



CONGRESSWOMAN  
**SUSAN WILD**

PROUDLY SERVING PENNSYLVANIA'S 7TH DISTRICT

# COVID-19

## RELIEF PACKAGE INFO GUIDE

*Updated 12/22/2020*

# COVID-19 RELIEF

On December 21st, both the House and Senate passed another round of COVID-19 relief. This package marks a down payment on real relief—starting, first and foremost, with critical funding to get the COVID-19 vaccine distributed through our communities as quickly as possible. Providing a second round of Paycheck Protection Program loans for our hardest-hit main street businesses. Offering rental assistance supporting not only those struggling to make rent, but our landlords, too. Supporting child care providers so we can help give parents the options they need to return to work. Investing in funding for our schools to repair and replace HVAC systems so we can help get our students back in the classroom. And putting money directly in the pockets of Pennsylvanians.

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# HELP FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

## PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM

- **\$284 billion for first and second round forgivable Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans.** *Note that businesses will be eligible for a second round of PPP funding.*
  - Provides a **second PPP forgivable loan for the hardest-hit small businesses** and nonprofit organizations with 300 or fewer employees and that can demonstrate a loss of 25% of gross receipts in any quarter during 2020 when compared to the same quarter in 2019;
  - This new PPP funding includes increased eligibility for nonprofits and local newspapers, TV and radio broadcasters, and modifications to PPP to better assist independent restaurants and the smallest businesses.
  - Allows for small businesses in the **restaurant and hospitality industries to receive larger PPP awards of 3.5 times average total monthly payroll**, rather than 2.5 times.
  - Adds PPE expenses, **costs associated with outdoor dining, and supplier costs as eligible and forgivable expenses**;
- Simplifies the PPP forgiveness process for loans of \$150,000 and less.
- Expanded PPP eligibility for 501(c)(6) nonprofits, including tourism promotion organizations and local chambers of commerce.
  - Specifically, **501(c)(6) organizations can receive a PPP loan** if the organization:
    - Does not receive more than 15 percent of receipts from lobbying;
    - The lobbying activities do not comprise more than 15 percent of activities;
    - The cost of lobbying activities of the organization did not exceed \$1,000,000 during the most recent tax year that ended prior to February 15, 2020 and;
    - The organization has 300 or fewer employees.

# HELP FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

- **\$20 billion for new Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Grants** for businesses in low-income communities.
- **\$15 billion** in dedicated funding for live venues, independent movie theaters, and cultural institutions.
- **Dedicated set-asides for very small businesses** and lending through community-based lenders like Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) and Minority Depository Institutions (MDIs).
  - **\$9 billion in emergency U.S. Treasury capital investments in CDFIs and MDIs** to support lending in low-income and underserved communities. Also, \$3 billion in emergency support for CDFIs through the CDFI Fund to respond to the economic impact of the pandemic on underserved low-income and minority communities.
- **\$3.5 billion for continued SBA debt relief payments**, and \$2 billion for enhancements to SBA lending.
- **\$13 billion for direct payments, purchases and loans to farmers and ranchers who have suffered losses because of the pandemic.** Also, the bill includes funds to support the food supply chain through food purchases, donations to food banks, and support for local food systems.
- Allows businesses to deduct from their tax expenses associated with their forgiven PPP loans.
- Expands the employee retention credit, which is intended to prevent employee layoffs.
- **Coronavirus Relief Fund Extension:** This bill extends the availability by one year (until December 31, 2021) for funds provided to states and localities by the Coronavirus Relief Fund in the CARES Act. This is very important to our state and local governments.

# HELP FOR INDIVIDUALS

## UNEMPLOYMENT, STIMULUS CHECKS, & MORE

- Provides **Economic Impact Payments of \$600 for individuals** making up to \$75,000 per year and \$1,200 for couples making up to \$150,000 per year, as well as a **\$600 payment for each child dependent**. So, a family of four could get up to \$2,400 depending on income.
- Provides an additional **\$13 billion for the purpose of increasing Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits by 15%**, providing additional funding for food banks and senior nutrition programs, and to ensure college students have access to SNAP.
- Establishes a **federal rental assistance program to be distributed by state and local governments, with \$25 billion in funding**. Families struggling to make rent payments in light of the health and economic crisis will be able to utilize this assistance for past due rent, future rent payments, as well as to pay utility and energy bills and prevent shutoffs.
- Provides **an additional \$300 per week for all workers receiving unemployment benefits**, through March 14, 2021.
- **Extends the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program, with expanded coverage to the self-employed, gig workers, and others in nontraditional employment**, and the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) program, which provides additional weeks of federally-funded unemployment benefits to individuals who exhaust their regular state benefits.
- Provides **an extra benefit of \$100 per week for certain workers** who have both wage and self-employment income but whose base UI benefit calculation doesn't take their self-employment into account.
- Provides **\$3.2 billion in emergency funds for low-income families** to access broadband through an FCC fund.

# SCHOOLS, VACCINE, & MORE

## VACCINE ASSISTANCE

- Provides **\$69 billion** for various health care related needs.
  - Including **\$22 billion for COVID-19 testing infrastructure**; roughly **\$20 billion toward procurement of vaccines and therapeutics**; nearly **\$9 billion to the CDC and states for vaccine distribution**; over \$3 billion for the strategic national stockpile; \$9 billion for health care providers; and \$4.5 billion in funding for mental health services. In addition, the deal would allocate \$250 million for broadband services for telehealth.

## EDUCATION FUNDING

- Education funding: A total of **\$82 billion Education Stabilization Fund**. This is flexible funding to support the educational needs of students, States, K-12 school districts, and institutions of higher education.
  - This \$82 billion is divided into: **\$54.3 billion for K-12 schools**; **\$22.7 billion for colleges and universities**; and **Governors would receive \$4.05 billion** to spend on education aid at their discretion.
  - **Higher Education Funding:**
    - **\$20 billion distributed to all public and private non-profit institutions of higher education.** \$908 million to for-profit colleges to provide financial aid grants to students. Includes set-asides of an additional \$1.7 billion for HBCUs, tribal colleges, and Minority-Serving Institutions and \$113.5 million for institutions with the greatest unmet needs or those not served by the primary formula, such as independent graduate schools.
  - **Elementary and Secondary Education Funding:**
    - **\$54.3 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund.** This funding will be distributed through formula funding to States and school districts to help schools respond to the coronavirus. This includes new allowable uses of funds for school facilities repairs and improvements, and to address learning loss among students.
  - **Additional Flexible Education Funding for States:**
    - \$4.1 billion for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund, including:
      - **\$2.75 billion of this funding is for Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools grants** (*States are prohibited from using any funds to support school vouchers or tax credit scholarship programs.*)

# SCHOOLS, VACCINE, & MORE

## MORE ASSISTANCE

- Includes the **largest expansion of Pell Grant recipients in over a decade**, reaching 500,000 new recipients and ensuring more than 1.5 million students will now receive the maximum benefit.
- Includes **\$10 billion in emergency funds for the child care sector** through the Child Care Development Block Grant program. These funds can be used to provide child care assistance to families and to help child care providers cover their increased operating costs during the pandemic.
- Includes **\$250 million for Head Start providers** to provide child care and pre-school to low-income children and families.
- Provides **\$45 billion in emergency funding for the transportation sector**.
  - Specifically, this includes: \$15 billion for airline payroll support; \$1 billion for airline contractor payrolls; \$10 billion for state highways; \$2 billion for airports and airport concessionaires; \$2 billion for the private motorcoach, school bus, and ferry industries; \$1 billion for Amtrak; and \$14 billion for transit such as light rail and bus.
- The bill converts a **\$10 billion loan provided to the United States Postal Service (USPS) under the CARES Act into direct funding**. These funds will be used for operational costs and other expenses resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Provides \$12 billion for Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) and Minority Depository Institutions (MDI), with set-asides to facilitate targeted emergency investments to help low-income and minority communities.