



# THE CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY (CARES) ACT



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## Overview

Passed by Congress and signed into law during late March 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act is the largest economic stimulus legislation in US history – providing over \$2 trillion in supports to private employers, non-profits, local governments and individuals.

This report examines the CARES Act resources that may provide economic assistance to those who participate in the arts economy – non-profit organizations, businesses, employees, self-employed individuals, or contract workers.

Five key areas of support are addressed in this report:

- Small Business and Non-profit Organizations
- Unemployment Insurance Benefits, Food Security and Social Services
- Housing Supports
- Education and the Arts
- Economic Development

## SMALL BUSINESS AND NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

### PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM

\$350 billion in funding for a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) provides small businesses and non-profits with zero-fee loans of up to \$10 million, with up to 8 weeks of average payroll and other costs forgiven if the business retains its employees and their salary levels.

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#### WHO CAN APPLY

Small businesses impacted by coronavirus-related issues between February 15 and June 30, 2020 may apply for loans, which will remain available through the end of June. All 501(c)(3) nonprofits, 501(c)(19) veterans organizations, tribal businesses with fewer than 500 employees, individuals who manage a sole proprietorship, and independent contractors are eligible. Each entity is limited to one loan, determined by the applicable taxpayer identification number (TIN).

The loans are categorized by how long the organization remains operable from the beginning of the crisis period (February 15) to June 30. For businesses that continue to operate and retain employees over that period, the SBA can provide a maximum loan of 250 percent of the average monthly payroll costs during that period:

If you are in business over the period from February 15 to June 30, you will receive a maximum loan amount that is 2.5 times your average monthly payroll expenses over that time period.

If you are a seasonal worker over the period from March 1 to June 30, you will receive a maximum loan amount that is 2.5 times your average monthly payroll expenses for that shortened time period.

If you were not in business after February 15—that is, if you were not open because of the crisis or you went out of business entirely—you will receive a maximum loan amount that is 2.5 times your average monthly payroll expenses for the two months of January and February.



Businesses that took out economic injury disaster (EID) loans between February 15 and June 30 may refinance their original loan into a PPP loan and add any outstanding loan payments to their payroll expenses.

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## WHAT CAN LOANS BE USED FOR?

Eligible payroll expenses for calculating PPP loan amounts include:

- Compensation (salary, wages, commission, or similar compensation, cash tips, etc.)
- Payment for vacation, family, medical, and sick leave
- Allowance for employee dismissal or separation
- Payment for group health-care benefits, including insurance premiums
- Payment of employee retirement benefits
- Payment of state and local taxes imposed on the compensation of employees

However, the PPP does not count the following expenses when calculating the total PPP reimbursement amount:

- Any compensation over \$100,000 per employee
- Taxes imposed under chapters 21 (payroll taxes), 22 (railroad taxes and retirement benefits), and 24 (income taxes withheld on wages) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC)
- Compensation of employees whose principal place of residence is outside the United States
- Qualified sick and family leave for which a credit is already allowed under other sections (i.e., 7001 and 7003) of the Family First Coronavirus Response Act
- Loans used for duplicate purposes of another SBA loan program already claimed by the applicant

Once an eligible small business or contractor receives the loan, they may use it for the following:

- Payroll costs
- Costs related to the continuation of group health-care benefits during periods of paid sick, medical, or family leave and insurance premiums
- Employee's salaries, commissions, or similar compensation
- Payments of interest on any mortgage obligations (not including prepayment fees or payment of principal on the mortgage itself)
- Rent (including rents under a lease agreement)
- Utilities
- Interest on any other debt obligations that were incurred before the relevant covered period (see Table 1)

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## HOW LONG TO REPAY

Maximum repayment window of 10 years with a top interest rate of 4 percent, without loan fees or prepayment penalties.

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## HOW TO APPLY



PPP loans are being administered by approved SBA lenders and are actually a new form of the existing SBA 7(a) loan program. You can apply for your PPP loan through any of the 1,800 participating SBA approved 7(a) lenders or through any participating federally insured depository institution, federally insured credit union, and Farm Credit System institution. Other lenders will be available to make PPP loans once they are approved and enrolled in the program. Start by consulting with your local lender as to whether it is participating.

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## TIMELINE

Lenders may begin processing loan applications as soon as April 3, 2020. The Paycheck Protection Program will be available through June 30, 2020.<sup>1</sup>

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## NOTE

If a business claims a PPP loan, they are not eligible for the Employee Retention Credit (which would provide a refundable payroll tax credit for 50 percent of wages paid by eligible employers to certain employees during the COVID-19 crisis) or the deferment of payment of employer payroll taxes until 2021.

## EMERGENCY ECONOMIC INJURY GRANTS

\$10 billion in funding for a provision that is intended to provide an advance of \$10,000 to small businesses and nonprofits that apply for an SBA economic injury disaster loan (EIDL) within three days of applying for the loan. While this provision is intended to provide the advance to all applicants it is as yet unclear how this provision is being implemented and the degree to which the available funds are being accessed.

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## WHO CAN APPLY

Those eligible for an EIDL and who have been in operation since January 31, 2020, when the public health crisis was announced.

Before disbursing the advance payment, the SBA must verify that the entity is an eligible applicant for an EIDL loan. This approval shall take the form of a certification under penalty of perjury by the applicant that they are eligible.

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## REPAYMENT

The EIDL emergency grant does not need to be repaid, even if the grantee is subsequently denied an EIDL.

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## WHAT IS IT USED FOR

May be used to provide paid sick leave to employees, maintaining payroll, meet increased production costs due to supply chain disruptions, or pay business obligations, including debts, rent and mortgage

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<sup>1</sup> The Small Business Association Announced on April 16, 2020 they would not be processing any new applications as they had met the original allocation for the program.



payments. The grant is available to small businesses, private nonprofits, sole proprietors and independent contractors, tribal businesses, as well as cooperatives and employee-owned businesses.

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## TIMELINE

January 31, 2020 – December 31, 2020. The grants are backdated to January 31, 2020 to allow those who have already applied for EIDLs to be eligible to also receive a grant.

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## NOTE ON PPP AND EIG

The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) created by the CARES Act prohibits borrowers from taking out two loans for the same purpose. For more information on PPP loans, visit [www.uschamber.com/sbloans](http://www.uschamber.com/sbloans)

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## HOW TO APPLY

Visit: <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>

## ECONOMIC INJURY DISASTER LOANS (EIDL)

\$562 million to ensure that SBA has the resources to provide EIDL to businesses that need financial support.

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## WHO IS ELIGIBLE

All of the following entities that have suffered substantial economic injury caused by a disaster provided they were in existence on January 31, 2020

- Businesses with fewer than 500 employees
- Cooperatives, ESOPs, and tribal small businesses with fewer than 500 employees
- Sole proprietors
- Independent contractors
- Most private nonprofits

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## LOAN PARAMETERS

The maximum EIDL is a \$2 million working capital loan at a rate of 3.75% for businesses and 2.75% for non-profits with up to a 30-year term.

Payments on Coronavirus EIDL loans are deferred for one year

Up to \$200,000 can be approved without a personal guarantee

Approval can be based on a credit score and no first-year tax returns are required

Borrowers do not have to prove they could not get credit elsewhere

No collateral is required for loans of \$25,000 or less. For loans of more than \$25,000, general security interest in business assets will be used for collateral instead of real estate



The borrowers must allow the SBA to review its tax records

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## HOW TO APPLY

Apply online at [www.SBA.gov/disaster](http://www.SBA.gov/disaster)

## DEBT RELIEF FOR EXISTING AND NEW SBA BORROWERS

\$17 billion in funding to provide immediate relief to small businesses with existing standard SBA 7(a), 504, or microloans, among other relief for small business borrowers.

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## WHAT THIS MEANS

The SBA will automatically pay the principal, interest, and fees of current 7(a), 504, and microloans for a period of six months.

Additionally, the SBA will also automatically pay the principal, interest, and fees of new 7(a), 504, and microloans issued prior to September 27, 2020.

Automatic deferral:

For current SBA Serviced Disaster (Home and Business) Loans: If your disaster loan was in “regular servicing” status on March 1, 2020, the SBA is providing automatic deferments through **December 31, 2020**.

What does an “automatic deferral” mean to borrowers?

Interest will continue to accrue on the loan.

1201 monthly payment notices will continue to be mailed out which will reflect the loan is deferred and no payment is due.

**The deferment will NOT cancel any established Preauthorized Debit (PAD) or recurring payments on your loan.** *Borrowers that have established a PAD through Pay.Gov or an OnLine Bill Pay Service are responsible for canceling these recurring payments. Borrowers that had SBA establish a PAD through Pay.gov will have to contact their SBA servicing office to cancel the PAD.*

Borrowers preferring to continue making regular payments during the deferment period may continue remitting payments during the deferment period. SBA will apply those payments normally as if there was no deferment.

After this automatic deferment period, borrowers will be required to resume making regular principal and interest payments. Borrowers that cancelled recurring payments will need to reestablish the recurring payment.

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## RESOURCES FOR BUSINESS COUNSELING SERVICES



\$275 million in grants (included in Division A of the bill) to Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs), Women’s Business Centers (WBCs), as well as the Minority Business Development Agency’s Business Centers (MBDCs), to provide mentorship, guidance and expertise to small businesses.

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#### FROM US SENATE

If you, like many small business owners, need a business counselor to help guide you through this uncertain time, you can turn to your local Small Business Development Center (SBDC), Women’s Business Center (WBC), or SCORE mentorship chapter. These resource partners, and the associations that represent them, will receive additional funds to expand their reach and better support small business owners with counseling and up-to-date information regarding COVID-19. There will soon be a joint platform that consolidates information and resources related to COVID-19 in order to provide consistent, timely information to small businesses. To find a local resource partner, visit <https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/find/>.

In addition, the Minority Business Development Agency’s Business Centers (MBDCs), which cater to minority business enterprises of all sizes, will also receive funding to hire staff and provide programming to help their clients respond to COVID-19. Not every state has a MBDC. To find out if there is one that services your area, visit [this site](#).

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#### DO I HAVE TO PAY FOR COUNSELING AND TRAINING THROUGH SBDCS, WBCS, AND MBDCS

Counseling is free and training is low-cost with these partners. The additional funds that Congress provided will help keep this possible.

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#### WHAT IS A SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER (SBDC)

SBDCs are a national network of nearly 1,000 centers that are located at leading universities, colleges, state economic development agencies and private partners. They provide counseling and training to new and existing businesses. Each state has a lead center that coordinates services specifically for that state. Mentorship through SCORE is always free.

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#### WHAT IS SCORE

SCORE provides free, confidential business advice through our volunteer network of 10,000+ business experts.

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#### WHAT IS A WOMEN’S BUSINESS CENTER (WBC); IS IT ONLY FOR WOMEN

WBCs are a national network of more than 100 centers that offer one-on-one counseling, training, networking, workshops, technical assistance and mentoring to entrepreneurs on numerous business development topics. In addition to women, WBCs are mandated to serve the needs of underserved entrepreneurs, including low-income entrepreneurs. They often offer flexible hours to meet the needs of their diverse clientele.



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## WHO DO MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY'S BUSINESS CENTERS (MBDCS) SERVE?

MBDCs are a good option for minority-owned businesses (including those owned by Black, Hispanic, Asian American/Pacific Islander, and American Indian business owners), especially those seeking to penetrate new markets — domestic & global — and grow in size and scale.

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS, FOOD SECURITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

### WORKERS AFFECTED BY CORONAVIRUS ACT

\$260 billion for states to increase the eligibility, payment amounts and time of benefit for individuals who have lost their jobs as a result of the pandemic.

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### OVERVIEW

Generally, the Relief for Workers Affected by Coronavirus Act (RWACA) provides additional financial support for states and additional support for individuals through a \$600 weekly federal unemployment benefit on the top of weekly state unemployment benefits. To distribute these new unemployment benefits, RWACA provides for states and the federal government to enter into agreements that provide three different tiers of support, each with different requirements.

Although whether an individual will qualify for unemployment benefits varies based on the applicable tier, the ultimate weekly benefit received by the individual is generally the same: State weekly unemployment benefits plus \$600 in weekly Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation ("FDUC"). For example, in Texas, an individual who is eligible for full weekly unemployment benefits under Texas law would receive a total of \$1,121 in weekly unemployment benefits, broken down as follows:

$\$521$  (Texas Weekly Benefit) +  $\$600$  (FDUC) =  $\$1,121$  in Total Weekly Benefit

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### TIER ONE: EMERGENCY INCREASE IN UNEMPLOYMENT

If the individual qualifies for unemployment benefits under state law, then the individual may receive the enhanced unemployment benefits under RWACA, which includes the state's weekly unemployment benefit plus the \$600 FDUC. The unemployment benefits under Tier One are only available through July 31, 2020.

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### TIER TWO: EXTENSION OF EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

If the individual qualifies for unemployment benefits under state law and has exhausted such available state benefits, then an individual may qualify for up to a 13-week extension of unemployment benefits under RWACA provided that the individual is available to work and actively seeking work. The benefit is the same as under Tier One: the state's weekly unemployment benefit plus the \$600 FDUC. The main difference between Tier One and Tier Two unemployment benefits is that the federal government will cover the costs of the state unemployment weekly benefit and the individual must be available to work and actively seeking work, even if the state's unemployment insurance program does not require it. The extended unemployment benefits under Tier Two are only available through December 31, 2020.



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## TIER THREE: PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

An individual who is not eligible for unemployment benefits under state law or who has exhausted state unemployment benefits may still qualify for unemployment benefits under RWACA, even if the individual is not actively seeking work. Unlike Tier Two, individuals who are not actively seeking work may still collect unemployment benefits, under the same calculus of the state's weekly unemployment benefit plus the \$600 FDUC, provided they qualify as a "covered individual" under RWACA. Generally, to be a "covered individual" qualified for unemployment benefits under RWACA, an individual must not be entitled to paid sick leave or other paid benefits and must be available to work but remain unemployed, partially employed, or unable to work (or telework) because:

- The individual is diagnosed with COVID-19 or is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and seeking a medical diagnosis;
- A member of the individual's household has been diagnosed with COVID-19;
- The individual is providing care for a family member or a member of the individual's household who has been diagnosed with COVID-19;
- A child or other person in the household for which the individual has primary caregiving responsibility is unable to attend school or another facility that is closed as a direct result of the COVID-19 public health emergency and such school or facility care is required for the individual to work;
- The individual is unable to reach the place of employment because of a quarantine imposed as a direct result of the COVID-19 public health emergency;
- The individual is unable to reach the place of employment because the individual has been advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine due to concerns related to COVID-19;
- The individual was scheduled to commence employment and does not have a job or is unable to reach the job as a direct result of the COVID-19 public health emergency;
- The individual has become the breadwinner or major support for a household because the head of the household has died as a direct result of COVID-19;
- The individual has to quit his or her job as a direct result of COVID-19;
- The individual's place of employment is closed as a direct result of the COVID-19 public health emergency; or
- The individual is self-employed, seeking part-time employment, does not have sufficient work history or otherwise would not qualify for state or federal benefits but fits within one of the above categories.

The unemployment benefits under Tier Three apply to benefits beginning as early as January 27, 2020, and are only available through December 31, 2020 (capped at 39 weeks including any week in which the individual otherwise received benefits).

## EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TEFAP)

\$450 million to local agencies selected by states, such as food banks, and to community action agencies to help provide low-income Americans, including seniors, with emergency food assistance at no cost.

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## LEAD AGENCY

5280 Caroline Street, Suite 100, Houston, Texas 77004-5882

t 713.527.9330 [info@haatx.com](mailto:info@haatx.com)



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## WHAT IS TEFAP

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is a federal program that helps supplement the diets of low-income Americans by providing them with emergency food assistance at no cost. USDA provides 100% American-grown USDA Foods and administrative funds to states to operate TEFAP.

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## WHO IS ELIGIBLE

You may be able to get food assistance from a local TEFAP organization in your area in two ways: 1) getting foods from a place like a food pantry to take home or 2) eating a meal with a group of people at a place like a soup kitchen. Whether or not you are eligible to receive TEFAP foods to take home depends on your household income level. The income level depends on the state you live in because states decide the income standards for TEFAP.

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## HOW TO APPLY

Contact your State Distributing Agency for further assistance.

## FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM ON INDIAN RESERVATIONS (FDPIR)

\$100 million to provide USDA Foods to income-eligible households living on Indian reservations, and to American Indian households residing in approved areas near reservations and in Oklahoma.

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## WHAT IS FDPIR

The Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) is a Federal program that provides USDA foods to low-income households, including the elderly, living on Indian reservations, and to Native American families residing in designated areas near reservations.

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## DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

\$50 million for facility improvements and equipment upgrades

\$50 million for costs relating to additional food purchases

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## FDPIR AND SNAP

Federal regulations prohibit participation in both the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - SNAP and FDPIR at the same time. Tribal members may choose which program they wish to receive benefits from. If a Tribal member has been disqualified from FDPIR, they are also disqualified from SNAP for the same period.

## LOW-INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LIHEAP)

\$900 million will help lower-income households heat and cool their homes.



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## LEAD AGENCY

US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Community Services

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## WHAT IS LIHEAP

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) helps keep families safe and healthy through initiatives that assist families with energy costs. They provide federally funded assistance in managing costs associated with:

- Home energy bills
  - Energy crises
  - Weatherization and energy-related minor home repairs
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## WHEN ARE FUNDS AVAILABLE

Through September 2021

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## DOES LIHEAP HELP PAY FOR WATER AND SEWER BILLS

No. LIHEAP funds can only be used to help you pay to heat or cool your home.

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## WILL LIHEAP PAY FOR MY WHOLE UTILITY BILL

Probably not. LIHEAP is not meant to pay for all of your energy costs for the year, the season, or even the month. In many places, you can get help only with your main heating source. For example, if you heat with gas, you might get help with your gas bill but not your electric bill. Or you might get help with one bill or the other.

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## HOW TO APPLY

Contact your local LIHEAP office

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## COMMUNITY SERVICE BLOCK GRANTS

\$1 billion will help communities address increasing unemployment and economic disruption, including providing housing and utility assistance, health services, and emergency support services.

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## LEAD AGENCY

US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Community Services

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## WHAT IS COMMUNITY SERVICE BLOCK GRANTS (CSBG)

The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) provides U.S. federal funding for Community Action Agencies (CAAs) and other programs that seek to address poverty at the community level. Like other block grants, CSBG funds are allocated to the states and other jurisdictions (including tribes, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and territories) through a formula, with less federal oversight and



fewer federal requirements than categorical grants. The CSBG formula determines each jurisdiction's funding level based on poverty population; once disbursed, most of the money is passed by the states and other jurisdictions to Community Action Agencies and other designated organizations to be spent on employment, education, income management, housing, nutrition, emergency services, and health.

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## WHAT DOES IT FUND

CSBG funding supports projects that:

- Lessen poverty in communities
- Address the needs of low-income individuals including the homeless, migrants and the elderly
- Provide services and activities addressing employment, education, better use of available income, housing, nutrition, emergency services and/or health

## FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES

\$45 million will support families dealing with family and domestic violence through shelter and supportive services. Guidance from the agency on these funds is not yet available.

## CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

\$45 million to protect and support at-risk children and families. Guidance on these funds is not yet available.

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## LEAD AGENCY

US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

## LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

\$50 million for additional assistance to non-profit legal aid programs across the country, to enable them to provide civil legal assistance to low-income persons affected by coronavirus and the economic downturn.

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## WHAT IS LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

Legal Services Corporation (LSC) is an independent nonprofit established by Congress in 1974 to provide financial support for civil legal aid to low-income Americans. LSC promotes equal access to justice by providing funding to 133 independent non-profit legal aid programs in every state, the District of Columbia, and U.S. Territories. LSC grantees serve thousands of low-income individuals, children, families, seniors, and veterans in 813 offices in every congressional district. Read more about the vital role legal aid plays in a just America.

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## LSC GRANTS

There are disaster relief emergency grants available to those who-

**Are a current LSC grantee and;**



- Provide services in an area where any government, tribal government, or equivalent has made an emergency declaration, including federally declared disasters as identified by the [Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\)](#); or
- Provide services in an area where there has been any other substantial emergency. Please contact LSC if you are unsure if your emergency qualifies

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## OTHER GRANTS

The Basic Field Grant is available to those who are a-

- current recipient
- nonprofit organization that has, as a purpose, the provision of legal help to eligible clients
- private attorney or group of attorneys or law firms (either as a non-incorporated body or as a nonprofit)
- state or local government
- sub-state regional planning or coordination agency that is composed of sub-state areas whose governing boards are controlled by locally-elected officials

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## HOW DO I APPLY

There is no application deadline for a disaster relief emergency grant. You may submit the application within a reasonable time after the disaster or emergency event has taken place. Please email [emergencygrants@lsc.gov](mailto:emergencygrants@lsc.gov) to request an application.

## HOUSING SUPPORTS

### TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

\$1.25 billion for public housing authorities to ensure that current tenants remain safely and stably housed and to address increased operational costs.

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## LEAD AGENCY

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

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## SUMMARY

The bill appropriates \$1,250,000,000 in Section 8 tenant based rental assistance address coronavirus-related matters, including assistance to public housing authorities (PHAs) to maintain normal operations and take other necessary actions. \$850 million of this amount is for Section 8 administrative and other PHA expenses, including mainstream vouchers.

\$400 million of the amount is for adjustments to calendar year 2020 Section 8 renewal allocations for PHAs that experience a coronavirus-related increase in per-unit costs so they can avoid terminating families from the program.



For both the tenant-based and project-based rental assistance programs, the CARES Act gives HUD broad statutory and regulatory waiver authority, applicable to funds under the CARES Act and, for tenant-based assistance only, the 2020 appropriations act. HUD may waive or specify alternate requirements, other than fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards and environmental requirements, upon a finding that such action is “necessary for the safe and effective administration of these funds ... to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.”

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## WHAT TO DO IF YOU NEED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

Call 211 or your Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) office.

## PUBLIC HOUSING OPERATING FUND

\$685 million to help public housing authorities with increased operational costs related to coronavirus.

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## LEAD AGENCY

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

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## SUMMARY

The CARES Act makes available \$685 million in public housing operating funds for COVID-19 purposes, including to provide additional funds for Public Housing Agencies to maintain normal operations and take other necessary actions while the public housing program is impacted by COVID-19.

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## WHEN ARE FUNDS AVAILABLE

Amounts are to be distributed using the operating fund formula and, through December 31, 2020, all public housing capital and operating funds (other than any amounts in prior appropriations acts that are set-asides) can be used flexibly for any eligible capital or operating fund activities and for other expenses related to COVID-19, including supporting the health and safety of residents and activities to support education and child care for impacted families. HUD may extend this flexibility period for additional 12-month increments.

## NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAMS

\$300 million for the Native American Housing Block Grant and Indian Community Development Block Grant programs, supporting Tribal governments and Tribally Designated Housing Entities.

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## LEAD AGENCY

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

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## WHAT IS THE INDIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT (IHBG) PROGRAM

The Indian Housing Block Grant Program (IHBG) is a formula grant that provides a range of affordable housing activities on Indian reservations and Indian areas. The block grant approach to housing for Native



Americans was enabled by the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA).

Eligible IHBG recipients are Federally recognized Indian tribes or their tribally designated housing entity (TDHE), and a limited number of state recognized tribes who were funded under the Indian Housing Program authorized by the United States Housing Act of 1937 (USHA). With the enactment of NAHASDA, Indian tribes are no longer eligible for assistance under the USHA.

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## WHAT IS THE INDIAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (ICDBG) PROGRAM

The ICDBG Program provides eligible grantees with direct grants for use in developing viable Indian and Alaska Native Communities, including decent housing, a suitable living environment, and economic opportunities, primarily for low- and moderate-income persons. Projects funding by the ICDBG program must principally benefit low-and-moderate-income persons (24 CFR 1003.208). The program regulations provide for two categories of grants, Single Purpose and Imminent Threat.

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## WHO IS ELIGIBLE

Eligible applicants for assistance include any Indian tribe, band, group, or nation (including Alaska Indians, Aleut, and Eskimos) or Alaska Native village which has established a relationship to the Federal government as defined in the program regulations. In certain instances, tribal organizations may be eligible to apply.

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## HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

\$65 million state and local governments to maintain rental assistance and enhance services for persons living with HIV/AIDS.

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## LEAD AGENCY

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

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## WHAT IS HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS (HOPWA) PROGRAM

The Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) Program is the only Federal program dedicated to the housing needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. Under the HOPWA Program, HUD makes grants to local communities, States, and nonprofit organizations for projects that benefit low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families.

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## ELIGIBILITY

Low-income persons (at or below 80 percent of area median income) that are medically diagnosed with HIV/AIDS and their families are eligible to receive HOPWA-funded assistance.

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## USE OF GRANT FUNDS



The supplemental funds provided under the CARES Act are to be used by HOPWA grantees as additional funding to maintain operations and for rental assistance, supportive services, and other necessary actions, in order to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.

The supplemental award may be used to reimburse allowable costs incurred prior to the receipt of the award provided such costs were used to prevent, prepare for, or respond to COVID-19.

## HOMELESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS

\$4 billion in funding to state and local governments to support additional homeless assistance, as well as eviction and homelessness prevention activities.

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### LEAD AGENCY

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

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### WHAT ARE HOMELESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Homeless Assistance Grants is the catch-all title for several programs run by HUD to benefit the homeless population. These programs are split into two types:

- Targeted homeless assistance programs
- Supportive services.

Targeted homeless assistance programs are specifically designed for individuals or families who are experiencing homelessness. This includes:

- State Medicaid-Housing Agency Partnerships
- Health Care for the Homeless (Health Resources and Services Administration)
- Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
- Services in Supportive Housing (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
- Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
- Runaway and Homeless Youth Programs
- Cooperative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI) (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
- Cooperative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals for States (CABHI-States) (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)

Supportive Services: Non-targeted or Mainstream programs are designed to serve those who meet a set of eligibility criteria, which is often established by individual states, but are generally for use in serving low-income populations. Very often, persons experiencing homelessness may be eligible for services funded through these programs. This includes:

- Access to Recovery (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
- Child Support Enforcement Program (Administration for Children and Families)



- Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
- Community Services Block Grant (Administration for Children and Families)
- Community Health Center Program (Health Resources and Services Administration)
- Family Violence Prevention and Services Grant Program (Administration for Children and Families)
- Head Start (Administration for Children and Families)
- Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant (Health Services and Resources Administration)
- Medicaid (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services)
- Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act of 2006 (Health Resources and Services Administration)
- Social Services Block Grant (Administration for Children and Families)
- Children’s Health Insurance Program (Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services)
- Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SAMHSA)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (Administration for Children and Families)
- Child Care and Development Fund (Administration for Children and Families)
- Title V, Federal Real Property Assistance Program (Program Support Center)
- The Tribal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program

## EDUCATION AND THE ARTS

### EDUCATION STATE FISCAL STABILIZATION FUND

\$30.75 billion, including \$13.5 billion for local education agencies for K-12 needs and costs.

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#### LEAD AGENCY

US Department of Education

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#### WHAT

The CARES Act creates a \$30.75 billion Education Stabilization Fund (the “ESF”) to be administered in part by the United States Department of Education and in part by states. The ESF is composed primarily of three funds: the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund (approximately \$2.95 billion); the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (approximately \$13.23 billion); and the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (approximately \$13.95 billion).

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#### ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

This amount will be distributed to states which will then pass it along to school districts. Each state’s allocation will be based on its share of funding under Title I, the federal government’s primary funding program for high-poverty schools.

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#### HIGHER EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND



Some 90 percent of this amount will be distributed directly to public and private colleges and universities based primarily on their share of Pell Grant recipients. Another 7.5 percent will go to Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other institutions primarily serving students of color. The Secretary of Education will distribute the remaining 2.5 percent to those institutions the Secretary determines have been particularly harmed by the virus and economic downturn.

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## GOVERNOR'S EMERGENCY EDUCATION RELIEF FUND

emergency relief that governors may use to distribute to the schools, colleges, and universities that the virus and downturn have particularly affected: 60 percent of it distributed to states based on their share of the national school-aged population (those aged 5-24), and the remaining 40 percent based on each state's share of Title I students.

In addition, the fund includes \$154 million for programs operated by the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE). These funds are crucially important to students in BIE schools, which educate about 45,000 American Indian and Alaska Native students on or near reservations, and to the communities that depend upon them. (At the same time, it's worth noting that more than 90 percent of American Indian and Alaska Native students attend public schools that will benefit from the fund's support for K-12 schools generally.)

The fund also includes a similar amount, "no more than" \$154 million for the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands, to be distributed to these areas "on the basis of their respective needs as determined by" the Secretary of Education. Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia are considered states for the purposes of distributing the fund.

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## AMOUNTS IN TEXAS

K-12: \$1,291.1 million  
Higher Education: \$1,023.6 million  
Governors' Emergency: \$295.4 million  
Total: \$2,610.1 million

## CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS

\$3.5 billion will help child care programs pay staff, offer alternative child care options for facilities temporarily closed, and provide emergency staffing needs to support first responders and health care workers with access to child care while they respond to the pandemic.

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## LEAD AGENCY

Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

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## WHAT

These funds can be used to ensure providers that serve children who receive child care subsidies can continue to operate or reopen; to provide child care assistance to essential workers during the COVID-19 response regardless of income; and to support eligible child care providers, even those not receiving



CCDBG assistance prior to the pandemic, with cleaning, sanitation, and other activities necessary to maintain or resume program operation

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## FUNDS AVAILABLE

Through September 30, 2021

More resources available at <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/resource/occ-covid-19-resources>

## INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES

\$50 million to provide funding to libraries and museums for activities associated with coronavirus prevention, preparation, and response, including technology costs.

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## WHAT IS THE INSTITUTE OF MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES (IMLS)

IMLS is an independent federal agency that provides library grants, museum grants, policy development, and research.

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## WHAT

The emergency investment allocated to IMLS will enable libraries and museums to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, including by expanding digital network access, purchasing Internet accessible devices, and providing technical support services to their communities.

## DISTANCE LEARNING AND TELEMEDICINE GRANTS

\$25 million to state and local governments, federally-recognized tribes, and non-profits to fund capital assets, instructional programming, and technical assistance.

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## LEAD AGENCY

US Department of Agriculture

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## WHAT IS THE DLTG

The Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) Grant Program is specifically designed to assist rural communities in acquiring distance learning and telemedical technologies so that local teachers, and medical service providers who serve rural residents can link to other teachers, medical professionals, and other needed expertise located at distances too far to access otherwise.

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## FROM USDA

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development Bette Brand today announced that USDA is opening a second application window for funding under the Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) grant program.



“Due to the COVID-19 National Emergency, USDA is providing an additional window for those who cannot complete applications prior to the first application deadline,” Brand said. “This action will provide more time for applicants to complete their funding requests. Access to distance learning and telemedicine makes it easier for thousands of rural residents to take advantage of health care and educational opportunities without having to travel long distances or be among large groups of people.”

Electronic applications for window two may be submitted through grants.gov beginning April 14, 2020, and are due no later than July 13, 2020. Paper applications will not be accepted under the second window. Additional information on how to apply will be available on grants.gov on April 14.

USDA opened the period for the first application window on February 10. That application deadline is April 10.

Applicants eligible for DLT grants include most state and local governmental entities, federally recognized tribes, nonprofits, and for-profit businesses.

## NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS (NEA)

\$75 million for grants to support the general operations of recipients, of which 60% will be through direct competitive grants and 40% will be through states.

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### DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

With the \$75 million appropriated to the National Endowment for the Arts through the CARES Act, the Arts Endowment will award 40 percent of the funds directly to state and regional arts agencies by April 30th to distribute through their funding programs. Sixty percent of the funds are designated for direct grants to nonprofit arts organizations all across the United States and will be announced by June 30th.

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### ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible, the applicant organization must:

- Have received an Arts Endowment award within the past four years (beginning with awards that were made in FY 2017 as indicated by an award letter that is dated on or after October 1, 2016, and an award number that begins with "17 - "). When using FY 2020 as the basis for eligibility, an organization's application must have been approved by the National Council on the Arts and the Arts Endowment Chairman no later than the March 2020 meeting of the National Council on the Arts.
- Meet the National Endowment for the Arts' "[Legal Requirements](#)" including nonprofit, tax-exempt status at the time of application. (All organizations must apply directly on their own behalf. Applications through a fiscal sponsor/agent are not allowed. [See more information on fiscal sponsors/agents.](#))
- Have submitted acceptable Final Report packages by the due date(s) for all Arts Endowment award(s) previously received.



## NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES (NEH)

\$75 million for grants to support the general operations of recipients, of which 60% will be through direct competitive grants and 40% will be through states.

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### DISTRIBUTION

Approximately 40 percent of the appropriation, or \$30 million, will go directly to the 56 state and jurisdictional humanities councils, based on the standard population formula used for their annual appropriation. The remaining 60 percent, or \$45 million, will support at-risk humanities positions and projects at museums, libraries and archives, historic sites, colleges and universities, and other cultural nonprofits that have been financially impacted by the coronavirus. All NEH supplemental funds must be obligated to projects by September 30, 2021.

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### ELIGIBILITY

Eligible applicants include U.S. nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status, public and 501(c)(3) accredited institutions of higher education, state and local governmental agencies, and federally recognized Native American tribal governments. International and for-profit entities are not eligible.

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### HOW TO APPLY

NEH plans to announce funding opportunities for eligible organizations seeking support for at-risk humanities positions and projects at cultural nonprofits that have been impacted by the coronavirus. More information will be announced on our website and through social media by April 30, 2020.

Eligible entities should also contact their state humanities councils. NEH supports 56 state and jurisdictional humanities councils across the country, all of which also make awards to local humanities projects.

## CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

\$75 million to provide stabilization funding for public radio and TV stations.

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### WHAT IS THE CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting, a private, nonprofit corporation created by Congress in 1967, is the steward of the federal government's investment in public broadcasting. It helps support the operations of more than 1,500 locally owned and operated public television and radio stations nationwide. CPB is also the largest single source of funding for research, technology and program development for public radio, television and related online services.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (EDA)



\$1.5 billion for economic adjustment assistance, to be competitively awarded across the country, with states, local governments, tribes, economic development districts, universities, and other nonprofits eligible to apply.

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## LEAD AGENCY

US Department of Commerce

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## WHAT

States and communities will be able to apply for funding from the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA) to plan and implement economic recovery strategies in response to the coronavirus pandemic. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act; P.L. 116-136) includes \$1.5 billion for EDA to administer grants through its established Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) program.

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## WHAT CAN THIS BE USED FOR

EAA projects can include, but are not limited to:

- “strategy grants” to create or update a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy or disaster recovery plan;
- construction or upgrades to public infrastructure, including broadband; construction and operations of business incubators;
- capitalization of revolving loan funds, which generally assist small businesses, and other initiatives to improve access to and utilization of private capital;
- activities that support the creation of businesses and jobs, including economic diversification strategies;
- market or industry research studies, technical assistance, training, and capacity-building efforts.

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## ELIGIBILITY

Eligible applicants include EDA-designated Economic Development Districts (EDDs); Indian tribes or a consortium of Indian tribes; states and local governments; institutions of higher education or a consortium of institutions; and nonprofit organizations acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a state (42 U.S.C. §3122(4)(a)).

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

\$5 billion in flexible funding to state and local governments for public services, economic development and expansion of community facilities to respond to coronavirus.

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## LEAD AGENCY

HUD’s Office of Community Planning and Development



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## WHAT

The CARES Act provides up to \$5 billion in CDBG supplemental funding. Of that amount, \$2 billion, the allocations announced on April 1, are to be distributed to states and entitlement jurisdictions using the same statutory formula used to distribute the regular, annual FY20 CDBG allocations. There is nothing in the Act that suggests that these extra \$2 billion must be used to address coronavirus-related needs. Therefore, advocates will have to work hard to get as much as possible of this new extra resource allocated to coronavirus-related housing and homelessness needs.

Existing CDBG regulations [24 CFR 570.207(b)(4)] allow the use of CDBG to make “emergency grant payments made over a period of up to three consecutive months to the provider of such items or services [‘food, clothing, housing (rent or mortgage), or utilities’] on behalf of an individual or family.” Therefore, the use of CDBG to provide assistance for up to three months in the form of rent or mortgage assistance and utility payments is an eligible use of CDBG. The CARES Act removes the statutory 15% cap on the amount of a jurisdiction’s CDBG allocation that can be used for “public services,” which the provision of rental or utility payment assistance would normally be considered. The Act limits the exemption from the 15% cap to “activities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus.” The Act also states that a jurisdiction’s FY19 and FY20 CDBG allocations are also free from the 15% public-service cap.

The CARES Act requires an additional \$1 billion to be allocated states and insular areas “to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus within the state or insular area, including activities within entitlement and non-entitlement communities, based on public health needs, risk of transmission of coronavirus, number of coronavirus cases compared to the national average, and economic and housing market disruptions, and other factors as determined by the Secretary, using the best available data.” HUD has 45 days to allocate the \$1 billion.

The remaining \$2 billion of the \$5 billion are to be distributed directly to a state or unit of local government at the discretion of the HUD secretary according to a formula based on factors to be determined by the secretary, prioritizing risk of coronavirus, number of coronavirus cases compared to the national average, and economic and housing market disruptions resulting from coronavirus.

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## RECONNECT BROADBAND GRANTS

\$100 million to state and local governments, federally-recognized tribes, and non-profits to fund the cost of construction, improvement or acquisition of facilities, and equipment needed to provide broadband in rural areas.

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## LEAD AGENCY

US Department of Agriculture

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## WHAT

The USDA inaugurated the ReConnect program in 2018, initially allocating \$600 million for the program, which covers some of the cost of deploying broadband to rural areas where broadband is not already



available. In 2019, lawmakers allocated an additional \$550 million in ReConnect funding and the USDA adjusted the program guidelines somewhat based on its experiences with the first funding round.

The funding allocated in 2018 has been allocated and the USDA is currently accepting applications for the second funding round.

USDA did not provide details about the rules for how the new \$100 million included in the CARES Act would be awarded, nor did the agency detail when it would begin accepting applications. A USDA press release states that the funding will go toward ReConnect grants, which would be a departure from the first two rounds, in which some funding was awarded in the form of grants, some was awarded in the form of loans and some was awarded as a combination of the two funding types.

*Multiple analyses from a variety of publicly available sources were utilized in drafting this report.*