

Notice of Intent to Release

To all interested parties:

The Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (the Agency) is providing this notice of intent to release a request for proposal (RFP) on or around December 2025 for the Iowa Best and Brightest program. This RFP will award organizations with funds to recruit providers to rural areas. The agency expects funds for up to 150 provider recruitment and retention awards. Please see the Agency's Rural Health Transformation Grant website ([Rural Health Transformation \(RHT\) | Health & Human Services](#)) for additional information about the Healthy Hometowns initiative.

The RFP for the Best and Brightest Provider Recruitment and Retention, RFP # PHTHORC26010, that the Agency anticipates releasing on or around December 2025, will be posted to [IowaGrants](#). The following is a tentative timeline for the RFP; these dates are estimates and are subject to change:

Mid-December 2025: Question and answer period after release of the RFP

Early January 2026: Deadline for bid proposals.

Mid-January 2026: HHS to award contract(s)

Mid-February 2026: Contract begins.

Sincerely,

John McMullen
Issuing Officer