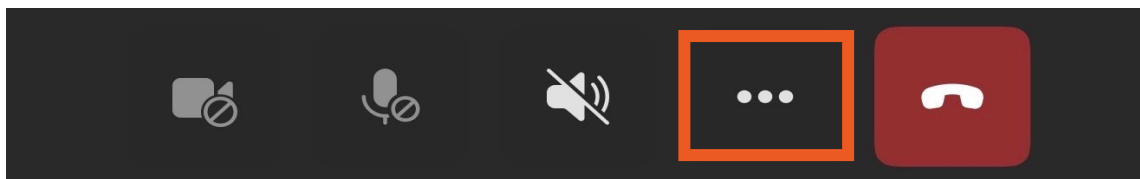
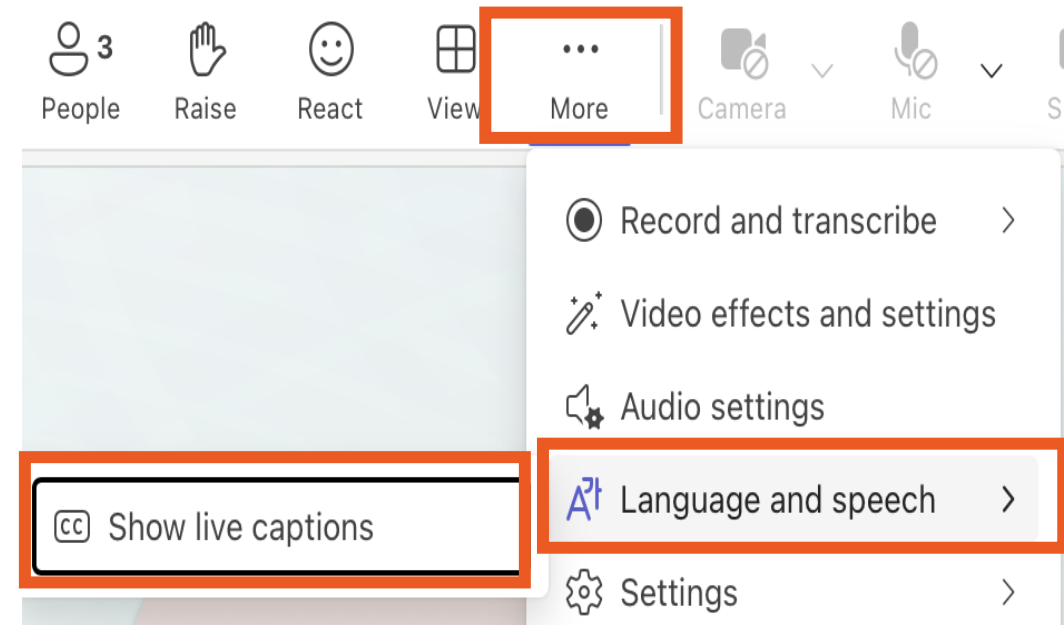
**Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP)  
Catalyst Awards – Request for Grant Proposals (RFGP)  
Overview**

# Teams Meeting Tips

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- We'll share the recording and slides with participants after the presentation.

For **live captioning**, please click on the “...” button at the top of your screen on desktop, and bottom of your screen on mobile.













# Disclaimer

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# What We Will Cover This Session

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-  Welcome & RHT Program Background
-  Catalyst Awards - RFGP Overview & Key Information
-  Submission Documents
-  Where to find the RFGP
-  Expectations for technical assistance and communications
-  What to submit via OregonBuys
-  What to submit via Smartsheet
-  Common errors + how to start your proposal



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# RHT Program Background

# Background

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- H.R. 1, the Trump Administration’s federal budget reconciliation bill, was signed into law on July 4, 2025, introducing an estimated \$15 billion in cuts to federal funding from Oregon for health insurance coverage, food benefits, and other programs.
  - H.R. 1 establishes a **one-time, five-year** Rural Health Transformation Program , which makes funding available to states for health-related activities supporting rural communities and rural health system transformation.
  - **Federal funding through RHTP is not intended to offset H.R. 1 Medicaid cuts.**
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is charged with administering the program as a cooperative agreement.

# CMS announced \$50B in awards to all 50 states

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- On 12/29/25, CMS announced all 50 states will receive awards
- In 2026, first-year awards across states average \$200M, ranging \$147M to \$281M
- **Oregon is receiving \$197.3M in 2026 for Budget Year 1**
  - OHA submitted a revised budget on January 30, 2026
  - CMS approved the revised budget on February 18, 2026
  - **CMS unrestricted all funds on March 19, 2026**
- If approved for a similar amount in subsequent years, Oregon will receive an estimated \$1B over the five-year grant period

# Oregon's Five Initiatives

Regional Partnerships & System Transformation	Healthy Communities & Prevention	Workforce Capacity & Resilience	Technology & Data Modernization	Tribal Initiative
<p>Focus on building rural regional networks and shared services to accelerate long-term sustainable strategies</p>	<p>Focus on scaling successful delivery models and creating new health access points to rural counties</p>	<p>Focus on developing a broad workforce from training to professional development programs</p>	<p>Focus on expanding and connecting rural health systems to needed technologies and data infrastructure</p>	<p>Focus on supporting the Tribes with improving health access and outcomes</p>
<p><b>Example Use of Funds:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional convenings &amp; collaboratives</li> <li>Hub-and-spoke models</li> <li>Investment in Critical Access Hospitals</li> <li>Learning collaboratives</li> <li>Shared infrastructure, workforce, data</li> <li>Maternity care coalitions</li> <li>EMS modernization</li> <li>Standby Capacity Payments</li> </ul>	<p><b>Example Use of Funds:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expanding access points</li> <li>Social health services</li> <li>Behavioral health integration</li> <li>Non-traditional models of care (e.g., digital tools and mobile vans)</li> <li>Chronic disease prevention</li> </ul>	<p><b>Example Use of Funds:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural residencies and fellowships</li> <li>Rural k-12 pathway programs</li> <li>Tele-mentoring and e-consults</li> <li>Training and certification of non-physician providers</li> <li>Recruitment incentives and family assistance</li> </ul>	<p><b>Example Use of Funds:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health IT system investments</li> <li>AI-enabled tech solutions</li> <li>Community-information exchange &amp; closed-loop referrals</li> <li>Cybersecurity</li> <li>Technical assistance for IT implementation</li> </ul>	<p><b>Example Use of Funds:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen Tribal Health Systems</li> <li>Facility &amp; Infrastructure</li> <li>Behavioral health expansion</li> <li>“Grow Your Own” workforce programs</li> <li>Consumer-facing tech tools for managing chronic disease</li> <li>IT support and EHR upgrades</li> </ul>



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# **Catalyst Awards**

## **Request for Grant Proposals (RFGP)**

### **Overview & Key Information**

# Catalyst Awards – RFGP Overview

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## Goal:

To elevate and support community driven “ready-to-go” projects for timely impact and to effectively utilize available funding



## Approach:

Limited number of grant awards will be available (80 awards max)



## Timeline:

**Opened:** April 10  
**Q&A Submission Period Closes:** May 14 at 3PM  
**Proposal Submission Period:** 46 Days  
**Closes:** May 26 at 3PM PST/4PM MST  
**Awards Announced:** Mid 2026

# Where to Find the Catalyst Awards – RFGP

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- **Can be searched for using the following information:**
  - **Name:** Catalyst Grants for the Rural Health Transformation Program
  - **OregonBuys Bid Number:** S-44300-00016498
- OregonBuys is where you will find the official solicitation (OregonBuys.gov)
  - OregonBuys is the online procurement system that Oregon uses to conduct business with organizations
  - In order to be able to receive funding, **organizations must register as a ‘supplier’** in OregonBuys (on home page, click ‘Supplier Registration’)
  - However, actual proposals **will not be submitted in OregonBuys and instead will be submitted through a link provided in the registration process**
- The official solicitation includes: RFGP document, Attachments, Forms, Addenda, Questions and Answers

***Note: Always use the latest version from OregonBuys***

# What's Included in the Catalyst Awards - RFGP

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## Key Sections to Review First

- Program Purpose and Goals
- Eligible Entities
- Initiative Outcomes and Targets
- Funding Guidelines
- RFGP Process
- General Proposal Requirements
- Content and Form of Proposal
- Submission Process Details
- Proposal Review Process, including evaluation criteria and scoring rubric
- Terms & Conditions

# Proposal Submission Documents

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- Document A – Proposer Information and Certification Form
- Document B – Project Plan Narrative and Timeline Form
- Document C – Grant Budget Narrative
- Document F – Disclosure Exemption Statement

# Where to Submit Forms and Information

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- Organizations must submit all documents through [Smartsheet](#)
  - Step 1: You need to register as a supplier in OregonBuys
  - Step 2: Access the Smartsheet link (you do **NOT** need to create an account in Smartsheet) and submit documents through Smartsheet
- Smartsheet is more user-friendly and allows OHA to more quickly access applications
- To clarify, the RFGP can be found in OregonBuys but organizations will submit documents through Smartsheet.

# Key Proposal Requirements



One proposal per lead organization



Up to 3 projects per proposal



Each project must align with:

One primary outcome  
At least one target



Must serve rural Oregon



**Note:** 6.General Proposal Requirements, Page 22

# Document A: Proposer Information and Certification Form

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- **Submitted once per proposal** this document covers the following:

- Proposer contact information
- Proposer eligibility requirements
- Proposal compliance requirements
- Proposer responsibility inquiry form
- General proposal requirements
- Proposer organization description and capability
- Project overview

Note: For proposals including multiple projects, please use the same project titles and project numbers listed above throughout your additional project documents.

- Additional proposal requirements

# Catalyst Awards – RFGP Eligibility Criteria

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- ✓ Must meet all proposer requirements
  - ✓ e.g., rural designation, eligible entity type)
- ✓ Must meet funding threshold requirements
  - ✓ minimum funding threshold of \$200,000 per project and maximum amount of \$5 million per overall proposal, which may include up to three projects
- ✓ Each organization may submit one proposal as the lead entity, but organizations may be listed as subrecipients in other proposals.
- ✓ Refer to the RFGP for full eligibility details

*Carefully review all instructions in the RFGP to ensure your application is complete and compliant before submitting*

# Document B: Project Plan Narrative and Timeline Form

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**Document B must be completed for each project:**

- Part 1: Project Plan Overview (Submitted in Smartsheet form)
- Part 2: Outcome + target selection (Submitted in Smartsheet form)
- Part 3: Project Plan Narrative questions (Submitted in Smartsheet form)
- Part 4: Project Partners (Uploaded to Smartsheet as attachment)
- Part 5: Project plan and timeline template (Uploaded to Smartsheet as attachment)

**Note:**

- *For each project, Proposers must use the same project title and project number from Document A throughout this form and all uploaded documents.*
- *Please submit the Proposer Information and Certification Form. After you submit that form, you will receive a separate Smartsheet link by email to upload Document B.*

# Document C: Grant Budget Narrative

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- **Document C must be completed for each project it includes:**
  - Proposer Contact Information
  - RHTP programmatic alignment
  - Activities and Deliverables Table: *Note: This information should exactly match the information provided in Part 3 of the Project Plan and Timeline Form.*
  - Personnel (Salaries) Budget
  - Fringe benefits Budget
  - Travel Budget
  - Equipment Budget
  - Supplies Budget
  - Consultants/Subrecipients/Contractual Costs
  - Other Budget: This budget is for items not included in the previous budget categories.

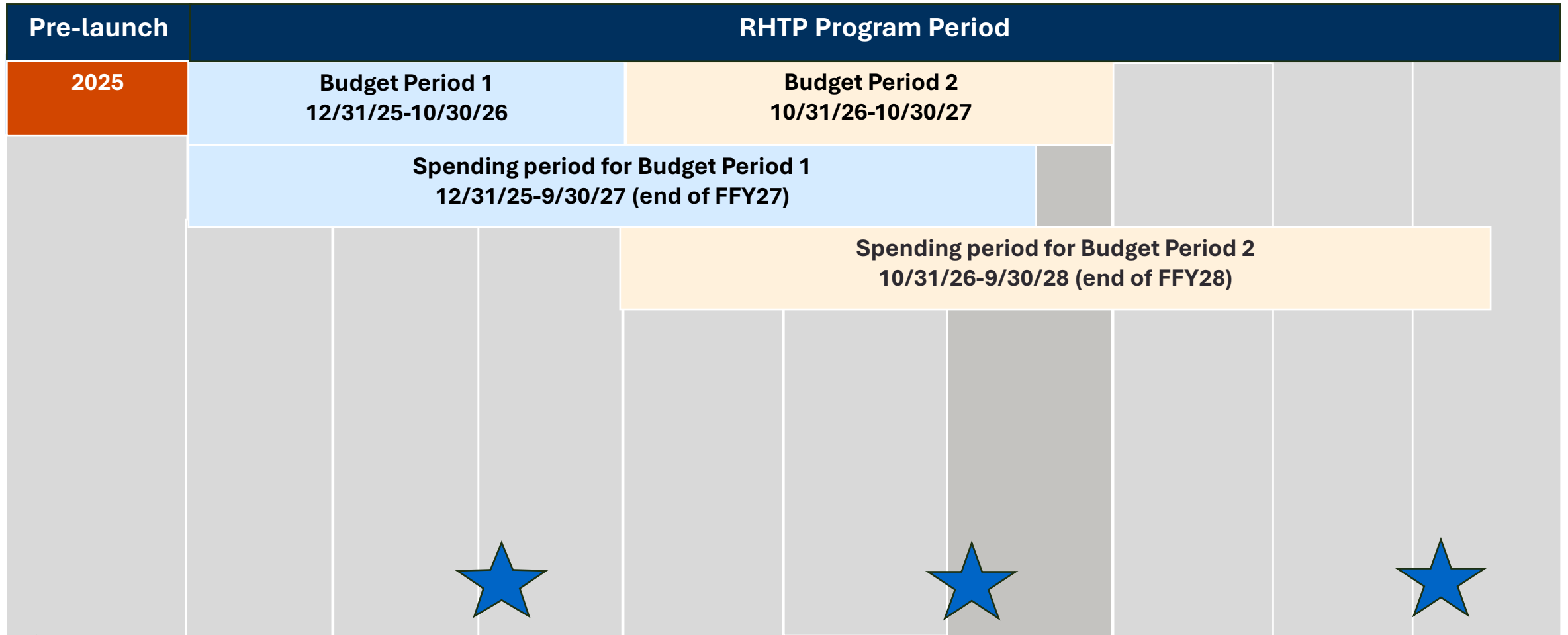
# Catalyst Awards – RFGP Budget Requirements

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- Costs must be allowable and align with project activities; allowable costs can be found in the RFGP
- You must include a separate budget for each separate project in your proposal
- Ensure consistency between budget and narrative
- Refer to the RFGP for full Budget Requirements.

*Carefully review all instructions in the RFGP to ensure your application is complete and compliant*

# RHTP Spending Timeline: Catalyst Award RFGP



★ Annual metric milestone/target reporting

# Start Here

THE STATE OF OREGON  
OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY  
ISSUES THE FOLLOWING



REQUEST FOR GRANT PROPOSALS

RFGP # 6244

(OregonBuys Bid # S-44300-000#####):

Catalyst Grants for the  
Rural Health Transformation Program

Date of Issuance: April 10, 2026

OPENING DATE AND TIME (PROPOSAL DUE DATE AND TIME):

MAY 26, 2026 at 3:00 PM (Pacific Time)

Proposal Delivery Submission Process: See Section 8. below.

Single Point of Contact (SPC): John F. Gardner, Procurement & Contract Specialist

Office: Office of Contracts and Procurement (OC&P)

Email: [john.f.gardner@odhsoha.oregon.gov](mailto:john.f.gardner@odhsoha.oregon.gov)

Phone: 503-509-5698

## How to Start Your Proposal

- Review the full RFGP document before beginning
- Identify how your project aligns with RHTP goals and outcomes
- Confirm eligibility and key requirements
- Begin outlining your proposal components (narrative, budget, partners)
- Gather required organizational information and documents
- Note: *Start early and work directly from the RFGP instructions to ensure alignment*



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# Budget vs. Funding Overview

# Catalyst Awards – RFGP Funding Overview

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## Funding Parameters

- Project minimum: \$200K per budget period
- Proposal maximum: \$5M per budget period
- Must align scope with funding

# Budget Expectations

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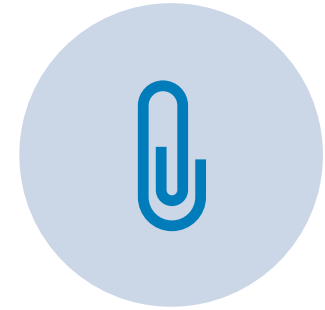
MUST ALIGN WITH  
PROJECT ACTIVITIES



FOLLOW ALLOWABLE  
COST GUIDELINES



ENSURE ACCURACY AND  
CONSISTENCY



APPENDIX 2- ALLOWABLE  
USE OF FUNDS + SECTION 4  
OF RFGP

# Common Mistakes

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## Common Errors to Avoid

- Missing required forms or attachments
- Exceeding word and/or character counts
- Inconsistencies between the narrative and budget
- Not following instructions outlined in the RFGP
- Submitting materials in the wrong location or format

*Carefully review all instructions and requirements before submitting your application*

*Before submitting your proposal, double check OregonBuys for the latest version of the RFGP*



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# OregonBuys vs Smartsheet

# Where Things Happen (OregonBuys vs. Smartsheet)

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## OregonBuys

- Access the official RFGP solicitation
- View updates and addenda
- Monitor for changes throughout the application period

## Smartsheet

- Submit required application components
- Submit questions during the defined question period

*Both systems are required as part of the application and funding process*

# How to Submit Questions

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- All questions must be submitted through the official [Smartsheet](#)
- Questions will be accepted during a defined submission period
- Responses will be:
  - Compiled and reviewed
  - Shared publicly
  - Linked through OregonBuys
- We are not able to respond to individual or project-specific questions outside of this process

# Expectations: What We Can and Can't Do

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## **We CAN:**

- Clarify process and timelines
- Point you to relevant sections of the RFGP
- Restate information already published

## **We CANNOT:**

- Advise on proposal content or strategy
- Confirm eligibility or project fit
- Review or provide feedback on applications

*All official guidance will be shared through published materials and the formal Q&A process*

# What to Do Now

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1

Review the full RFGP document

2

Confirm supplier registration in OregonBuys

3

Identify project leads and partners

4

Begin outlining your proposal

5

Gather required documents and information

# Important Reminder

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- This is a formal procurement process
- All applicants must receive the same information
- We are not able to provide:
  - Individual guidance
  - Proposal-specific feedback
  - Eligibility determinations

*All questions must be submitted through the official Smartsheet process*



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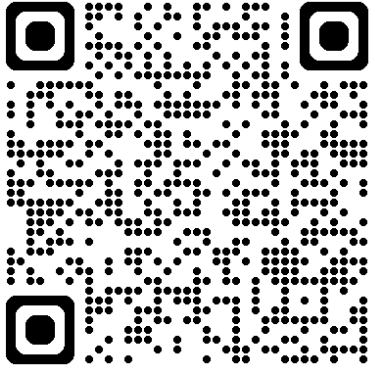


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# Communication

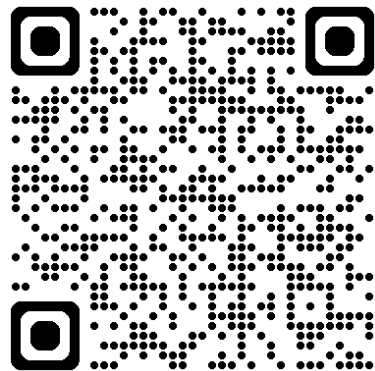
# Newsletter

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- Visit our home page:

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/hpa/hp/pages/rural-health-transformation.aspx>



- Sign up for bimonthly newsletter:

[https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/ORHA/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=ORHA\\_209](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/ORHA/subscriber/new?topic_id=ORHA_209)

# Next Communications

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- Details on the Catalyst Awards RFGP will be shared via OregonBuys
- **Next Webinar Date:**
  - Date: TBD, Early June
- Look out for upcoming program communication on the home page and in our RHTTP newsletter



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**Q&A**

# OregonBuys Support Resources

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**Register as a Supplier:** Step-by-step instructions for creating an OregonBuys supplier account

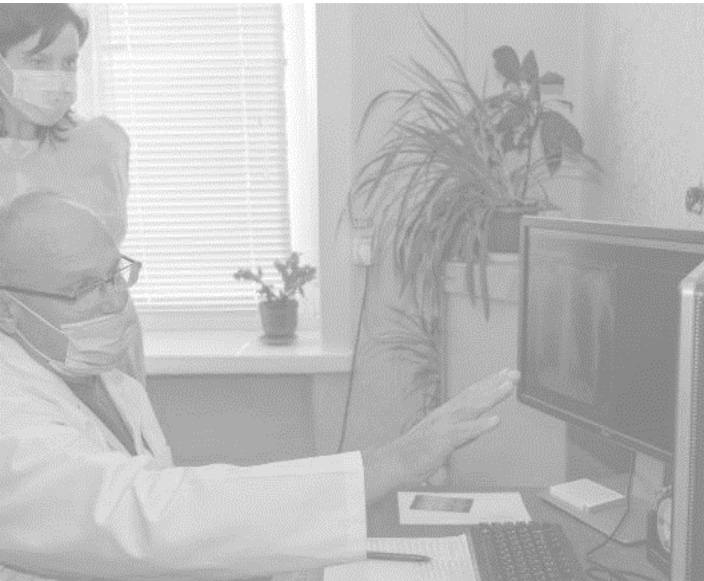
- <https://www.oregon.gov/das/ORBuys/Documents/OrBuysSupplierRegistrationSteps.pdf>

**Supplier FAQ:** Answers to common questions about registration, navigation, and system use

- <https://www.oregon.gov/das/ORBuys/Pages/Supplier-FAQ.aspx>

**Supplier Resources:** Additional tools, training materials, and support for OregonBuys suppliers

- <https://www.oregon.gov/das/ORBuys/Pages/supplierresources.aspx>



# Thank You for Attending

**Website:** <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HPA/HP/Pages/rural-health-transformation.aspx?>

**Email:** [rhttp@oha.oregon.gov](mailto:rhttp@oha.oregon.gov)



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