May 12, 2020

To: House Committee on Appropriations and Senate Committee on Ways and Means

From: Amy Deckard, Assistant Director for Fiscal Affairs

Re: COVID-19 Funding Update

SB 66 appropriated $65.0 million, all from the State General Fund (SGF), for the Legislative Coordinating Council’s Coronavirus Response Fund ($50.0 million) and the Adjutant General Emergency Management Fund ($15.0 million) for the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) response in fiscal year (FY) 2020. These funds reappropriate into FY 2021 if not fully expended. Additionally, in the event that Medicaid expansion is not passed by the 2020 Legislature, $17.5 million, from the SGF, will be transferred from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) to the State Finance Council’s Coronavirus Prevention Fund for FY 2021.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, four federal bills that provide relief have been enacted: the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act; the Families First Coronavirus Response Act; the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act; and the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act. The largest funding source for state relief is contained in the CARES Act, which was signed into law on March 27, 2020.

The CARES Act makes funding available to states primarily through two means:

- The Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) provides $150.0 billion in direct assistance from the U.S. Treasury to state governments of all 50 states, tribal governments, and governments of U.S. territories, with allocation based on their population and with no state receiving less than $1.25 billion; and

- Funds made available to federal agencies for distribution primarily to state agencies and local governments through dozens of grant or supplemental funding programs.

The CRF is the largest source of state funding provided in the CARES Act. Section 5001(d) of the CARES Act clarifies that funds may be used only for costs that:

- Are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19;
Were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of CARES Act enactment on March 27, 2020; and

Were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020.

Guidance from the U.S. Treasury published on April 22, 2020, states that CRF payments may not be used to directly fill revenue shortfalls. However, indirect assistance with revenue shortfalls can occur if expenses paid by CRF would widen the gap between government outlays and receipts. The current understanding is that the majority of funds allocated to the State cannot be used to directly fill revenue shortfalls. These restrictions further suggest that CRF payments may not be used to directly reimburse State funds appropriated for COVID-19 response in SB 66, the state's most recent budget bill approved prior to the CARES Act.

The list below is an estimate of funds made available to Kansas from all four federal COVID-19 relief acts. Most funding will go directly to the State; however, local units of government, tribal entities, nonprofit organizations, and other authorized recipients may receive some funds directly from the federal government. A variety of other federal programs, including tax incentives, the Paycheck Protection Program, and Economic Injury Disaster Loans, are also intended to provide direct relief to individual citizens and businesses. As of May 1, 2020, businesses in Kansas have been approved for $5.1 billion in payments from the Paycheck Protection Program, $77.2 million in Economic Injury Disaster Loans, and $2.7 billion to facilitate municipal debt liquidity. The Kansas Legislative Research Department will continue to analyze these programs as federal guidance is generated.

*Italics* are used below to denote information recently added to this memorandum.

**Coronavirus Relief Fund**

$1.25 billion for the Coronavirus Relief Fund *(includes a 45 percent cap to local units of government)*.

- Funds may be utilized for expenditures related to the coronavirus public health emergency. CARES Act funds have been allocated to States based on population, with smaller populated states receiving a minimum of $1.25 billion. *Direct assistance to local units of government may not exceed 45.0 percent of the available funding.*

- *Direct assistance is available to local units of government that serve a population in excess of 500,000 (Johnson County and Sedgwick County) that would reduce the total funding available to state government.*

- The State has received $1,034.1 million in CRF funds, while Johnson County received $116.3 million and Sedgwick County received $99.6 million.

- *According to the U.S. Department of the Treasury’s guidance documents, permissible uses for the CRF include but are not limited to:*
○ Costs of personnel and services included in the most recently approved budget but which, due entirely to the COVID-19 public health emergency, have been diverted to substantially different functions. This would include, for example, the costs of redeploying corrections facility staff to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions through work such as enhanced sanitation or enforcing social distancing measures; the costs of redeploying police to support management and enforcement of stay-at-home orders; or the costs of diverting educational support staff or faculty to develop online learning capabilities, such as through providing information technology support that is not part of the staff or faculty’s ordinary responsibilities;

○ To support public or private hospitals to the extent that the costs are necessary expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, but the form such assistance would take may differ. In particular, financial assistance to private hospitals could take the form of a grant or a short-term loan;

○ To prevent eviction and assist in preventing homelessness assuming that the recipient considers the grants to be for necessary expenses incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency and the grants meet the other requirements for the use of CRF payments under section 601(d) of the Social Security Act outlined in the Department of the Treasury’s guidance; and

○ To provide emergency financial assistance to individuals and families directly impacted by a loss of income due to the COVID-19 public health emergency if a government determines such assistance to be a necessary expenditure.

Education

$105.0 million for Higher Education - General

● Funding is allocated 90 percent directly to institutions through the Title IV (federal Pell financial aid) distribution system. In Kansas, 75 total institutions of higher education are eligible: 33 public, 24 private, and 18 for-profit. At least 50 percent of funds awarded must be used for direct emergency aid to students, including grants for food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care. Funds are provided to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19.

● The various educational institutions are establishing their own processes and criteria for determining which students have unmet financial need. The State universities intend to retain 50 percent of the funds for operational shortfalls and distributed 50 percent to students with such unmet needs. State universities have not yet determined how to apply the funds reserved for the Institutions.

$84.5 million for K-12 Education

● The funding for K-12 education is part of the Education Stabilization Fund, the purpose of which is to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19. Each
state must allocate not less than 90 percent of awarded funds to local education agencies (school districts) in the state in proportion to the amount of funds such local education agencies received under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Funding may be used for COVID-19 preparedness and response activities such as staff training and professional development, implementing response procedures and systems, and purchasing of sanitizing supplies. Funds may also be used for mental health services, addressing needs of disadvantaged students, implementing summer learning programs, coordinating long-term closures, and other activities necessary to maintain continuity of services in local education agencies and continuing to employ existing staff. After one year of receiving the funds, any unused funds must be returned to the federal government. Funds from the Education Stabilization Fund require a maintenance of effort from states, meaning state support for K-12 and higher education in FY 2020 and FY 2021 must be maintained at the average level for FY 2017 through FY 2019. According to the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE), the U.S. Department of Education has approved the State’s application for these funds. KSDE estimates the funds will be made available to school districts in June 2020.

$26.3 million for the Governor’s Fund to be distributed to K-12 and Higher Education institutions most impacted by COVID-19

- This funding makes grants available to local education agencies most significantly impacted by COVID-19 to allow them to continue to provide educational services to students and provide supports to institutions of higher learning significantly impacted or other entities providing child care and early childhood education, social and emotional support, and the protection of education-related jobs. Any funds not expended within one year are to be returned to the federal government.

$5.9 million for the Higher Education Fund - Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Serving Institutions

- This funding provides grants for Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities, and other Minority Serving Institutions as well as other institutions eligible for the Strengthening Institutions Program. There are 29 institutions in Kansas eligible for this funding. While there is no requirement to use at least 50 percent of these funds for grants to students, institutions are encouraged to use as much of these funds as possible to give grants to students. This can include a federally financially eligible student’s cost of attendance, including tuition, course materials, and technology. Institutions may also use these funds to defray institutional expenses, which may include lost revenue, reimbursement for expenses already incurred, technology costs associated with the transition to distance education, faculty and staff training, and payroll.

$263,243 for the State Library

- The funding for the State Library is provided through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The purpose of the funding is to provide grants to
states, territories, and tribes to respond to COVID-19, including expanding digital network access, purchasing internet accessible devices, and providing technical support services, using the following types of data to prioritize efforts: poverty/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, unemployment, and broadband availability. The total available to the State Library may increase. The CARES Act appropriated $50.0 million to IMLS, but IMLS has announced the distribution of only $30.0 million. The funds are available to IMLS until September 30, 2021, but there is no requirement for the State Library to expend the funds by a specified date. State matching requirements are waived.

Social Services

$30.8 million for Child Care and Development Block Grant

- This funding is intended to pay childcare providers to ensure they will be able to reopen, for expenses such as staff expenses and sanitizing the facility. Funds may be given to childcare providers that have not previously received funding to clean and sanitize facilities. The funds may also be used to provide child care to workers deemed essential without regard to the income eligibility requirement [section 658P(4) of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act]. States and territories do not need to amend their approved plans, and the funds may be obligated in this federal fiscal year or the succeeding two fiscal years. Funding is available until September 30, 2021. On May 6, 2020, the Department for Children and Families (DCF) received $30.8 million.

- On April 20, 2020, DCF began the Hero Relief Program, expanding childcare assistance subsidies to essential workers with income at or below 250.0 percent of the federal poverty level and providing grants to childcare providers. Eligible workers include health care workers, first responders, food and agriculture workers, judicial branch essential services, the National Guard, Child and Adult Protective Services specialists, and childcare providers serving these workers.

$9.3 million for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

- This federally funded program provides assistance for qualifying households to pay home energy costs via an annual benefit. This program is administered by the DCF’s Economic and Employment Services Program. Benefit levels may vary based on household income, the number of persons living in the house, the type of house, and the type of energy used. The standard 10.0 percent carryover limit does not apply to this supplemental funding. Funding is available until September 30, 2021. In anticipation of receiving these funds, DCF reopened the LIHEAP application period beginning May 1, 2020, and ending on May 29, 2020. Persons approved in the original application period are not eligible for additional funding. DCF has received $9.3 million as of May 12, 2020.
$8.1 million for Community Services Block Grant

- The Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Act aims to reduce poverty, revitalize low-income communities, and empower low-income families and individuals to become fully self-sufficient. CSBG supports eight local eligible entities in Kansas to provide services and activities for individuals with low income that alleviate the causes and conditions of poverty in their individual communities. The balance of the state portion of the program is administered by the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation. Funding is available until September 30, 2021.

$6.3 million for Head Start

- This funding supports Head Start, a federally funded program administered in Kansas by the DCF that is designed to prepare children under the age of five in low-income families for school. Federal relief funding will be provided as grants awarded directly to local partners for one-time activities responding to COVID-19, such as mental health services, staff training on infectious disease management, and the purchase of cleaning supplies. Funding will also support new supplemental summer programs, with priority given to programs that focus on the incoming kindergarten class and children with individualized education plans. Kansas Head Start and Early Head Start services include quality early education; parent education; comprehensive health and mental health services, including services to women before, during, and after pregnancy; nutrition education; family support service; and child care for parents who are employed, attending school, or in a job training program. This funding will not be calculated in the base grant in subsequent fiscal years. Non-federal matching requirements may be waived. Funding is available until September 30, 2021.

$443,000 for Child Welfare Services

- The CARES Act includes additional Social Security Act Title IV-B funding for child welfare services. Per that law, this funding may be used for the following: (1) protecting and promoting the welfare of all children; (2) preventing the neglect, abuse, or exploitation of children; (3) supporting at-risk families through services which allow children, where appropriate, to remain safely with their families or return to their families in a timely manner; (4) promoting the safety, permanence, and well-being of children in foster care and adoptive families; and (5) providing training, professional development and support to ensure a well-qualified child welfare workforce. State matching requirements are waived. Funding is available until September 30, 2021. On May 6, 2020, DCF received $443,475.

$333,000 for Family Violence Prevention

- Funds are provided for domestic violence prevention and related services programs through the Federal Family Violence Prevention and Services Act. State matching requirements are waived.
$172,000 for Runaway and Homeless Youth Grant

- This funding is provided through the Family and Youth Services Bureau at the U.S. Department of Health and Human services and supports organizations that serve youth who run away from home or become homeless. Services include street outreach, emergency shelter, and long-term transitional living. The CARES Act provides funding to organizations through three grant categories: basic centers, transitional living, and education and prevention. These funds are not subject to matching requirements. Funds are available until September 30, 2021. The Wichita Children’s Home is the only grantee in Kansas, according to the Administration for Children and Families at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Community Living

$6.1 million for Congregate and Home-Delivered Meals

- This funding provides Congregate and Home Delivered Meals under the Older Americans Act Nutrition Program. The Title III-C Nutrition Program authorizes nutrition services for persons age 60 or over and their spouses and, in certain conditions, persons with disabilities younger than 60. Meals are provided to eligible participants on a contribution basis in a congregate setting (Title III-C)(1) or within a homebound individual's place of residence (Title-III-C)(2). State matching requirements are waived. On March 27, 2020, the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) announced the receipt of an initial grant award totaling $2.0 million.

$1.7 million for Supportive Services

- This funding provides supportive services under the Older Americans Act In-Home Services program. Under Title III-B of the Older Americans Act, KDADS notes it provides Kansans with objective, accessible, and useful information to promote healthy aging, financial security, and long-term care choices to assist them in making informed decisions. It also promotes accessibility of information sources to all Kansans. KDADS encourages the state Agencies on Aging and Area Agencies on Aging to concentrate resources to develop and implement comprehensive and coordinated community-based systems of service for older individuals via statewide planning, and area planning and provision of supportive services, including multipurpose senior centers. The objective of these services and centers is to maximize the informal support provided to older Americans to enable them to remain in their homes and communities. Providing transportation services, in-home services, and other support services, these programs ensure that elders receive the services they need to remain independent. State matching requirements are waived.
$845,000 for Family Caregivers

- This funding provides family caregiver services under the Older Americans Act Title III-E Family Caregiver Support program. The National Family Caregiver Support Program is designed to support the needs of family caregivers. The categories of service available are information, assistance, counseling, support groups, caregivers training, respite, and supplemental services. The program targets family caregivers providing in-home or community care to an older adult, caregivers who provide care for individuals with Alzheimer's disease, grandparents or relatives aged 55 or older who are relative caregivers for children younger than 19 years of age, and a grandparent or relative aged 55 or older providing care to a disabled adult aged 19 to 59 years. It also directs states to give priority to services for older individuals with the greatest social and economic need, with particular attention to low-income older individuals and grandparent or relatives providing care and support to persons with mental retardation and related developmental disabilities. State matching requirements are waived.

$941,000 for Centers for Independent Living

- Kansas has a network of ten Centers for Independent Living (CIL). The purpose of CILs is to provide independence and empowerment to individuals living with disabilities and to support their integration into mainstream society. CILs are not residential facilities. Relief funds are intended to respond to COVID-19 and the increase of needs of individuals with disabilities to access services while remaining safely in their communities. Funding is available until September 30, 2021. On April 21, 2020, the Administration for Community Living at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services distributed the full allocation to CILs in Kansas.

$170,000 for Protection of Vulnerable Older Americans

- This funding provides services for the protection of vulnerable older Americans under the Older Americans Act Elder Justice/Long Term Care Ombudsman Activities program. The program promotes elder rights activities to provide persons 60 and older access to the system of justice. Legal service providers (attorneys) act as advocates and offer advice and representation. Activities also include programs for the prevention and awareness of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older individuals.
Health Care

$725.8 million for Provider Relief Funds

- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will distribute funds to eligible healthcare providers to support healthcare-related expenses or lost revenue attributable to COVID-19, and to ensure uninsured Americans can get testing and treatment for COVID-19. These payments are not loans and will not need to be repaid. These funds are allocated in three categories:
  - General Distribution: $325.1 million was awarded to 3,320 Kansas providers and systems;
  - High Impact: $18.3 million was awarded to The University of Kansas Health System based on the number of inpatient COVID-19 patients; and
  - Rural: $382.4 million was awarded to 201 Kansas hospitals and clinics in rural areas.

$22.5 million to Community Health Centers

- The Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act and the CARES Act provide the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) with $16.7 million to support community health centers in Kansas with the detection, prevention, and diagnosis of COVID-19, as well as maintain and/or increase health center capacity and staff. Funds were allocated to 18 HRSA-qualified community health centers in Kansas ($15,959,343) and KDHE ($693,378). The funding allocated to KDHE will support the Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program.

- The Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act, enacted on April 24, 2020, provides an additional one-time funding totaling $5.8 million to expand the capacity of community health centers in the testing for and monitoring of COVID-19. Funds were allocated to 18 HRSA-qualified community health centers in Kansas ($5.7 million) and to KDHE ($145,609).

$12.5 million in Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) grants

- Under the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, CDC grants will be distributed to help support the prevention, detection, and treatment of COVID-19. Federal FY 2019 Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grantees are guaranteed at least 90 percent of their FY 2019 awards. KDHE was allotted $5.9 million in the first series of grants, of which $1.8 million, or 30.0 percent, was awarded to local health departments and tribes.

- Under the CARES Act, additional funds are designated for grants to or cooperative agreements with states, localities, territories, tribes, tribal organizations, urban Indian health organizations, or health service providers to tribes, for surveillance, epidemiology, laboratory capacity, infection control,
mitigation, communications, and other preparedness and response activities. Every grantee that received a PHEP grant for federal FY 2019 is guaranteed to receive 100 percent of its FY 2019 award. Kansas is expected to receive $6.6 million under this funding stream.

$7.7 million for Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program

- Funds allocated to KDHE for distribution to the Small Rural Hospital Improvement Program eligible hospitals to assist in responding to COVID-19, including testing, laboratory services, and purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE). This funding should complement, not duplicate or supplant, other funds received through existing payment or other CARES Act programs supporting hospitals.

$2.0 million for Emergency Grants for Mental and Substance Use Disorder

- This funding supports crisis intervention services, mental health and substance use disorder treatment, and other related recovery supports for children and adults impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The program focuses on individuals with serious mental illness, substance use disorders, or both, but may also meet the needs of individuals with mental disorders that are less severe than serious mental illness, including those in the healthcare profession. No state matching funds are required. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced KDADS was awarded $2.0 million.

$1.3 million for Hospital Preparedness

- Hospital preparedness grants are designed to ready hospitals to deliver coordinated and effective care to victims of public health emergencies. Awards went to KDHE ($476,966) and the Kansas Hospital Association ($784,542).

$829,000 for Telehealth Resources

- Funding was awarded to 14 telehealth resource centers nationally, including $829,000 to the University of Kansas Medical Center Research Institute, to provide technical assistance on telehealth. The funding is intended to provide rural and underserved areas with the support they need to combat COVID-19 through the expansion of telehealth services.
$191,000 for Ryan White HIV/AIDS

- This funding supports Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program recipients across the country, including city/county health departments, health clinics, community-based organizations, state health departments, and AIDS Education and Training Centers, in their efforts to prevent or minimize the impact of this pandemic on people with HIV. On April 15, 2020, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced funds were awarded to KDHE ($50,000) and the University of Kansas Medical Center in Wichita ($140,521).

$44,000 for Poison Control Services

- Funds appropriated are for activities to improve the capacity of poison control centers to respond to increased calls. Funding is available until September 30, 2022. On April 23, 2020, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced $43,785 was awarded to the Kansas Poison Control Center.

Food and Nutrition

$6.7 million for The Emergency Food Assistance Program and Administration (TEFAP)

- This program provides free U.S. Department of Agriculture commodity foods to low-income households. TEFAP food is shipped five or six times per year. Shipments provide a minimum of four and a maximum of ten foods per household. Matching requirements are not waived but states have flexibility to provide food to people in need. Funding is available until September 30, 2021. On May 6, 2020, DCF received an initial payment totaling $400,000 for administrative costs.

$3.1 million for Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children

- Additional funds will remain available through September 30, 2021, to be used only in cases in which a school is closed for at least five consecutive days during a declared public health emergency during which the school would otherwise be in session.

- Each household containing at least one member who has an eligible child attending school shall be eligible to receive assistance pursuant to a state agency plan approved by the Secretary of Agriculture. State plans may include temporary emergency standards of eligibility and levels of benefits for households with eligible children. Temporary state plans can provide aid to households not already receiving benefits in an amount not less than the value of meals at the free rate over the course of five school days for each eligible child in the household. Additional funds provided in the CARES Act shall be placed in a contingency reserve to be allocated as the Secretary deems necessary to support participation should cost or participation exceed budget estimates to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19.
Economic Development

$9.0 million for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) [Additional $6.6 million to Local Entitlement Zones Johnson County, Kansas City, Lawrence, Leavenworth, Lenexa, Manhattan, Overland Park, Shawnee, Topeka, and Wichita]

- Under the CARES Act permitted activities include:
  - Improvements on public buildings and facilities to treat, care for, and house COVID-19 patients;
  - Provision of grants or loans to businesses to provide medical supplies or avoid job loss due to social distancing;
  - Provision of new or quantifiably increased public services for health care job training, testing, equipment, and delivery of meals on wheels; and
  - Planning, Capacity Building, and Technical Assistance Grants for emergency response including the retention of outside technical assistance. Planning grants are subject to a 20.0 percent administrative expenses maximum and training is subject to the 3.0 percent administrative expenses maximum.

- With the exception of those for planning and administrative expenses, there is no percent limitation for the use of funds for public services activities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19. The Kansas Department of Commerce held a public hearing for comments on May 6, 2020, and established an electronic approval process for grants and loans.

- For cities and counties not within an entitlement zone, the Department of Commerce has rolled out a new CDBG-CV program which will begin accepting applications on May 12, 2020.
  - CDBG-CV Economic Development grants provide communities with funding to help local businesses retain jobs for people with low-to-moderate incomes. Grant moneys may be used for items including wages, utilities, rent, and the purchase of up to 60 days of inventory needed to reopen. Award amounts are up to $25,000 for businesses with 5 or fewer employees (with a maximum of $30,000 per company) or up to $35,000 for each full-time employee to businesses with 6 to 50 employees (with a maximum of $50,000 per company).
  - CDBG-CV Meal Program grants can be directed toward organizations such as Meals on Wheels, for the replenishment of local food banks, or to support organizations that provide meal programs for children impacted by the loss of school meal programs.

$471,000 for Manufacturing Extension Partnership

- The Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) Program assists manufacturers to increase competitiveness by developing and operating a learning and knowledge infrastructure. The Kansas MEP office, Kansas
Manufacturing Solutions, is assisting Kansas manufacturers in mobilizing production capacity in response to COVID-19 and informing manufacturers on elements of the CARES Act that impact their operations. Additional funding for the program is intended to remain until September 30, 2021. State matching requirements are waived.

$463,000 for National Endowment for the Humanities Grants

- 40 percent of the funds made available to the National Endowment for the Humanities through the CARES Act must be distributed to state humanities councils and 60 percent of such funds must be for direct grants. Funds may be used by the recipients of such grants for purposes of the general operations of such recipients. State matching requirements are waived, and the funding is available until September 30, 2021. Humanities Kansas, the state humanities council, received the federal allocation, which will be offered as grants to nonprofit cultural organizations in Kansas. Applications for these grants will be accepted May 13, 2020, through June 12, 2020.

- Humanities Kansas has surveyed 125 arts and cultural organization organizations since the end of March in order to design grant programs that meet the relief needs associated with responding to COVID-19.

$441,000 for National Endowment for the Arts Grants

- Of the funds made available to the National Endowment for the Arts through the CARES Act, 40 percent must be distributed to state arts agencies and regional arts organizations and 60 percent of such funds must be for direct grants. Funds may be used by the recipients of such grants for purposes of the general operations of such recipients. State matching requirements are waived, and the funding is available until September 30, 2021. On May 1, 2020, the Kansas Creative Arts Industries Commission at the Department of Commerce announced receipt of the federal allocation, which is currently offered as short-term operational system grants to Kansas-based nonprofit organizations. Applications for these grants are accepted from May 4, 2020, through May 15, 2020.

Labor

$9.5 million for Unemployment Insurance Administration

- This funding may be used only for the administration of unemployment compensation laws, including taking the steps necessary to ensure adequate resources in periods of high demand. Half of the funding must be provided to a state within 60 days after the law was enacted, with the other half being transferred only if a state’s unemployment compensation claims increased by at least 10 percent over the same quarter in the previous calendar year.
In order to receive the funding, states must meet certain requirements, including requiring employers to notify employees about the availability of unemployment compensation and provide assistance to applicants in filling out their applications, and demonstrating that a state has taken steps to ease eligibility requirements and increase access to unemployment compensation for claimants.

Kansas has so far received $4.8 million in federal funding for unemployment insurance administration. The Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) has not received any notification of availability of the remaining portion of the funding for unemployment insurance administration.

This funding does not include the temporary expansions of unemployment insurance authorized by the CARES Act. KDOL has applied to the U.S. Department of Labor for additional grant funding to support costs associated with implementing these new federal programs and is awaiting award notification.

Justice and Security

$6.1 million for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Program [Additional $3.2 million for direct relief to local governments]

- Kansas will receive $6,061,106 (no state match requirement) to distribute to state and local units of government and to federally recognized Indian tribal governments. Funding is distributed from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance to the Governor’s Office through the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding grants program. Funding may be used for seven purpose areas: law enforcement; prosecution and courts; crime prevention and education; corrections and community corrections; drug treatment and enforcement; planning, evaluation, and technology improvement; and crime victim and witness programs. In April 2020, the Governor’s Office received the full state allocation ($6.1 million), which is currently offered as grants to state agencies, local units of government, tribal governments, and nonprofit organizations in Kansas. In addition, local governments in Johnson County, Garden City, and Topeka were awarded direct relief totaling $333,289 as of May 6, 2020.

$4.6 million for Election Security

- Funds are to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19, domestically or internationally, and its impacts on the 2020 federal election cycle. The Secretary of State shall provide a full reporting to the Elections Assistance Commission (EAC) within 20 days of the federal election on uses of the payment and an explanation of how such uses allowed the state to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19. The Secretary of State announced $1.0 million will be expended to procure PPE for local elections offices. Each PPE kit will include plexiglass shields for election workers, disposable stylus pens for voters, hand sanitizer, disinfecting spray, face masks, and disposable gloves. Additionally, $2.6 million will be used to reimburse counties for COVID-19-related expenditures. EAC guidance states eligible COVID-19 expenditures include:
- Printing of additional ballots and envelopes for potentially higher levels of advance or vote-by-mail processes;
- Registration list activities to improve the accuracy and currency of registrant addresses;
- Upgrades of statewide or local databases to allow for online advance or mail ballot requests or change of address;
- Additional mailing and postage costs, including ballot tracking software;
- Acquisition of additional voting equipment, including high speed or central count tabulators and hardware and software associated with signature comparison of returned advance or mail ballots;
- Installation and security for advance or mail drop-boxes;
- Temporary elections office staffing;
- Cleaning supplies and PPE for staff and poll workers in early advance voting, vote centers, or election day polling places;
- Overtime salary and benefit costs for elections staff and poll workers;
- Training of poll workers on sanitation procedures for in-person voting;
- Public communication of changes in registration, ballot request options, or voting procedures, including information on COVID-19 precautions being implemented during the voting process;
- Mailings to inform the public on changes or determination of procedures of COVID-19 precautions, options in voting, and other voting information;
- Pre- and post-election deep cleaning of polling places;
- Leasing of new polling places when existing sites must be closed;
- Additional laptops and mobile IT equipment; and
- Additional automated letter opening equipment.

- The funding expires on December 31, 2020. States must provide a 20 percent match within two years.

$1.3 million for Emergency Management Performance Grant

Housing and Homeless Assistance

$5.7 million for Homeless Assistance [Additional $2.1 million to Local Units of Government]

- The CARES Act includes additional funding for Homeless Assistance Grants, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 among individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance and to support additional homeless assistance and homelessness prevention activities to mitigate the impacts created by COVID-19 under the Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program. ESG funding may be used for establishing, maintaining, and operating emergency shelters to provide essential services such as services concerned with employment, health, education, family support services for homeless youth, substance abuse services, victim services, or mental health services. The balance of the state portion of the program is administered by the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation. Matching requirements are waived. Funding is available until September 30, 2022.

$3.7 million for Public Housing Operations

- The Public Housing Operating Fund may be used for assistance to public housing agencies for the operation and management of public housing, including the efficient maintenance and operation of public housing units; anti-crime and anti-drug activities; provision of services, including service coordinators for elderly persons or persons with disabilities; and more. Funding is available until September 30, 2021.

$1.4 million for Tenant-Based Rental Assistance

- The CARES Act provides additional funding for public housing agencies to maintain normal operations during the period that such programs are impacted by coronavirus. Portions of this funding are allocated for Section 8 programs, including Mainstream vouchers to assist non-elderly persons with disabilities and renewal funding applications for public housing agencies that experience a significant increase in voucher per-unit costs due to extraordinary circumstances or that, despite taking reasonable cost-savings measures, would otherwise be required to terminate rental assistance for families as a result of insufficient funding. Matching requirements may be waived.

$1.2 million for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program

- Funds are distributed to local providers for food purchases, lodging needs, or for assistance in payment of rent, mortgage or utility bills. The program is governed by the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) National Board composed of representatives of the American Red Cross, Catholic Charities, The Salvation Army, and other charities. On May 4, 2020, the EFSP National Board announced allocations totaling $1.1 million for 19 qualifying counties in Kansas. Local nonprofits and government agencies must apply to local boards for funding by May 29, 2020.
$575,916 for Native American Housing Relief

- The CARES Act includes $200.0 million in additional funding for Indian Housing Block Grants (IHBG) to Native American tribes that are Tribally Designated Housing Entities to address housing issues resulting from COVID-19. Grant funding primarily supports low-income Native American families. Eligible activities include housing development, operation and maintenance, modernization, and more. In Kansas, the IHBG distribution from the CARES Act totals $575,916. Funding is available until September 30, 2021.

$88,288 for Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS

- The AIDS Housing Opportunity Act provides grant funding for states, local governments, and nonprofit organizations to devise long-term comprehensive strategies for meeting the housing needs of persons with AIDS and families of such persons. Eligible activities include enabling public and nonprofit organizations to provide housing information, facilitating the development and operation of shelters, providing rental assistance, and facilitating moderate rehabilitation of single-room occupancy dwellings. Funding is available until September 30, 2021.

Transportation

$53.4 million for Grants-in-Aid for Airports

- The CARES Act provides support to U.S. airports experiencing severe economic disruption caused by the COVID-19 public health emergency. This funding will be distributed to airports to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency. There is no matching requirement for these funds. The CARES Act provides that these funds are available until expended.

$52.4 million for Federal Transit Authority (FTA) Urbanized Formula

- The FTA has followed existing formulas for allocating urban funding based on population. The funding is intended to be used for operating and capital assistance for public transportation operators that have realized an impact due to COVID-19. This includes lost revenue, the purchase of PPE, procuring cleaning supplies, maintenance costs, and the payment of administrative leave of operations personnel due to reductions of service. In most cases the federal funding will reimburse 100 percent of the cost of these noted expenses. This funding will flow directly to the urban operators (for example, Flint Hills Area Transportation Agency, Johnson County Transit, Lawrence Transit, Topeka Metropolitan Transit Authority, Unified Government of Wyandotte County Transit, and Wichita Transit). The CARES Act provides that these funds are available until expended.
$38.8 million for FTA Non-urbanized Formula

- Funding for non-urbanized transit will be apportioned to the Kansas Department of Transportation. The agency is currently tracking COVID-19-related expenses along with network providers and will distribute the funding as it comes available, as well as receipt of any documentation of expenses from the agency’s providers. Similarly, this funding is intended to be used for operating and capital assistance for public transportation operators that have realized an impact due to COVID-19. This includes lost revenue, the purchase of PPE, procuring cleaning supplies, maintenance costs, and the payment of administrative leave of operations personnel due to reductions of service. In most cases the federal funding will reimburse 100 percent of the cost of these noted expenses. The CARES Act provides that these funds are available until expended.