

## 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 July 2026 to fund approximately three High-Risk OB and Neonatal Transport projects that will strengthen Iowa's rural perinatal system by expanding EMS capacity to safely transport high-risk pregnant individuals and newborns to appropriate levels of care. These projects will equip EMS agencies with specialized training, tele-OB support, and neonatal-specific equipment to improve outcomes and ensure timely, coordinated access to advanced maternal and neonatal services. A core objective of this initiative is to establish consistent, reliable transfer patterns across a statewide hub-and-spoke network so rural facilities can efficiently route patients to the right care at the right time.

Please visit [Healthy Hometowns - Iowa's Rural Health Transformation Plan | Health & Human Services](#) for more information.

The RFP for High-risk OB and Neonatal Transport, RFP # PHTHOET27002, that the Agency anticipates releasing on or around July 2026, will be posted to [IowaGrants](#). The following is a tentative timeline for the RFP; these dates are estimates and are subject to change:

**July-August 2026** Question and answer period after release of the RFP

**September 2026:** Deadline for bid proposals.

**October-November 2026:** HHS to award contract(s)

This Notice of Intent is issued solely for informational purposes and does not constitute a solicitation or a commitment to issue an RFP. The Agency reserves the right to modify, delay, or cancel any planned solicitation at its sole discretion. The Agency is under no obligation to proceed with any procurement process or to award a contract as a result of this notice. No reimbursement will be made for any costs incurred in preparing responses or attending related meetings. All information provided in this

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notice is subject to change without prior notice. Final requirements, timelines, and evaluation criteria will be detailed in the RFP, if issued.

Sincerely,

Stacey Hewitt  
Issuing Officer

This High-risk OB and Neonatal Transport, RFP # PHTHOET27002 is supported by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling approximately \$209,040,063.71 with 100 percent funded by CMS/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official view of, nor an endorsement, by CMS/HHS, or the U.S. Government.