

# State of Maine - Department of Health and Human Services

*Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention*

**RFA# 2020041**

## **Grant Funding for Rural Hospitals to Supplement COVID-19 Specimen Collection and Testing**

### **A. Background and Purpose**

On May 21, 2020, Governor Janet Mills announced the State has received [\\$52.7 million in Federal grant funding](#) from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (U.S. CDC) to bolster epidemiological and laboratory capacity to respond to infectious diseases, particularly COVID-19. On June 8, 2020, the Department announced [a further expansion of testing capacity](#) at the Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory (HETL). The State will use this new funding and testing capacity to enhance its ability to prevent, detect, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in Maine by expanding its COVID-19 Specimen Collection Sites and lab testing capacity across the State in the coming weeks and months.

On June 12, 2020, as an effort to increase the number of specimen collection sites outside of health care office settings, the Department released RFA 202006101 Efforts to Increase COVID-19 Testing “Swab and Send” Specimen Collection Sites. Prior to the release of RFA 202006101, Maine had [roughly 40 sites](#) that perform specimen collection and/or lab testing outside of office settings. As of July 14, 2020 and part of the “Swab and Send” application process, the Department has established an additional [eighteen \(18\) drive-through and mobile locations](#).

Through this RFA, the Department intends to provide each of Maine’s Rural Hospitals, as identified by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, one-time grant funding of up to forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) to complement the existing capacity of COVID-19 collection and testing and ensure Maine residents and visitors have the necessary access to COVID-19 specimen collection and testing.

### **B. Eligibility**

Currently, Maine has twenty-five (25) Rural Hospitals identified by the Federal Office of Rural Health Policy. All Rural Hospitals are invited to apply for this one-time funding in order to strengthen the efforts of COVID-19 testing in rural areas of the State.

### **C. Contract Term**

The Department intends on providing a one-time award of up to \$40,000 to be utilized within a six (6) month period, to each of Maine’s Federally identified Rural Hospitals.

The Department reserves the right to determine which applications will result in grant funding. Applications will be reviewed to determine if the Rural Hospital meets the Department expectations and qualifications as outlined in this RFA and in alignment with federal funding available to the State through Maine’s participation in the federal

Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Prevention and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases (ELC) cooperative agreement.

#### **D. Grant Funding Requirements**

Rural Hospitals applying for this one-time grant funding must demonstrate how the awarded funding would complement the Hospital's existing capacity for COVID-19 collection and testing and expand access for Maine residents and visitors to COVID-19 specimen collection and testing.

Funding awarded to Rural Hospitals may be used for a wide range of efforts to expand COVID-19 collection and testing and related expenses, including but not limited to:

1. Purchase of swabbing supplies (i.e. swabs, transport media);
2. Implementation or expansion of an off-site and/or mobile specimen (swab) collection (e.g. testing within worksites, schools, colleges, or for homebound and/or homeless individuals);
3. Implementation of off-site and/or mobile specimen collection (e.g. testing within worksites, schools, colleges, or for homebound and/or homeless individuals);
4. Purchase of testing reagents/kits for hospitals to perform using existing Hospital platforms;
5. Supplement the cost to purchase a testing platform;
6. Supplement the cost and existing capacity to transport/provide courier services for specimens going to HETL or other qualified/approved laboratories;
7. Provide training to providers and staff on testing procedures;
8. Reporting data to the Department on COVID-19 testing activities; or
9. Other activities or resources needed to expand access to COVID-19 specimen collection or testing.

**STATE OF MAINE**  
**Department of Health and Human Services**  
*Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention*  
**RFA# 2020041**

**Grant Funding for Rural Hospitals to Supplement COVID-19  
Specimen Collection and Testing**

**Rural Hospital Grant Funding Application**

<b>Rural Hospital Name:</b>			
<b>Chief Executive - Name/Title:</b>			
<b>Tel:</b>		<b>E-mail:</b>	
<b>Street Address:</b>			
<b>City/State/Zip:</b>			
<i>(Provide information requested below if different from above)</i>			
<b>Point of Contact for Application - Name/Title:</b>			
<b>Tel:</b>		<b>E-mail:</b>	
<b>Street Address:</b>			
<b>City/State/Zip:</b>			

**Accepted applications will require the Rural Hospital to enter into a State of Maine Service Contract with appropriate riders as determined by the Department.**

**Documentation required to be submitted with the application:**

1. Valid certificate of insurance on a standard ACORD form evidencing the Hospital's general liability, professional liability, and any other relevant liability insurance.
2. Detailed budget identifying how grant funding will be utilized if awarded.

**The Budget Form may be obtained in an Excel (.xlsx) format by double clicking on the document icon below.**



FY21-1 Rider F  
Budget Forms.xlsx

**The Budget Form Instructions may be obtained in a PDF (.pdf) format by double clicking on the document icon below.**



FY21 Budget  
Instructions.pdf

**Budget Narrative: Include a brief budget narrative to explain the basis for determining the expenses submitted on the budget forms.**

**Describe how the Rural Hospital will use this one-time grant funding to complement the hospitals existing capacity of COVID-19 collection and testing and ensure Maine residents and visitors have access to COVID-19 specimen collection and testing.**