



2020 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Connected Care Program

Background

On April 2, 2020 the FCC established the Connected Care Pilot Program within the Universal Service Fund (USF) to help eligible health care providers mitigate the cost of providing connected care services with emphasis on supporting low-income Americans and Veterans.

Eligible Funding

The Pilot Program will make up to \$100 million available over the course of three years for selected pilot projects.

These projects will provide universal service support for 85% of the cost of eligible services and network equipment; including:

- (1) patient broadband internet access services,
- (2) health care provider broadband data connections,
- (3) other connected care information services,
- (4) certain network equipment (e.g., equipment necessary to make a supported broadband service function such as routers).

The Pilot Program will **not** provide funding for devices, including:

- (1) end-user connected devices (e.g., tablets, smart phones, remote patient monitoring equipment)
- (2) health care provider administrative costs
- (3) personnel costs
- (4) other miscellaneous expenses

Eligible Health Care Providers

The Pilot Program is open to eligible health care providers whether located in rural or non-rural areas. The Pilot Program is limited to nonprofit and public eligible health care providers that fall within the categories of "health care provider" in section 254(h)(7)(B) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

These include:

- (1) post-secondary educational institutions offering healthcare instruction, teaching hospitals, and medical schools;
- (2) community health centers or health centers providing health care to migrants;
- (3) local health departments or agencies;
- (4) community mental health centers;
- (5) not-for-profit hospitals;
- (6) rural health clinics;
- (7) skilled nursing facilities;
- (8) consortia of health care providers consisting of one or more entities falling within one of these eight categories

Applicants must request an eligibility determination by filing an [FCC Form 460 \(Eligibility and Registration Form\)](#) with the Universal Service Administration Company (USAC) and obtaining a **Health Care Provider Number (HCP Number)** for each health care provider site where they intend to use Pilot Program funding to provide connected care services.



Required Information and conditions for applications for the Pilot Program can be found on pages 3-6 on the [Public Notice](#).

Additional Information

For further information regarding the FCC Connected Care Pilot Program, please send an email to ConnCarePilotProg@fcc.gov. Additional information regarding the Pilot Program will also be posted on the [FCC website](#).