



Jim Justice
Governor of West Virginia

To: County and City Officials
From: Ann Urling, Deputy Chief of Staff *AU*
Date: January 19, 2021
RE: C.A.R.E.S. Act Reimbursement

When the State of West Virginia received 1.25 billion dollars in Coronavirus Relief Funds, allocated as part of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (C.A.R.E.S.) Act stimulus package, 200 million dollars were immediately allocated for our local governments across the state. Through our usage of the CARES Act grant portal, local governments were able to submit reimbursement requests as necessary to the state for assistance with COVID-19 related expenses.

The overwhelmingly positive response that we received in the form of applications from local governments through the application portal led us to increase our allocation, first to 225 million, then to 250 million, and finally to 265 million dollars; more than 20 percent of the total Coronavirus Relief Fund allocation to West Virginia from the United States Department of the Treasury.

For now, the state will not be filling any more reimbursement requests from local governments. However, we do encourage counties and municipalities to continue to apply through the application portal. There could soon be a third stimulus package passed by the Congress. It is possible that more state and local government aid could be included in any future aid package and with the continued applications of our local governments, the state will be prepared to resume filling requests if those funds materialize.

In the meantime, in addition to continuing to apply through the portal, we encourage local governments to seek other relief funds through FEMA and other federal agencies such as the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Other funding opportunities may be found by searching www.grants.gov. Additionally, counties who have remaining balances from their \$100,000 block grants may use those remaining funds in 2021. Counties may also grant these funds to municipalities as they could throughout 2020.

If anyone has any questions or concerns, they may reach out to the Governor's Office for assistance. We sincerely appreciate the great work and dedication by the counties and municipalities as we have worked together for the good of the people of West Virginia. Together we will get through this pandemic and we will come out stronger.