



MINNESOTA COUNCIL
ON FOUNDATIONS

Federal | CARES Act Supplemental Funding:

- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Contingency Reserve** - \$15.5 billion.
 - This funding is intended to accommodate an expected increase in enrollment due to COVID-19.
 - The funding *does not* reflect an increase in SNAP benefits.
- **The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP)** - \$450 million.
 - \$150 million is reserved for distribution costs.
- **Centers for Disease Control (CDC)** - \$1.5 billion to fund public health activities in states, localities, tribes, and territories.
- **HHS Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund**- \$100 billion to fund grants to hospitals, public entities, non-profits, and Medicare and Medicaid-enrolled suppliers and providers for unreimbursed costs related to COVID-19.
- **Ryan White HIV/AIDS program** - \$90 million.
- **Administration for Community Living (ACL):**
 - Older Americans Act (OAA) authorized activities - \$820 million.
 - Nutrition Services - \$70 million.
 - Family Caregiver Support - \$100 million.
 - Elder Rights Protection - \$20 million.
- **Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)** - \$200 million to assist nursing homes with infection control.
- **Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG)** - \$3.5 billion.
- **Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)** - \$1 billion.
- **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)** - \$425 million to increase access to mental health services (can be prioritized in areas experiencing homelessness).
- **Emergency Solutions Grants** - \$4 billion.
 - Goes to continuums of care for services for people experiencing homelessness.

- **U.S. Department of State** - \$350 million to address from vulnerable refugees abroad.
- **Community Health Centers** - \$1.32 billion.

Tribal Funding:

- **Indian Health Service (IHS)** - \$1.302 billion to fund medical services, purchase equipment, educate the public, invest in telehealth, etc.
- **Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)** - \$453 million to support tribal governments, welfare assistance, social service programs, etc.
- **HRSA** - \$185 million to support rural and tribal health and telehealth programs.
- **Food Donation Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR):** \$100 million.
 - Waives the matching requirement for additional funds to be provided to FDPIR.

Recovery Rebates for Individuals:

- All U.S. residents with adjusted gross income up to \$75,000 (\$150,000 for married couples who file taxes jointly) who are not a dependent of another taxpayer are eligible for a full \$1,200 rebate (\$2,400 married). They are also eligible for an additional \$500 per child. Taxpayers with little to no income also qualify.

Health Provisions:

- Reauthorizes HRSA grant programs which promote the use of telehealth technologies.
- Aligns 42 CFR Part 2 regulations with HIPPA *with initial patient consent*.
- Allows state Medicaid programs to pay for direct support professionals to assist disabled individuals in hospital settings.
- Clarifies that uninsured individuals can receive COVID-19 testing and services through Medicaid with no cost-sharing (in states that offer this enrollment option).
- Ensures that states can receive the 6.2% FMAP increase provided for in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.
- Extends the Money Follows the Person (MFP) demonstration through November 30, 2020.
- Delays disproportionate share hospital (DSH) reductions through November 30, 2020.
- Extends the federal CCBHC demonstration through November 30, 2020.

Older Americans:

- Temporarily waives nutrition requirements for Older Americans Act (OAA) meal programs to ensure that seniors can access meals if certain food options are unavailable.
- Clarifies the meaning of “homebound” to include individuals who are practicing social distancing due to COVID-19.

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF):

- Extends TANF through November 30, 2020.

State

COVID-19 Response Funding for Health Care and Long-term Care

The legislature has approved \$200 million for health care grants to support costs related to planning for, preparing for, or responding to an outbreak of COVID-19.

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/facilities/ruralhealth/funding/grants/covidgrant.html>

**Note: For this first round of funding alone, we got well over 1,200 applications, requesting more than \$300M.*

COVID-19 Response Bill

- **COVID-19 Minnesota Fund:** \$200 million is appropriated to MMB and may be disbursed or transferred to state agencies as necessary to 1. Protect Minnesota citizen from the COVID-19 outbreak and 2. Maintain state government operations throughout the duration of the peacetime emergency.
- **Human Services:** The bill appropriates approximately \$71 million in FY2020 to the Department of Human Services funding for Emergency Child Care Grants, the Minnesota Food Shelf Program, Emergency Homeless Shelter Grants and a 15% increase to Housing Support. The legislation also adjusts the fees collected in the opioid stewardship account.
- **Food Security:** This package contains \$9M in funding to the MN Food Shelf Program, which provides grant funding to Hunger Solutions, which distributes money throughout the state. A minimum of \$3M in the bill must be distributed to regional food banks, and the remaining \$6M will be used as Hunger Solutions best sees fit to address food insecurity needs across the state.
- **Food Security:** Diapers and toilet paper policy language. This policy language permits food shelves across the state to use their Hunger Solutions grant dollars to purchase diapers and toilet paper during the declared peacetime emergency related to COVID-19.
- **Tribal Grant COVID Funding:** An \$11 Million appropriation through the Department of Revenue providing \$1 Million grants to each of the 11 Tribal Nations to address immediate needs around COVID-19 response.
- **Agriculture:** RFA loan eligibility expansion. This policy language permits RFA loan dollars to be used to support losses suffered by farmers as a result of highly infectious contagious human and animal diseases. MDA disinfectant policy language. This policy exempts sanitizer and disinfectant applicators from commercial applicator license requirements during the response to COVID-19.
- **Real ID:** This portion of the bill provides \$2.4M in FY 2020 for temporary staff to work on processing REAL ID applications, with the aim of achieving a turnaround time from the point of application to receipt of a card in 45 days. The source of the funding is the vehicle services

operating account. REAL ID policy components of the bill expand the types of documents Minnesotans can use to obtain a REAL ID (in conformance with federal law). It extends how long each document is considered valid (generally, an increase of 90 days to 12 months).

- **License Expiration Forgiveness:** This portion of the bill extends how long driver's licenses and disability vehicle certificates are valid. These documents will now be considered valid until the last day of the second month following the end of the declared peacetime emergency.
- **Small Business Loan Guarantee program:** \$10 million was appropriated for the Small Business Loan Guarantee program. This program will provide an 80% loan guarantee for loans up to \$200,000. Loans can support a number of small business needs including providing working capital. Loans will be provided through Qualified Economic Development Lenders.
- **Small Business Loan program.** Language "codifying" the earlier EO 20-15 that created the small business emergency loan program and allowed cities to use their MIF revolving loan funds to support retail and service providers. This language specifically transfers \$20 million from the 21st Century special revenue account and \$10 million from the MIF special revenue account to be used for the small business emergency loan program.
- **Unemployment Insurance:** Language "codifying" the earlier EO 20-05 that waved certain requirements for the unemployment insurance program. This language will have virtually no impact on the unemployment insurance program as the program has been operating under executive order 20-05 since it was issued, which is reflected in this bill.
- **Commerce Waiver of Licensing and Other Deadlines:** Gives Commerce Commissioner authority to delay, stay or waive licensing and other deadlines under the agency's purview. This provision is effective until 60 days following the end of the peacetime emergency declared in Executive Order 20-01.
- **Homelessness:** \$32.067 million for COVID-19 response for people experiencing homelessness and other vulnerably housed people. Pays for supplies, staffing and space to keep people safe.
- **Veterans:** \$6.2 million for veterans and their families impacted by the health and economic effects of COVID-19.
- **DOC Medical Director Authority:** Currently, when an individual is placed outside a facility on conditional medical release cannot make decisions on his own healthcare, and the DOC cannot locate next of kin, there is no one identified to make health care decisions on that person's behalf. This provision identifies the DOC Medical Director to make those decisions, similar to what happens in a similar situation when the person is still incarcerated in a prison facility.
- **Fingerprinting for Criminal History Checks Suspended:** Due to local fingerprint collection vendors shutting down, the change allows exceptions to the requirement in any Minnesota statute for fingerprint based state and federal background checks. This is required in order to allow incoming health care and other workers the ability to have a criminal history check and begin working. Under this change, a fingerprint-based background will be required according to the law once the emergency passes.
- **Tax Court Deadline:** The current deadline to file an appeal for property tax assessments is April 30. With County offices closing it is not possible to meet that deadline for many appeals that are in the queue. This provision provides a 30-day extension – to May 30.
- **Higher Education:** Temporary powers granted to Commissioner of Higher Education to modify/waive statutes/rules relevant to Work Study, SELF Loan, State Grant, and other student grants, aid, scholarships administered through the office. Powers include the continuity of fund disbursement, account flexibility, or hold harmless, in the event students cannot fulfill work

study or enrollment requirements for the funding programs as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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