



# Rural Recruitment Assistance Programs

Department of Health

## Overview

Governor Noem's recommended budget includes \$811,967 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

\$521,967 would be allocated to the Recruitment Assistance Program, established to assist communities in recruiting physicians, dentists, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and nurse midwives.

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. This appropriation will allow DOH to reimburse three physicians and two nurse practitioners who will be fulfilling the requirements of their agreements during FY2022.

\$290,000 would be allocated to the Rural Healthcare Facility Recruitment Assistance Program, which assists hospitals, nursing homes, and other health care facilities in communities with a population of 10,000 or less with recruiting and retaining health care professionals. Occupations eligible for participation in the program include dietitian/nutritionist, medical technologist, laboratory technologist, nurse (RN or LPN), occupational therapist, paramedic, pharmacist, physical therapist, radiologic technologist, respiratory therapist, speech therapist, and healthcare social worker. Eligible professions receive an incentive payment of \$10,000 upon completion of a three-year practice commitment at the facility. Participating facilities are required to pay a portion of the incentive payment based on community size. This appropriation will allow DOH to reimburse 48 eligible healthcare professions who have compiled with the requirements of their agreements during FY2022.