

Community CARES

Coronavirus Relief Fund

The Department of Health & Human Services is pleased to announce three funding opportunities for charitable organizations and licensed providers



Frequently Asked Questions

Stabilization Grant

What is meant by stabilization?

Charitable organizations and care providers across the state have been struggling in the wake of COVID-19. You have experienced business interruption in the form of a loss of income/revenue and/or an increase in expenses due to COVID-19 impacts on your operations and communities. The Stabilization Grant seeks to make your operations more financially stable, as doing so will help you return to, or continue, serving children, families or communities who need you now more than ever.

Why aren't local governments and tribal governments eligible?

Local and tribal governments are not eligible for the Community CARES grants as there are other funds under the CARES Act for which they are eligible.

What information do I need to provide to be considered?

Applicants must provide contact information along with their federal and state tax identification numbers, 501(c)(3) IRS determination letter, NE Secretary of State registration certificate, each as relevant to verify your eligibility, and various other documentation that may be requested by DHHS to demonstrate the negative impact COVID-19 has had on your organization. See the application for requirements.

The AmpliFund portal requires me to name my application. What does this mean?

This is a required field in the application portal, though it is not essential information for your application. You may name your application anything you choose.

The AmpliFund portal requires me to request a specific amount of funding. Isn't the Stabilization Grant amount set by the state?

Yes, awards will be at least \$12,000. This is a required field in the application portal. You may enter \$12,000.

Our facility lost a lot because of the pandemic, and may have to close its doors, i.e. end operations without a lot of financial assistance soon. The \$12,000 available from the Stabilization Grant won't fully bring us back to pre-pandemic operations. How much more can we request?

The size of Stabilization Grant awards depends largely on the number of applications received. DHHS intends to extend the financial assistance to as many eligible entities as possible, while also prioritizing certain populations significantly impacted by the pandemic.

Why do I need to agree to the Terms and Conditions and provide my bank information before being notified whether my application has been approved?

Acknowledging that you have read, understand, and agree to the grant requirements and conditions is a step in the approval process. Providing your bank information in the application will expedite the payment process if you are approved.

I expect there will be questions that cannot be answered in this FAQ. Can I call someone?

Yes, DHHS will accept verbal questions from interested persons during the application period by calling (833) 220-0018 7 am-7 pm CDT. Persons taking questions will answer your questions during the call, or in some cases may need to call you back. Please be prepared to leave your name and contact information.

If I accidentally omit providing information that is needed in the application, will someone let me know so I can add it?

The application process has been streamlined to reduce that possibility to the extent possible. The application has many required fields you must complete before moving to the next step.

Am I guaranteed money if approved?

No. Generally, grant funds will be distributed on a first come, first served basis. Applying as early as possible in the one-week application period (July 29 – July 6) improves your chances. DHHS is committed to prioritizing funds to support underserved communities. Entities located in areas of high poverty and areas disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 will receive priority in the application review process.

My organization is barely hanging on with the increased demand and reduced resources. If approved, how long before the payment arrives?

Due to the emergency relief purpose of this funding, expediency is critical. DHHS is striving for the one-time payments to be made beginning in July.

Will the federal government extend the end date of the Coronavirus Relief Fund? I've heard that rumor.

At this time, we have no way of knowing if the date will be extended. All our plans and documented guidelines reflect the US Treasury Department's communicated program end date of December 30, 2020.

What are the reporting requirements for these grants? Past experience is that it varies a lot between federal subawards.

To demonstrate accountability, reporting will be required if you receive financial assistance. DHHS expects to have the specific reporting requirements at the time of notification.