

The Trump Administration Is Supporting the People of Colorado

“We have the best doctors, the best military leaders, and the best logistics professionals anywhere in the world. And we’re orchestrating a massive Federal response unlike anything our country has ever seen.”

– President Donald J. Trump

Overview: Response and recovery efforts are locally executed, State managed, and Federally supported. Successful emergency management requires nationwide cooperation and unity of effort, combining the strength and ingenuity of our citizens and private sector with a sweeping, all-inclusive, and whole-of-government response. The below is a partial overview of Federal assistance provided to the State of Colorado and the people of Colorado to combat COVID-19 (coronavirus). The information is bolstered by hundreds of additional actions by the Federal government to help the people of Colorado. Implementation of the CARES Act is ongoing which will also bring additional support to Colorado. President Donald J. Trump and Vice President Mike Pence have appreciated the strong State-Federal partnership with Governor Jared Polis, who has joined 13 governor briefings since January 2020.

Supportive Actions by President Donald J. Trump:

- **President Trump Declares a National Emergency:** On March 13, President Trump **declared** a national emergency concerning the coronavirus. The emergency declaration authorized direct Federal assistance, temporary facilities, commodities, equipment, and emergency operation costs for all states, including Colorado, pursuant to section 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.
- **Colorado’s Major Disaster Declaration:** On March 25, Governor Jared Polis submitted a major disaster declaration request to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). On March 28, President Trump **approved** the request declaring a major disaster in the State of Colorado and ordered Federal assistance to supplement State, Tribal, and Local recovery efforts in the areas affected by COVID-19. For the first time in our Nation’s history, every state and territory has a presidential disaster declaration at the same time.
- **Historic Economic Relief:** On March 27, President Trump signed the CARES Act into law. The law provides unprecedented economic relief to American citizens, small businesses, workers, healthcare providers, and State, Local, and Tribal governments and builds on the *Families First Coronavirus Response Act*. More **here**. Additional Colorado allocation information is found below.
- **National Guard Support:** On April 7, President Trump **directed** FEMA to fund 100% of the emergency assistance activities provided by Colorado National Guard personnel in Title 32 duty status, per Governor Polis’ request.

Testing, Resource & Logistics Support: FEMA is working with the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS), other Federal agencies and private sector partners to produce, allocate, and distribute key resources to Colorado, including personal protective equipment (PPE), ventilators (including expediting critical supplies from overseas to various U.S. locations).

- HHS, the Centers for Disaster Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are providing unprecedented regulatory flexibilities, resources, and guidance to expand the availability of testing and to assist States, including Colorado, in scaling testing. Learn more from the CDC **here** and FDA **here**.
- In Colorado, the Federal Government supported 2 mobile testing sites to increase testing in the State. Read more **here**.
- In support of the White House Coronavirus Task Force, FEMA and HHS are coordinating a whole-of-America approach to source personal protective equipment (PPE), ventilators, and other critical resources for States, Tribes, and Territories. The effort is led by Rear Admiral John Polowczyk of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. For more on the Supply Chain Stabilization Task Force, read more **here**.

- The Trump Administration is coordinating [Project Air Bridge](#), a coordinated public-private partnership designed to expedite the movement of critical supplies from other countries to the United States.

PPE	April 1 - 7	April 8 - 14	Total
N-95 Masks	145,400	42,900	188,300
Surgical & Procedural Masks	615,500	251,600	867,100
Eye & Face Shields	6,500	8,600	15,100
Isolation & Surgical Gowns	447,400	257,200	704,600
Surgical & Exam Gloves	16,439,900	13,432,100	29,872,000

- In addition to the Project Air Bridge efforts, as of April 14, FEMA delivered 100 ventilators, 220 K N-95 masks, 517 K surgical masks, 100 K medical gowns, 3,800 coveralls, 100 K face shields, and 504 K gloves from the Strategic National Stockpile to Colorado.
- As of April 15, FEMA obligated \$151.6 M for Colorado to respond to COVID-19 and will continue to obligate additional dollars per validated State requests.
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has worked with the State of Colorado to increase hospital capacity in Colorado by over 3,000 beds (as of April 17) in two COVID-19 facilities. The USACE is providing resources and personnel to create alternate care facilities in Denver (Colorado Convention Center – 2,000 beds), and Loveland (The Ranch Events Complex – 1007 beds). More [here](#).
- The Defense Logistics Agency awarded a contract to Battelle Critical Care Decontamination Systems for 60 N95 decontamination system units for the sanitation and reuse of N95 respirators. Nine systems have been deployed in New York (2), Connecticut (1), Illinois (1), Massachusetts (1), New Jersey (1), Ohio (1), Rhode Island (1), and Washington (1). Systems are en route to California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Georgia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania.

Federal Agency Support: The Trump Administration continues to provide unprecedented resources, guidance, and regulatory flexibilities for State, tribal, and local governments to develop and deploy innovative solutions for addressing the coronavirus.

- **U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)**
 - Through the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provided \$16.02 M to the State of Colorado. More [here](#).
 - As of April 8, HHS has awarded \$24.1 M in CARES Act funding to 20 health centers across Colorado to assist in combatting COVID-19. More [here](#).
 - Medical providers in Colorado were allocated \$360.9 M for the first round of funding from the Provider Relief Fund, with most of that provided Friday, April 10. More [here](#).
 - As of April 17, the State of Colorado has received a total of \$452.3 M from HHS, through the Provider Relief Fund, CDC State and local funding, HRSA health centers, and other HHS grants.
 - On March 24, the State of Colorado submitted a 1135 Medicaid Waiver request to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid. On March 26, CMS [approved](#) Colorado’s waiver request offering new flexibilities to focus resources on combatting the outbreak and providing the best possible care to Medicaid beneficiaries in Colorado.
 - HHS, CMS, and FDA have issued guidance on several topics to help inform decisions made by State and local health officials and private sector partners, including operational guidance for Colorado nursing homes, telemedicine, elective surgery, and insurers. Learn more from CMS [here](#), CDC [here](#), and FDA [here](#).
- **U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)**
 - As a result of the CARES Act, the SBA created four [additional loan/funding programs](#) to assist businesses impacted by COVID-19. As of April 16, the SBA issued over \$7.3 B in loans to over 41,000

Colorado small businesses. Nationally, SBA executed more loans in 14 days of CARES Act implementation than the agency had done in the previous 14 years.

- On March 19, SBA [declared](#) an economic disaster in Colorado at the request of Governor Polis. The disaster declaration creates access to low interest loans for small businesses in across Colorado. SBA continues to process and allocate Disaster Loans to eligible parties in Colorado.

- **U.S. Department of the Treasury**

- Economic Impact Payments authorized by the CARES Act have gone out to 80 million Americans in Colorado and across the country as of Monday, April 13. These payments are being automatically issued to eligible 2019 or 2018 federal tax return filers who received a refund using direct deposit. More [here](#). Social Security recipients who do not file tax returns will automatically receive economic impact payments. More [here](#).
- Treasury is operationalizing stimulus relief to States, Tribes, and eligible units of local government as authorized under the CARES Act's Coronavirus Relief Fund. The State of Colorado, combined with eligible units of local government in the State that apply, will receive over \$2.2 B. More [here](#).
- On Thursday, April 9, the Department of the Treasury and Federal Reserve launched a Main Street Business Lending program and a Municipal Liquidity Facility (MLF) to support the flow of credit to American workers, businesses, states, counties, and cities impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. The MLF will provide up to \$500 B in direct financing to states, counties, and cities across the Nation to help ensure they have the funds necessary to provide essential services to citizens and respond to the coronavirus pandemic. More [here](#). MLF term sheet and guidance can be found [here](#).

- **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**

- HUD made \$34.7 M in COVID-19 funding available to Colorado via CARES Act authorizations. More [here](#).
- On April 1, HUD implemented the CARES Act requirement to provide up to one year of payment forbearance for FHA single-family borrowers in Colorado and across the Nation who are experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19. More [here](#).
- On April 10, HUD implemented the CARES Act requirement to provide FHA multifamily borrowers in Colorado and across the Nation with forbearance for up to three months if they agree not to evict tenants during that period. More [here](#).

- **U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)**

- As a result of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, DOL [expanded paid sick, family, and medical leave](#); the Department has offered flexibilities and emergency administrative capacity expansion grants for unemployment insurance that will help the people of Colorado.
- DOL has awarded over \$10.1 M in Phase I emergency unemployment insurance and \$4.9 M in dislocated worker grants to the State of Colorado.

- **U.S. Department of Education (DoED)**

- On March 20, DoED [suspended](#) Federal student loan payments and waived interest during the Federal emergency, which could help up to 695,400 direct loan borrowers in Colorado.
- DoED has also provided unprecedented reporting flexibilities to Colorado to allow the State to best meet the needs of students and teachers during the emergency. More [here](#) and [here](#).
- On April 9, DoED [announced](#) an allocation under the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund of the CARES Act of nearly \$84 M to support postsecondary education students in Colorado. Colleges and universities are required to utilize the funds to provide cash grants to students for expenses related to disruptions to their educations due to the COVID-19 outbreak, including things like course materials and technology as well as food, housing, health care, and childcare.
- On April 14, DoED [announced](#) an allocation in The Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund, authorized by the CARES Act, of \$44 M for Colorado. This is an extraordinarily flexible "emergency block grant" designed to enable governors to decide how best to meet the needs of students, schools (including charter schools and non-public schools), postsecondary institutions, and other education-related organizations. More [here](#).

- **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)**

- On April 17, Secretary Perdue joined President Trump in announcing the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program ([CFAP](#)) to assist farmers, ranchers, and consumers in response to COVID-19. This \$19 billion relief program will provide \$16 billion in direct support based on actual losses for agricultural producers and \$3 billion in purchases of fresh produce, dairy and meat.
 - USDA has provided numerous flexibilities and resources to the State of Colorado to ensure children and low income Americans have access to food during the national emergency. More [here](#).
 - USDA published a [COVID-19 Federal Rural Resource Guide](#) for rural residents, businesses, and communities to find information about federal funding and partnership opportunities during the coronavirus pandemic.
- **U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)**
 - DOT allocated \$325 M in Federal Transit Administration funds to help the Colorado public transportation systems respond to the challenges of COVID-19. More [here](#).
 - DOT awarded \$366.9 M from the Federal Aviation Administration to help fund continuing operations and lost revenue for airports in Colorado. More [here](#).
- **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)**
 - With the \$19.6 B allocated under the CARES Act, the VA is hiring new staff and procuring additional resources to deal with the evolving needs of the pandemic. This includes expanding free or subsidized telehealth services and waiving a requirement that VA State homes maintain a 90 percent occupancy rate in order to receive federal benefits for times when the Veteran is not in the home. More [here](#).
 - The VA traditionally provides Veterans' healthcare, benefits and memorial affairs. In times of national crisis, such as the current Coronavirus pandemic, VA provides services to the Nation based on requests from states, while being clear that Veterans are first. This is known as VA's [Fourth Mission](#).
 - The U.S. Department of the Treasury and VA [announced](#) that VA benefit recipients will automatically receive \$1,200 in Economic Impact Payments provided for under the CARES Act.
 - On April 3, the VA announced a number of actions to provide Veterans with financial, benefits and claims help as part of the VA's COVID-19 response. The financial relief actions include – until further notice – (i) suspending all actions on Veteran debts under the jurisdiction of the Treasury Department and (ii) suspending collection action or extending repayment terms on preexisting VA debts, as the Veteran prefers. More [here](#).
- **U.S. Department of State (DOS)**
 - The State Department launched an unprecedented global effort to bring home citizens from every corner of the globe and has repatriated thousands of Americans from multiple countries. As of April 15, DOS coordinated the repatriation of nearly 70,000 Americans, including individuals from Colorado. More [here](#).
- **U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)**
 - DOJ allocated \$14.2 M in funds to Colorado through the [Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding \(CESF\) Program](#) to assist the State and local government response to the coronavirus. This includes \$9.1 M in funding to the State and \$5 M to local governments. More [here](#).