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USDA Announces Distance Learning Telemedicine Grant for Rural Nevada

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USDA Announces Distance Learning Telemedicine Grant for Health and Education Broadband Access in Rural Nevada

Links Rural Teachers, Medical Service Providers to Metropolitan Areas

WASHINGTON, April 13, 2018 – Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development Anne Hazlett today announced that USDA is accepting applications for grants to use broadband e-Connectivity to improve access to health care and educational services in rural communities.

“Under Secretary Perdue’s leadership, USDA is tackling e-Connectivity as a foundational issue for rural communities because it affects everything from business opportunities to adequate health care access,” Hazlett said. “These grants are one of many tools USDA provides to help ensure that people who live and work in rural areas can use broadband to gain access to essential services and economic opportunities.”

USDA is awarding grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$500,000 under the [Distance Learning and Telemedicine](#) (DLT) program. Grants can finance projects such as those to provide job training, academic instruction or access to specialized medical care.

The Distance Learning and Telemedicine program helps rural communities use the unique capabilities of telecommunications to connect to each other and to the world, overcoming the effects of remoteness and low population density. For example, this program can link teachers and medical service providers in one area to students and patients in another

Proposals for projects whose primary purpose is to provide opioid prevention, treatment and recovery will receive 10 priority points when applications are scored. USDA is approaching the opioid misuse crisis with a dedicated urgency because it impacts the quality of life, economic opportunity and rural prosperity.

USDA also will provide priority points for grants that offer access to Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) courses.

Grants are available to most state and local governmental entities, federally recognized tribes, nonprofit groups, for-profit businesses or a consortia of these. For more information call USDA Rural Development at (775) 887-1222, Ext. 4768.

The application deadline is June 4, 2018. Applications can be submitted via paper or electronically. For details on