An Important Message from

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)

Public Input Requested for OBBBA Rural Health Transformation Funding

Background:

HHSC is seeking public input from interested stakeholders to contribute ideas for how Texas should use the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) federal funding to transform rural health care.

The One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), enacted into law on July 4, 2025, created a national \$50 billion fund, called the Rural Health Transformation Program. All 50 states are eligible to apply for its funding and must submit a one-time application to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). CMS will review and approve applications by Dec. 31, 2025. HHSC will submit the state's application and, if awarded, will receive the funds on behalf of the state.

Key Details:

To assist HHSC with the federal application development, HHSC is seeking public input on concepts and priorities that stakeholders believe should be included in the state's application.

It is strongly encouraged that stakeholders review the OBBBA Public Comment Form Guidance (PDF) to ensure their comments and project ideas are considered. The guidance identifies how HHSC intends to prioritize ideas and initiatives for inclusion in the state's application to support rural health transformation.

Action:

Stakeholders may submit input using the <u>OBBBA Rural Health Transformation Public</u> Comment Form. HHSC is accepting public input from Aug. 4 through Sept. 9, 2025.

More than one submission per organization or individual may be submitted, but HHSC requests only one submission per concept (i.e., multiple organizations do not need to submit identical information). HHSC has identified that the Texas OBBBA application should only be used to support projects and initiatives that align with existing Texas statutory or executive actions.

Additional Information:

OBBBA funding will be distributed annually from federal fiscal years 2026 – 2030 to states with approved applications. Ten billion dollars will be distributed each fiscal year, and states may expend funds for up to two years after they are awarded.

OBBBA identifies nine categories for how funds may be used if awarded. States must select at least three to identify how it intends to transform rural health in their state.

Resources:

Links:	OBBBA Public Comment Form Guidance (PDF)
	OBBBA Rural Health Transformation Public Comment Form
	View HHSC's Rural Hospital Finance and Coordination webpage for additional information about OBBBA and the Rural Health Transformation Program.