

## STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

## **USDA Accepting Applications for Distance Learning and Telemedicine Funding**

(May 16, 2017) USDA Rural Development Acting Undersecretary Roger Glendenning announced today that the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) is accepting applications for <u>Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT)</u> <u>Grant Program</u> funding for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017.

DLT grants are designed to provide access to education, training, and health care resources for rural Americans. The DLT Program supports telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas through the use of telecommunications, computer networks, and advanced technologies that benefit rural communities.

A minimum grant amount of \$50,000 and a maximum grant amount of \$500,000 will be awarded through a competitive process for FY 2017, based on requirements that can be found at <u>7 CFR part 1703</u>, including details on the July 17, 2017 deadline for applying for DLT grant funding. Of the funds made available this year, \$1.6 million will be prioritized to provide for communication upgrades between ambulances, emergency transportation vehicles and medical facilities.

Applicants are encouraged to review the FY 2017 application guide and sample material that is available online at: <a href="https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/distance-learning-telemedicine-grants">https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/distance-learning-telemedicine-grants</a>.

More information on how to apply for this funding is available on pages 22477-22482 of the May 16, 2017 Federal Register.