



SUMMARY OF UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BILL NO. 133 - PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC FEDERAL FISCAL RELIEF FUNDING

This memorandum provides information regarding preliminary estimated federal funding that may be available to North Dakota state government agencies and other North Dakota organizations to respond to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic as a result of United States House of Representatives Bill No. 133 (H.R. 133).

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BILL NO. 133

On December 27, 2020, President Donald J. Trump signed H.R. 133, a \$2.3 trillion bill, also known as the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, of which \$900 billion is to provide economic stimulus in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Major COVID-19 provisions of the bill include:

- \$166 billion for direct payment checks of up to \$600 per adult and child;
- An extension of the refundable credit for mandated paid sick leave and family leave for private sector employers with under 500 employees, passed in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), through March 31, 2021. The bill does **not** extend the FFCRA provisions that required state and local government entities to provide emergency paid sick and family leave, resulting in those provisions expiring on December 31, 2020. The bill allows private sector employers and self-employed individuals to claim the tax credit for voluntarily providing emergency paid leave that is provided through March 31, 2021;
- \$8.8 billion to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the distribution, administration, and monitoring of COVID-19 vaccines;
- \$19.7 billion for manufacturing and procurement of vaccines;
- \$55 million for the Food and Drug Administration to continue efforts to support medical product supply chain monitoring and other public health research and response investments;
- \$25.4 billion to support testing and contract tracing and for grants to hospital and health care providers to reimburse health care-related expenses or lost revenue directly attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic;
- \$4.25 billion for mental health and substance abuse services and support;
- \$10.3 billion for early childhood and child care provider programs; and
- \$100 million to address abuse, neglect, and exploitation of the elderly;
- \$82 billion for an education stabilization fund for schools and colleges and aid to help reopen classrooms safely; including:
 - \$53.3 billion for the elementary and secondary school emergency relief fund;
 - \$22.7 billion for the higher education emergency relief fund, of which \$20.2 billion is to be allocated to public and private nonprofit institutions;

\$4.1 billion for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund; and

\$819 million to Bureau of Indian Education-operated and funded schools and tribal colleges and universities;

- \$13 billion for a 15 percent increase of supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP) monthly benefits through June 30, 2021;
- \$12 billion for community development financial institutions and minority depository institutions and the creation of a new neighborhood capital investment program for low-income and minority communities;
- An extension of temporary suspension of Medicare sequestration, providing for a 3-month delay of the Medicare sequester payment reductions through March 31, 2021;
- Provides flexibility for maternal, infant, and early childhood home visiting programs to allow the programs to serve at-risk pregnant women and families during the pandemic, for the duration of the public health emergency period;
- \$25 billion for rental assistance and an eviction moratorium extension;
- \$120 billion for unemployment insurance benefit payments;
- An extension of the federal pandemic unemployment compensation program through March 14, 2021, providing \$300 per week for all workers receiving unemployment benefits;
- An extension of the pandemic unemployment assistance program through April 5, 2021;
- An extension of the pandemic emergency unemployment compensation program, which provides additional unemployment insurance benefit payment weeks when state unemployment eligibility has expired, through April 5, 2021, resulting in an increase of available benefits weeks to 24 weeks instead of 13 weeks;
- An increase of the maximum number of weeks an individual may claim benefits through regular state unemployment with the additional pandemic emergency unemployment compensation or pandemic unemployment assistance programs, to 50 weeks;
- An additional \$100 per week for certain workers who have both wage and self-employment income but whose unemployment insurance benefit calculation does not take their self-employment into account;
- \$45 billion to support transportation services, including \$9.8 billion to state departments of transportation, \$15 billion for transit aid; \$2 billion for airports, and \$15 billion for airline employee and contractor payroll support;
- \$13 billion for agriculture aid, including direct payments to farmers, protections for food and agriculture workers, and specific support for smaller producers;
- \$7 billion to expand broadband access for students, families, and unemployed workers;
- \$325 billion for small businesses, including \$284.5 billion for forgivable Paycheck Protection Program loans, \$20 billion for economic injury disaster loan grants for business in low-income communities; and \$15 billion for live venues, independent movie theaters, and cultural institutions;
- An expansion of Paycheck Protection Program eligibility, allowing 501(C)(6) nonprofit organizations to qualify;
- \$10 billion to United States Postal Services operating costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic;
- The return of \$429 billion in unused funds provided by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act for the Federal Reserve's emergency lending facilities; and
- An extension for the expenditure of CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund resources until December 31, 2021, rather than December 30, 2020.

The Federal Funds Information for States (FFIS) provided **preliminary** estimates that of the \$900 billion of federal relief funds included H.R. 133, approximately \$186.3 billion, excluding the \$120 billion dedicated for unemployment insurance benefit payments, will be provided to state government agencies. Preliminary estimates from FFIS indicated North Dakota state agencies may be eligible for the following federal relief funding as a result of the passage of H.R. 133, based on guidance from the federal government as of January 12, 2021.

| Agency Program | Allowable Uses of Funds | Potential Funding Available |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| <p>110 - Office of Management and Budget Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund - Public schools</p> <p>Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund - Private schools</p> | <p>The funding is provided in an emergency block grant designed to enable Governors to decide how best to meet the needs of students, schools (including charter schools and nonpublic schools), postsecondary institutions, and other education-related organizations and is to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency support through grants to local educational agencies the state educational agency deems have been most significantly impacted by COVID-19 to support the ability of local educational agencies to continue to provide educational services to their students and to support the ongoing functionality of the local educational agency; • Emergency support through grants to institutions of higher education serving students within the state which the Governor determines have been most significantly impacted by COVID-19 to support the ability of institutions to continue to provide educational services and support the ongoing functionality of the institution; and • Support to any other institution of higher education, local educational agency, or education-related entity within the state which the Governor deems essential for carrying out emergency educational services to students for authorized activities, child care and early childhood education, social and emotional support, and the protection of education-related jobs. <p>The funding is provided in an emergency block grant similar to the emergency block grant provided for public schools.</p> | <p>\$2,732,339</p> <p>3,998,745</p> |
| <p>Total Office of Management and Budget</p> | | <p>\$6,731,084</p> |
| <p>201 - Department of Public Instruction Elementary and secondary school emergency relief fund</p> | <p>The funding is for relief to address learning loss, improve school facilities and infrastructure to reduce the risk of transmitting COVID-19, and purchase education technology. The funding must be allocated to not less than 90 percent of the funds as subgrants to local educational agencies in the state in proportion to the amount of funds local educational agencies received in the most recent fiscal year under Part A of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.</p> | <p>\$135,924,393</p> |
| <p>Total Department of Public Instruction</p> | | <p>\$135,924,393</p> |
| <p>215 - North Dakota University System Higher education emergency relief fund</p> | <p>The funding is to be allocated as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 37.5 percent based on full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollment of federal Pell Grant recipients; • 37.5 percent based on headcount enrollment of Pell recipients; • 11.5 percent based on FTE enrollment of non-Pell recipients; • 11.5 percent based on headcount enrollment of non-Pell recipients; | <p>Not yet known</p> |

| Agency Program | Allowable Uses of Funds | Potential Funding Available |
|---|--|-----------------------------|
| Total North Dakota University System | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 percent based on relative share of FTE enrollment of students who were federal Pell Grant recipients and who were exclusively enrolled in distance education courses prior to the qualifying emergency; and • 1 percent based on relative share of the total number of students who were federal Pell grant recipients and who were exclusively enrolled in distance education courses prior to the qualifying emergency. | Not yet known |
| 301 - State Department of Health | | |
| CDC - COVID-19 vaccine preparedness | The funding is to support federal, state, local, territorial, and tribal public health agencies to distribute, administer, monitor, and track COVID-19 vaccination to ensure broad-based distribution, access, and vaccine coverage. As of January 12, 2021, FFIS estimates \$6,885,880 has been made available to North Dakota for this program. | \$38,702,878 |
| CDC - COVID-19 testing | The funding is to support testing, contact tracing, and other activities necessary to effectively monitor and suppress COVID-19, as well as improve testing capabilities and contract tracing in high-risk and underserved populations, including racial and ethnic minority populations and rural communities. As of January 12, 2021, FFIS estimates \$43,863,056 has been made available to North Dakota for this program. | 172,403,729 |
| Total State Department of Health | | \$211,106,607 |
| 325 - Department of Human Services | | |
| Substance abuse prevention and treatment block grant | The funding is to help plan, implement, and evaluate activities that prevent and treat substance abuse. | \$6,411,715 |
| Mental health block grant | The funding is to support adults and children with serious mental illnesses, including those with a diagnosable behavioral, mental, or emotional condition that substantially interferes with, or limits, one or more major life activities, such as basic daily living, instrumental living, or participating in a family, school, community, or workplace interactions. | 2,972,514 |
| Child care and development block grant | The funding is to provide immediate assistance to child care providers. | 17,186,913 |
| Promoting safe and stable families | The funding is for preventing child maltreatment, enabling children to remain safely with their families, and ensuring permanency for children in foster care. | 90,342 |
| Chafee foster care program for successful transition to adulthood | The funding is for providing care for older foster youth who would normally "age out" with the assurance that they may continue to receive foster care support and services during the COVID-19 pandemic. Allowable support services include room and board costs, food and shelter, startup costs, rent, utilities, educational assistance, career exploration, mentoring, and preventative health activities. | 1,224,837 |
| Chafee education and training vouchers | The funding is for postsecondary education costs of youth leaving foster care. | 166,136 |
| Congregate and home delivered meals | The funding is for additional assistance for nutrition services for the elderly. | 840,000 |
| SNAP | The funding is for additional monthly SNAP benefits, available through June 30, 2021. | Not yet known |
| Total Department of Human Services | | \$28,892,457 |

| Agency Program | Allowable Uses of Funds | Potential Funding Available |
|---|--|-----------------------------|
| 380 - Job Service North Dakota Unemployment insurance benefit payments | The funding is for unemployment insurance benefit payments and may be used for the federal pandemic unemployment compensation program, pandemic emergency unemployment compensation program, pandemic unemployment assistance program, emergency relief for government entities and nonprofits, or traditional state unemployment insurance benefit programs. | Not yet known |
| Total Job Service North Dakota | | Not yet known |
| 473 - Housing Finance Agency Emergency rental assistance | The funding is for rental assistance programs. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention eviction moratorium has been extended to January 31, 2021. Eligible renters will receive assistance to pay for rent and utility payments. A household may receive up to 12 months of assistance; however, an additional 3 months may be added if it is necessary to ensure the family remain housed. | \$200,000,000 |
| Total Housing Finance Agency | | \$200,000,000 |
| 801 - Department of Transportation Enhanced mobility of seniors and individuals with disabilities | The funding is provided to state agencies to assist private nonprofit organizations to meet the transportation needs of older adults and individuals with disabilities when transportation services provided are unavailable, insufficient, or inappropriate to meeting the needs of the individuals. | \$115,202 |
| Surface transportation block grant | The funding is to preserve and improve the conditions and performance of federal-aid highway, bridge, and tunnel projects on any public road and for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure. Funding for this program is available until September 30, 2024. | 61,646,504 |
| Total Department of Transportation | | \$61,761,706 |
| Total | | \$644,416,247 |

The following is a summary of federal relief funding that may be available to other North Dakota organizations, based on **preliminary** estimates from FFIS and guidance from the federal government as of January 12, 2021. The table includes known funding available to local and tribal governments, private organizations, and other institutions, but is not intended to be a complete list of funding available to nonstate government agencies.

| Program | Recipient | Potential Funding Available |
|--|--|-----------------------------|
| Head Start | Local Head Start agencies | \$560,559 |
| Airport improvement program | Aid grants to 53 airports in the state | \$12,796,010 |
| Paycheck Protection Program | Small businesses | Not yet known |
| Agricultural aid, including direct payments to farmers | Agriculture producers | Not yet known |