

# Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund

---

March 19, 2021



# Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund

---

- The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 creates a new section 403(c) of the Social Security Act
- \$1 billion Fund to assist needy families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic
- Eligible Entities:
  - States including the District of Columbia
  - Tribes operating a tribal TANF program
  - All 5 US territories: Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and Northern Mariana Islands

# Allotments to States, Territories, and Tribes

---

The law specifies an allotment formula for the funds. After deducting \$2 million for federal administration, of the remainder:

- 92.5 percent of funds (\$923,150,000) will be distributed to states and the District of Columbia based on a two-part formula:
  - one half based on child population
  - one half based on prior state expenditures on non-recurrent, short term benefits, basic assistance, and emergency assistance
- 7.5 percent of funds (\$74,850,000) are set aside for tribal TANF programs and all five US territories, to be distributed in a manner deemed appropriate by HHS



# Use of Funds

---

- Grantees may use funds only for certain non-recurrent, short term (NRST) benefits
- NRST benefits must meet the regulatory definition and be limited to those that fall into the specific expenditure reporting category mentioned in the legislation
  - designed to deal with a specific crisis situation or episode of need
  - must not be intended to meet on-going needs
  - must not extend beyond four months
  - must only include expenditures such as emergency assistance and diversion payments, emergency housing and short-term homelessness assistance, emergency food aid, short-term utilities payments, burial assistance, clothing allowances, and back-to-school payments
  - may **not** include tax credits, child care, transportation, or short-term education and training

# Use of Funds

---

- Grantees may use funds for administrative costs (15% cap for states and territories)
- Grantees must use funds to supplement, and not supplant, other federal, state, tribal, territorial, or local funds.

# Timeline for Requesting and Expending Funds

---

## Expenditure Commitment Requirement


- States have 45 days from enactment, which is **April 25, 2021**, to request funds up to their maximum allotment
- Tribes and territories have 90 days from enactment, which is **June 9, 2021**, to request funds up to their maximum allotment
- Allotment request form will be distributed soon

## Timeline for Expending Funds

- Grantees shall expend initial allotments between April 1, 2021 and September 30, 2022
- HHS will reallocate any unused funds, to be expended within 12 months of receipt

# Reporting

Expenditure data will be reported quarterly on a modified ACF-196R form

 Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) ACF - 196R Financial Report Part I: Expenditure Data					
State	Grant Year	Fiscal Year	Report Quarter Ending	Next Quarter Ending	Report is Submitted as: <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Revised  <input type="checkbox"/> Final
	Federal Funds	State Funds	Federal Funds	Federal Funds	
	State Family Assistance Grant		Contingency Funds Award Reconciliation Federal Share of FMAP Rate of: _____ X	Pandemic Emergency Funds (Authorized by ARPA)	
	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)
1. Awarded				\$	
2. Transferred to CDF Discretionary	\$				
3. Transferred to SSBG	\$				
4. Adjusted Award					
5. Carryover					
Expenditure Categories	FEDERAL EXPENDITURES	STATE MOE EXPENDITURES IN TANF	MOE EXPENDITURES SEPARATE STATE	EXPENDITURES WITH CONTINGENCY FUNDS	EXPENDITURES WITH PANDEMIC EMERGENCY FUNDS
6. Basic Assistance					
6.a. Basic Assistance (excluding Relative Foster Care Maintenance Payments and Adoption and Guardianship	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
6.b. Relative Foster Care Maintenance Payments and Adoption and Guardianship Subsidies	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
7. Assistance Authorized Solely Under Prior Law					
7.a. Foster Care Payments	\$			\$	\$
7.b. Juvenile Justice Payments	\$			\$	\$
7.c. Emergency Assistance Authorized Solely Under Prior Law	\$			\$	\$
8. Non-Assistance Authorized Solely Under Prior Law					
8.a. Child Welfare or Foster Care Services	\$			\$	\$
8.b. Juvenile Justice Services	\$			\$	\$
8.c. Emergency Services Authorized Solely Under Prior Law	\$			\$	\$
9. Work, Education, and Training Activities					
9.a. Subsidized Employment	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
9.b. Education and Training	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
9.c. Additional Work Activities	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
10. Work Supports					
11. Early Care and Education					
11.a. Child Care (Assistance and Non-Assistance)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
11.b. Pre-Kindergarten/Head Start	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
12. Financial Education and Asset Development	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
13. Refundable Earned Income Tax Credit	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
14. Non-EITC Refundable State Tax Credit	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
15. Non-Refundable Short Term Benefits	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
16. Supportive Services	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
17. Services for Children and Youth	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

# Questions and Ongoing Guidance

---

- Questions???
- Further guidance and allotment request form to follow
- Direct additional questions to your regional program manager
- We want to help you use these funds to assist needy families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic

