LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND THE CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND

Application Information for the County Commissioners Association of WV



#### **OVERVIEW**

- On March 27, 2020, the President signed into law the U.S. government's Phase 3 aid package to provide relief due to the novel coronavirus ("COVID-19") through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (the "CARES Act").
- West Virginia received \$1.25 Billion dollars from the \$150 billion allocated by Congress through the Coronavirus Relief Fund.
- Governor Justice has made available \$200 million dollars of this fund to reimburse local governments for expenditures relating to their response to the public health emergency.

THE CARES ACT PROVIDES THAT PAYMENTS **FROM THE** FUND MAY ONLY BE USED TO COVER COSTS THAT:

- Are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID–19)
- Were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CARES Act) for the State or government
- Were incurred during the period that begins on March I, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020.

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY FAQS

 Applicants may find more information on guidelines by visiting
 https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/
 I36/Coronavirus-Relief-Fund Frequently-Asked-Questions.pdf



#### Police/Fire/EMS/911

#### **Dispatchers/Health Care**

 Payroll costs for public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

#### ALLOWABLE

• **Commodity ID 80110000 – Gross Pay/Wages** 

(Break out Hero/Hazard Pay from hourly rate -**Not** *Reimbursable for 911 Dispatchers*)

Benefits paid <u>by employer</u> – FICA, SS, WC, Retirement/Pension, Medical/Dental, Short/Long Term Disability, Fed/State Taxes

Commodity Line 80111502 – Overtime

(Please be sure **not to** include on line one under Commodity Code 80110000)

• **Commodity Line 84131609 – COVID Leave** 

#### NOT ALLOWABLE

Vacation/Holiday/Comp Time Increments/Severance, Incentives & Other Earnings, Christmas Clubs, and NON COVID related Sick Leave...

#### PAYROLL

## Sewer Dept, Water Dept, Street Dept, and Office Personnel

#### Allowable

- COVID Leave Commodity Line
   84131609
- OT Commodity Line **80111502**

#### POTENTIALLY REIMBURSABLE

 "Reassigned COVID-19 Wages" time that can be identified as "Reassigned to COVID related work" must be "<u>substantially</u>" different than regular Job Duties Must have back-up documentation to support request

#### ORGANIZATION OF BACK UP DOCUMENTATION



For payroll please show exactly how you arrived at the requested amount.



Writing the total at the bottom of each page is helpful and a summary sheet will make the process run more smoothly. Computer-generated payroll documentation with the total on the last page that matches the month requested is also fine.



You MUST have a summary sheet for all purchases with the receipts <u>in order</u>. Please don't upload every receipt separately. One attachment with the summary sheet and receipts is ideal.



You must have and provide receipts. Providing only a list of what was purchased is not sufficient.

#### ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES

Please see
 <u>https://grants.wv.gov/en/flexible-page?pageId=1429</u> for more
 examples of eligible and ineligible
 expenditures.

#### I. Medical expenses such as:

- COVID-19-related expenses of public hospitals, clinics, and similar facilities.
- Expenses of establishing temporary public medical facilities and other measures to increase COVID-19 treatment capacity, including related construction costs.
- Costs of providing COVID-19 testing, including serological testing.
- Emergency medical response expenses, including emergency medical transportation, related to COVID-19.
- Expenses for establishing and operating public telemedicine capabilities for COVID-19 related treatment.

#### 2. Public health expenses such as:

- Expenses for communication and enforcement by State, territorial, local, and Tribal governments of public health orders related to COVID-19.
- Expenses for acquisition and distribution of medical and protective supplies, including sanitizing products and personal protective equipment, for medical personnel, police officers, social workers, child protection services, and child welfare officers, direct service providers for older adults and individuals with disabilities in community settings, and other public health or safety workers in connection with the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Expenses for disinfection of public areas and other facilities (e.g., nursing homes) in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Expenses for technical assistance to local authorities or other entities on mitigation of COVID-19-related threats to public health and safety.
- Expenses for public safety measures undertaken in response to COVID-19.
- Expenses for quarantining individuals.

3. Payroll expenses for public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID19 public health emergency.

4. Expenses of actions to facilitate compliance with COVID-19-related public health measures, such as:

- Expenses for food delivery to residents, including, for example, senior citizens and other vulnerable populations, to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.
- Expenses to facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions.
- Expenses to improve telework capabilities for public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.

- Expenses of providing paid sick and paid family and medical leave to public employees who are unable to telework to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.
- COVID-19-related expenses of maintaining state prisons and county jails, including as relates to sanitation and improvement of social distancing measures, to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.
- Expenses for care for homeless populations provided to mitigate COVID-19 effects and enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.
- 6. Any other COVID-19-related expenses reasonably necessary to the function of government that satisfy the eligibility criteria.



### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

- If you are a newly registered vendor, you will need to contact us to have the correct application turned on for your account.
- We will need your username and email to do this once you are a registered vendor.

Currently the application portal defaults new vendor to the Small Business Grant Program application.

\*If you have already accessed the Local Government CARES Act application, you do not need to take this step. CONTACT INFORMATION FOR CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND

• Applicants may contact WV GrantHelp at:

# Phone: I-833-94-GRANT Email: GrantHelp@wv.gov

GOVERNOR'S COVID-19 COUNTY BLOCK GRANTS

#### **OVERVIEW**

- On April 10, 2020 Governor Justice announced that \$100,000 block grants would be disbursed to all 55 counties in West Virginia to utilize in response to COVID-19.
- Although they are state funds, Block Grants are intended to be used according to the same guidelines as the Coronavirus Relief Fund.

# THE CARES ACT PROVIDES THAT PAYMENTS FROM THE FUND MAY ONLY BE USED TO COVER COSTS THAT:

- are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19);
- were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CARES Act) for the State or government; and
- were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020.
- The Governor's County Block Grant should be spent according to these same guidelines.

SAMPLE EXPENDITURE REPORT FOR COUNTY BLOCK GRANTS



County) (Month) 2020 Report	(Authorized Official) (Title) (Report Date)
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(Salaries and Benefits)				(Supplies/PPE)			
			Documentation				Documentation
Expenditure	Actual Cost	Date	Attached	Expenditure	Actual Cost	Date	Attached
Overtime for Sherrif's Department	\$3,000.00	4/15/2020	Yes	Facemasks for County Employees	\$1,000.00	4/23/2020	yes/no
	\$0.00				\$0.00		
	\$0.00				\$0.00		
	\$0.00				\$0.00		
	\$0.00				\$0.00		
	\$0.00				\$0.00		
	\$0.00				\$0.00		
	\$0.00				\$0.00		
	\$0.00				\$0.00		
	\$0.00				\$0.00		
	\$0.00				\$0.00		
	\$0.00				\$0.00		
	\$3,000.00				\$1,000.00		

	(Contractua	(Contractual)				(Town of Gilbert)		
			Documentation				Documentation	
Expenditure	Actual Cost	Date	Attached	Expenditure	Actual Cost	Date	Attached	
Town of Gilbert	\$10,000.00	4/21/2020	yes	Overtime Pay for EMS and police	\$6,000.00	4/22/2020	Yes	
\$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00	\$10,000.00	4/21/2020	yes	facemasks for city employees	\$1,000.00	4/22/2020	Yes	
	\$0.00				\$0.00			
	\$0.00				\$0.00			
	\$0.00				\$0.00			
	\$0.00				\$0.00			
	\$0.00				\$0.00			
	\$0.00				\$0.00			
	\$0.00				\$0.00			
	\$0.00				\$0.00			
	\$0.00				\$0.00			
	\$0.00				\$0.00			
	\$20,000.00				\$7,000.00			

#### **Total Monthly Expenditures:**

These block grant funds may only be expended for purposes allowable under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (H.R. 748, the CARES Act), which means that these funds may only be used to cover expenses that:

 (1) are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic;
 (2) were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CARES Act) for your county or municipality; and

(3) were or will be incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020.

#### SAMPLE EXPENDITURE REPORT



Counties are encouraged to utilize the flexibility of the expenditure sheet. Create categories that fit your expenditures such as Supplies, Contractual, Salaries and Benefits etc.



It may also be useful to use an individual category in cases in which the county makes grants to a municipality, as shown in the example on the previous slide (Town of Gilbert).

#### OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

- The Governor sincerely encourages the counties to spend these funds as they see fit so long as they are used for any legal purpose. We do not offer legal advice so if additional direction is needed, we ask that counties please consult with their own legal counsel.
- We would also encourage additional questions regarding election-related expenses be referred to the WV Secretary of State's Office.
- Expenditure Reports are due on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month for expenses incurred the previous month.
- Ex: July Expenditure Reports due August 15

#### CONTACTS FOR COVID-19 COUNTY BLOCK GRANTS

Ann Urling – Deputy Chief of Staff Office of Governor Jim Justice <u>Ann.V.Urling@wv.gov</u>

Dakota Morris – Grant Administrator Office of Governor Jim Justice <u>Dakota.R.Morris@wv.gov</u>

# **QUESTIONS?**