

Illinois' Federal Coronavirus Response Funds and Anticipated Uses

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FEDERAL AID DIRECTED TO THE STATE OF ILLINOIS FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE

Since early March, Congress has enacted four pieces of legislation to address the impact of COVID-19:

- 1) Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020 — Enacted March 6, 2020
- 2) Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) – Enacted March 18, 2020
- 3) Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act – Enacted March 27, 2020
- 4) Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act — Enacted April 24, 2020

Through these four laws, approximately \$5.5 billion is expected to flow through the state budget to address various needs. These amounts reflect estimated awards as of May 31, 2020. Additional awards may be announced by the federal government at a later date.

CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND – ILLINOIS’ ALLOCATION: \$3,518,945,400¹

The largest piece of direct aid came to Illinois through a provision in the CARES Act, which created the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) for state and local governments. The State of Illinois received just over \$3.5 billion directly from the fund to cover the state’s necessary expenditures in response to COVID-19 between March 1, 2020 and December 30, 2020. All expenditures from this allocation must be consistent with the requirements set forth by U.S. Treasury in guidance documents and subsequent FAQs to cover response costs related to COVID-19. None of the allocation under current guidance can be used to assist governments with replacement of lost revenues.

Public Act 101-637 (Senate Bill 264) includes appropriations to support state government’s costs of response, provide assistance to households and small businesses impacted by COVID-19, and provide pandemic related stability payments to healthcare providers. A portion of the small business, household and healthcare payments will be directed to support disproportionately impacted areas of the states as determined by the number of COVID-19 cases in those areas.

FISCAL YEAR 2021 APPROPRIATIONS STATEWIDE

- **Illinois Emergency Management Agency**
 - Operational costs eligible for payment from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund
 - Appropriation amount: \$1,500,000,000
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: For costs including operational expenses, awards and grants of IEMA and other state agencies for the support of programs and services that assist people and entities impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This appropriation will cover items such as state costs for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), alternate care sites, increased operational costs of state agencies, and testing and contact tracing programs. Approximate amounts set forth below:
 - Illinois Emergency Management Agency: \$700,000,000
 - Department of Public Health: \$600,000,000
 - Department of Human Services: \$100,000,000
 - Department of Corrections: \$100,000,000

¹ As of May 31, 2020, approximately \$3.225 billion of the original allocation remained unexpended. The appropriation amounts that follow are approximate amounts but may be limited by remaining available resources. Federal guidance requires that all funds be expended by the end of the calendar year.

- **Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity**
 - Coronavirus Business Interruption Grant (BIG) Program
 - Appropriation amount: \$376,000,000
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: For costs incurred to qualifying businesses due to business interruption or other such purposes eligible for payment from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund. Of this amount, at least \$60 million is designated for qualifying businesses that serve disproportionately impacted areas, based on positive COVID-19 cases.²
 - Coronavirus Business Interruption Grant (BIG) Program for Child Care Providers
 - Appropriation amount: \$260,000,000
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: For costs incurred to childcare and daycare providers due to business interruption or other such purposes eligible for payment from the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund. Of this amount, at least \$25 million is designated for childcare and daycare providers that serve disproportionately impacted areas, based on positive COVID-19 positive cases.³
 - Reimbursement program for local governments in the 97 counties that did not receive a direct allocation from the Coronavirus Relief Fund – for payment of COVID-19 related expenses⁴
 - Appropriation amount: \$250,000,000
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Administration and payment of COVID-19 related grants and expense reimbursement to units of local government, including but not limited to, local certified public health departments.
 - Technical support to community-based, non-profit organizations
 - Appropriation amount: \$10,000,000
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Provides support to community-based, non-profit organizations located in modest and low-income census tracts to provide technical assistance to diverse, underserved and minority-owned small businesses. Must be within the locations described above and have a strong track record of serving diverse, underserved and minority-owned small businesses.
- **Department of Revenue for Payment to the Illinois Housing Development Authority**
 - Affordable housing grants for rental and mortgage assistance
 - Appropriation amount: \$396,000,000
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: For grants to individuals impacted by COVID-19 for emergency rental assistance, emergency mortgage assistance and subordinate financing, of which

² While the appropriation indicates \$60 million should be allocated to qualified businesses that serve disproportionately impacted areas, P.A. 101-636 (HB357) sets a minimum target of 30% of the overall business interruption grant program, plus 30% of the amount directed to child care providers.

³ While the appropriation indicates \$260 million should be allocated to qualified child care providers, P.A. 101-636 (HB357) sets a minimum target of 50% of the overall business interruption grant program for child care providers.

⁴ The City of Chicago, Cook County, DuPage County, Kane County, Lake County, and Will County received direct allocations from U.S. Treasury.

at least \$100 million is designated for grants to individuals impacted by COVID-19 who are members of disproportionately impacted areas, based on COVID-19 cases.

- **Department of Human Services**

- Deposit into DHS State Projects fund for mental health, substance abuse and other counseling services
 - Appropriation amount: \$30,000,000
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: For grants and administrative expenses associated with mental health, substance abuse and other counseling services and assistance for individuals and families impacted by COVID-19.
- Deposit into DHS State Projects fund for Illinois Welcoming Centers
 - Appropriation amount: \$32,000,000
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: For grants and administrative expenses associated with the Illinois Welcoming Centers.

- **Department of Healthcare and Family Services**

- Pandemic Related Stability Payments to Long Term Care service providers
 - Appropriation amount: \$435,400,000
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: To support providers of long term care services, excluding Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Facilities, of which at least \$50 million will support providers of long term care services in disproportionately impacted areas, based on positive COVID-19 cases.
- Pandemic Related Stability Payments to Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Facilities
 - Appropriation amount: \$14,600,000
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: To support Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Facilities.
- Pandemic Related Stability Payments to Federally Qualified Health Centers
 - Appropriation amount: \$190,000,000
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: To support Federally Qualified Health Centers, of which at least \$40 million will provide support to FQHCs that serve disproportionately impacted areas.
- Pandemic Related Stability Payments to other medical assistance providers and ambulance providers
 - Appropriation amount: \$190,000,000
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: To support ambulance providers and medical assistance providers, excluding Specialized Mental Health Rehabilitation Facilities.

Aside from the \$3.5 billion received from the Coronavirus Response Fund within the CARES Act, additional funds are expected to be received by the State. The following sections review other amounts included in the fiscal year 2021 budget, by program area.

EDUCATION

- **State Board of Education**
 - Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief Fund (ESER)
 - Award amount: \$569,467,218
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Requires at least 90% of funds for the Elementary/Secondary Emergency Relief Fund to be distributed to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) in the proportion they received Title I funds in the most recent fiscal year to be spent on purposes related to coronavirus, such as acquisition of e-learning equipment for K-12 districts.
 - Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER)
 - Award amount: \$108,497,757
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Funds will be used across the entire education spectrum, from pre-kindergarten through higher education. K-12 funding will be used to supplement Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief Fund by addressing the state's digital divide in K-12 schools. Early childhood providers did not have access to ESER Fund dollars and will receive funds for home learning materials and recruitment and screening over the summer, among other uses. Remaining organization expenditures are detailed in their appropriate sections. Funding in approximate amounts set forth below:
 - Local Educational Agencies: \$50,000,000
 - Early Childhood Education Service Providers: \$10,000,000
 - Illinois Board of Higher Education: \$30,000,000
 - Illinois Community College Board: \$18,000,000
 - Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy: \$250,000
 - Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum: \$150,000
- **Illinois Board of Higher Education**
 - Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER Fund)
 - Purpose: Of the amount allocated from ISBE, IBHE will distribute funds to public universities largely based on percentage of Pell students and the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy. A portion of the IBHE total amount will be used for emergency funds for public and private higher education institutions.
- **Illinois Community College Board**
 - Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER Fund)
 - Purpose: Of the amount allocated from ISBE, ICCB will distribute funds to community colleges across Illinois based on the percentage of Pell students per institution and on the reliance of state appropriation.

- **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum**
 - Governor’s Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund
 - Purpose: Of the amount allocated from ISBE, this funding will be used by ALPLM to support online learning, artifact digitization and professional development courses.

- **Institutions of Higher Education**
 - Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund
 - Award amount: \$462,491,979
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Institutions of higher education have to apply directly for the federal funding. These funds do not flow through the state but go directly to the institution. A total of the 90% of the funding is allocated based on the institution’s percentage of Pell Grant recipients, 7.5% is allocated to Minority Serving Institutions through the Strengthening Institution Program, and 2.5% is allocated through the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education program to additional higher education institutions.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- **Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity**
 - Small Business Development Program
 - Award amount: \$7,308,163
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Supports the statewide network of Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs) by providing grants to fund direct costs of the SBDCs including operational and marketing expenses, development and deployment of training modules, network and technology and EDP support, and direct support to SBDCs covering rural Illinois for technology to provide enhanced internet access.
 - COVID-19 Dislocated Worker Grant
 - Award amount: \$8,325,000
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Expands the National Dislocated Worker grant program to include individuals eligible for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, including health care, direct care and front-line workers. Grants are distributed through community action agencies to support training and temporary employment programs.
 - Low Income Home Energy Assistance Block Grant (LIHEAP)
 - Award amount: \$41,841,335
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Provides assistance to lower income households to receive assistance with home energy services, including heating and cooling. HB 357 increases the eligibility for LIHEAP programs in fiscal year 2021 from 150% to 200% of the Federal Poverty Level.
 - Community Services Block Grant
 - Award amount: \$47,232,781
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Provides funding to support projects that lessen poverty in communities; address the needs of low-income individuals including the homeless, migrants and the elderly; and provides services and activities addressing employment, education, better use of available income, housing, nutrition, emergency services and health.
 - Community Development Block Grant CARES Act Formula Grants: IL Non-entitlement only
 - Award amount: anticipated \$17,842,842. *DCEO has received an official letter, but not a notice of award.*
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: The CDBG is a broad award that provides funding to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic by providing grants to communities to help mitigate community impact and respond to unmet long-term recovery needs in disaster-affected areas. A portion of this award can also be used to supplement existing awards or to provide additional technical assistance.
 - Community Development Block Grant CARES Act Formula Grants: IL Non-entitlement and entitlement uses
 - Award amount: estimated \$39,200,000. *DCEO received guidance, but has not received an official letter.*
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act

- Purpose: The CDBG is a broad award that provides funding to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic by providing grants to communities to help mitigate community impact and respond to unmet long-term recovery needs in disaster-affected areas. A portion of this award can also be used to supplement existing awards or to provide additional technical assistance.
- **Illinois Department of Transportation**
 - Federal Transit Administration – Transit Infrastructure Grants
 - Award amount: \$1,615,873,750
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: This funding is split into several categories: Urbanized Area Formula, State of Good Repair, Non-urbanized Area and Growing States. Of the \$1.6B, \$57.5M will be deposited into the IDOT Federal Mass Transit Fund. The remainder will be transferred directly to local mass transit districts and not through the State Treasury.
 - Grants-In-Aid for Airports
 - Award amount: \$446,739,180
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: This additional funding may be used by Illinois airports for any standard operating costs, including debt service.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- **Illinois Emergency Management Agency**
 - Emergency Management Performance Grants
 - Award amount: \$3,041,400
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: The program provides necessary and essential funding for emergency management personnel salaries, benefits, travel, office supplies, administrative equipment, etc. with the objective of increasing operational capability for emergency management at state and local levels.

- **Criminal Justice Information Authority**
 - Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF)
 - Award amount: \$19,956,148
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Allowable projects and purchases for CESF dollars include, but are not limited to, overtime, equipment, hiring, supplies, training, travel expenses, and addressing the medical needs of inmates in state, local, and tribal prisons, jails, and detention centers. CJIA anticipates using 40% of the CESF award for local units of government and nonprofit organizations to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus. In addition, the remaining 60% of funding will be distributed in the approximate amounts set forth below to state agencies:
 - Department of Corrections, of which a portion will assist with transitional housing costs: \$9,200,000
 - Department of Juvenile Justice, of which a portion will assist with transitional housing for youth: \$1,500,000

HUMAN SERVICES

- **Department on Aging**
 - Congregate and Home Delivered Meals
 - Award amount: \$26,478,720
 - Funds made available from:
 - FFCRA Act: \$8,826,240
 - CARES Act: \$17,652,480
 - Purpose: Allows additional funding for home delivered meals or congregate meals to older adults.
 - Title III Part B Supportive Services
 - Award amount: \$7,310,861
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Allows for access to healthcare services by providing transportation and case management, in-home services such as personal care and chores, and community services such as legal services, mental health services and adult day care.
 - Title III Part-E Support Services for Family Caregivers
 - Award amount: \$3,637,081
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Provides additional assistance for caregivers through Area Agencies on Aging, online resources and national caregiver organizations.
 - Title VII Long Term Care Ombudsman Program-Elder Rights Protection Activities
 - Award amount: \$735,520
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Used for working with residents to protect rights of individuals by advocating for quality of care, providing information to residents about long term care options and investigating complaints and concerns.
 - Title VII Part C Independent Living
 - Award amount: \$2,774,525
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Allows seniors to live on their own rather than needing to be in a nursing home.
- **Department of Human Services**
 - Child Care and Development Block Grant
 - Award amount: \$118,420,119
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Allows child care programs to function, including meeting emergency staffing needs and covering health care for first responders and health care workers.
 - Homeless Assistance Grants
 - Award amount: \$36,320,000
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Allows for assistance to individuals or families who are experiencing homelessness. Eligible individuals can receive rental assistance, utility assistance and supportive services.

- Family Violence Prevention
 - Award amount: \$1,419,000
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: To support families impacted by family violence, domestic violence and dating violence and ensure continuity of shelter and supportive services.
- Emergency Grants to Address Mental and Substance Use Disorders
 - Award amount: \$2,000,000
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: To help certified community behavioral health clinics continue to treat individuals with substance use disorders and mental illness.
- **Department of Public Health**
 - Public Health Emergency Preparedness
 - Award amount: \$22,735,458
 - Funds made available from: Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Act
 - Purpose: Allows the department to buy equipment and support COVID-19 response activities of the department and local health departments.
 - Health protection services performed by local health providers
 - Award amount: \$303,614,341
 - Funds made available from:
 - Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Act: \$1,000,000
 - CARES Act: \$16,296,979
 - Paycheck Protection and Health Care Enhancement Act: \$286,317,362
 - Purpose: For epidemiology and laboratory capacity, contact tracing and testing for COVID-19 (ELC).
 - Health protection services and planning for the HIV/AIDS program
 - Award amount: \$6,935,654
 - Funds made available from:
 - Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Act: \$1,086,388
 - CARES Act: \$5,564,922
 - CARES Act: \$284,344
 - Purpose: For expenses associated with the treatment of HIV/AIDS patients under Ryan White part B and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS and payments to rural hospitals for COVID-19 response activities.
- **Department of Children and Family Services**
 - Child Welfare Services
 - Award amount: \$1,653,140
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: To support the first round of \$100 monthly stipends to foster families for youth in care (the department plans to complete three rounds of stipends for youth in care costing approximately \$1.8M each). The payment will go to the family or caretaker unless the youth is living on his or her own.

ENVIRONMENT AND CULTURE

- **Illinois Arts Council**
 - National Endowment for the Arts Federal Award
 - Award amount: \$526,400
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Funding supports arts programs, services, and activities associated with carrying out the agency's National Endowment for the Arts-approved strategic plan, as well as salaries, administration costs, and related sub grants to the nonprofit arts sector.

GOVERNMENT SERVICES

- **Illinois Department of Employment Security**
 - Unemployment Insurance Provisions
 - Award amount: Up to \$47 million
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Administrative costs related to the COVID-19 public health epidemic is 100% federally reimbursable and can be used for hiring, expansion of call-centers, upgrades to benefits systems for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program, mailing services, short-term compensation programs, along with other general administrative costs.
- **Secretary of State**
 - Library and Museum Grants
 - Award amount: \$1,145,000
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Grants to expand digital network access, purchase internet accessible devices, and provide technical support services.
- **State Board of Elections**
 - Administrative Costs and Grants to Local Election Authorities
 - Award amount: \$16,759,396
 - Funds made available from: CARES Act
 - Purpose: Funds are to be used to increase the ability to vote by mail, expand early voting and online registration and improve the safety of voting in-person by providing additional voting facilities and more poll workers. State Board of Elections has discussed possible grant process to local election authorities similar to 2018 Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds for reimbursement of costs related to vote by mail, and costs related to implementing CDC guidelines to ensure safety of voters.