

COVID-19 Federal Actions
Chart No. 1

Date	Action	Purpose
03/06/2020	Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act (CPRSAA)	<p>The CPRSAA (H.R. 6074), appropriates \$8.3 billion for various COVID-19-related activities, including \$6.2 billion for the U.S Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). These HHS funds are less for individual testing and treatment (which are addressed in a second federal package, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, discussed below) and more for public health infrastructure—lab capacity, staffing, surveillance (the systematic collection and analysis of health-related data), epidemiology (which, in this context, refers to assessments of near- and long-term COVID-19 health outcomes to guide decision making), medication and vaccination development and purchase, medical supplies, and health provider training. In addition, this new law waives restrictions on billing for telehealth services provided to Medicare beneficiaries.</p> <p>The CDC is receiving \$2.2 billion of the HHS total, of which \$950 million is for grants to and cooperative agreements with states, localities, tribes, and territories. The CDC must allocate at least \$475 million of the \$950 million within 30 days based on states’ and localities’ existing CDC grant amounts. The COVID-19 grants and cooperative agreements will support a variety of public health preparation and response activities, including surveillance, epidemiology, increased lab capacity, infection control, communications, and mitigation efforts. This particular funding cannot be used for research or clinical care.</p> <p>Louisiana is receiving at least \$7.8 Million from the CDC under the CPRSAA.</p>

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03/18/2020	Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA)	<p>The FFCRA (H.R. 6201), includes additional actions and federal funding to address the COVID-19 outbreak including free coronavirus testing, food assistance and medical services budget increases.</p> <p>The FFCRA includes two health-related items (1) a temporary increase to the federal share of cost in Medicaid and (2) provisions to require universal coverage of COVID-19 testing without cost sharing. The FFCRA also includes provisions regarding state administered nutrition programs.</p> <p>The FFCRA also includes the Emergency Paid Sick Leave Act and the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act. These two acts provides for broad changes for employers regarding paid sick leave, paid family and medical leave along with tax credits for the paid leave, and an expansion of unemployment insurance.</p>
03/24/2020	<p>President approves Governor Edward’s request for a major disaster declaration in Louisiana activating the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Stafford Act).</p> <p>Note: on March 13, 2020, the President declared a national public health emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic for the entire country.</p>	<p>With this major disaster declaration, federal emergency aid has been made available for the state of Louisiana to supplement the state, tribes, and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency protective measures, including direct federal assistance under the Public Assistance (PA) program, for all areas affected by COVID-19 pandemic beginning on January 20, 2020, and continuing under the Stafford Act.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State and local governments are eligible to receive reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for costs associated with measures taken before, during, and immediately after the COVID-19 emergency to save lives and to protect public health and safety.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reimbursement is currently 75/25 cost share (i.e., state/local governments must provide 25% matching funds; Federal government covers 75%). • Must comply with Federal procurement rules (2 CFR Part 200). • Funds are administered through GOHSEP Contact GOHSEP at 225.925.7500 or gohsep.la.gov for assistance. <p>Initial funding to Louisiana is \$850 million.</p>
03/27/20	Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act	<p>The CARES Act (H.R. 748) appropriates over \$2 trillion for COVID-19-related activities and related financial relief. Among these activities are:</p> <p>(1) The CARES Act creates the Coronavirus Relief Fund, which allocates \$150 billion to state and local governments to assist in expenses associated with the COVID-19 outbreak.</p> <p>Louisiana will receive \$1.8 Billion in these funds.</p> <p>(2) The health-related provisions of the CARES Act include provisions that provide funding for public health infrastructure, hospitals and other health care providers, and behavioral health services, and make changes to private health insurance coverage for COVID-19 testing and equipment.</p>

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		<p>CDC CARES Act funding for state and local governments includes at least \$8.6 Million for Louisiana</p> <p>(3) The CARES Act also allocates \$3.064 billion to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to help low-income families. HUD funds will be awarded quickly using existing grant formulas and with new guidance to cut red tape so grantees can quickly help their communities.</p> <p>HUD is making a total of \$45,686,694 in grants to Louisiana through its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) programs.</p> <p>(4) The CARES Act enhances unemployment benefits.</p> <p>(5) The CARES Act, through the Federal Reserve (the “Fed”), establishes a new lending facility. The “Municipal Liquidity Facility” (the "MLF") will offer up to \$500 billion in direct lending to state and local governments. Proceeds may be used to help manage the cash flow impact of income tax deferrals resulting from an extension of income tax filing deadlines, potential reductions of tax and other revenues or increases in expenses related to or resulting from the pandemic, and requirements for the payment of principal and interest on outstanding obligations. The MLF will make loans through September 30, 2020, unless it is extended. The Fed will issue further guidelines. The State of Louisiana is qualified to be an “Eligible Issuer” and may receive this loan and then use the proceeds to make similar secondary loans to smaller governmental units within the State that would not otherwise qualify to be Eligible Issuer.</p>