



# Rural Recruitment Assistance Programs

Department of Health

## Overview

Governor Noem's recommended budget includes \$1,028,101 in one-time funding to reimburse certain health care professionals who have complied with the requirements of the recruitment assistance program or the rural health care facility recruitment assistance program.

## Programs

\$740,262 would be allocated to the Recruitment Assistance Program, established to assist communities in recruiting physicians, dentists, physician assistants (PA), nurse practitioners (NP), and nurse midwives (NM). Participants agree to practice in the community for three years, at the end of which they receive an incentive payment. Physicians and dentists receive an amount equal to twice the USD School of Medicine resident tuition during the four most recently completed academic years. PAs, NPs, and NMs receive an amount equal to twice the USD resident tuition for PA studies for the three most recently completed academic years. Participating communities are required to pay a portion of the tuition reimbursement payment based on community size. This funding will reimburse three physicians, six physician assistants, and three nurse practitioners who will be fulfilling the requirements of their agreements with the State during FY2023.

\$402,500 would be allocated to the Rural Healthcare Facility Recruitment Assistance Program, established to assist hospitals, nursing homes, and other healthcare facilities in rural areas recruit and retain healthcare professionals. Eligible professions receive an incentive payment of \$10,000 upon completion of a three-year commitment at the facility. Participating facilities are required to pay a portion of the payment based on community size. Up to 60 healthcare professionals can participate in the program each year.

\$114,661 in unused prior year appropriation offsets these amounts to equal the total requested of \$1,028,101.