

The Trump Administration Is Supporting the People of Minnesota

“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 Minnesota and the people of Minnesota to combat Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). The information is bolstered by hundreds of additional actions by the Federal government to help the people of Minnesota. Implementation of the CARES Act is ongoing which will also bring additional support to Minnesota. President Donald J. Trump and Vice President Mike Pence have appreciated the strong State-Federal partnership with Governor Tim Walz.

Supportive Actions by President Donald J. Trump:

- **President Trump Declares a National Emergency:** On March 13, President Trump **declared** a national emergency concerning COVID-19. The emergency declaration authorized direct Federal assistance, temporary facilities, commodities, equipment, and emergency operations costs for all states, including Minnesota, pursuant to section 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.
- **Minnesota’s Major Disaster Declaration:** On April 5, Governor Tim Walz submitted a major disaster declaration request to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). On April 7, President Trump **approved** the request declaring a major disaster in the State of Minnesota and ordered Federal assistance to supplement State, local and tribal 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 Minnesota allocation information is found below.

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 Minnesota. Most notably these include personal protective equipment (PPE), ventilators, and the expedition of 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 Minnesota, in scaling testing. Learn more from the CDC **here** and FDA **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. The below table shows recently delivered supplies to Minnesota entities, including Project Air Bridge efforts to bolster private sector supply chains.

PPE	April 1 - 7	April 8 - 14	Total
N-95 Masks	42,900	235,600	278,500
Surgical & Procedural Masks	751,700	566,400	1,318,100
Eye & Face Shields	9,200	7,400	16,600
Isolation & Surgical Gowns	285,100	169,500	454,600
Surgical & Exam Gloves	20,717,700	13,380,100	34,097,800

- In addition to the Project Air Bridge efforts, as of April 14, FEMA delivered 162,000 N-95 masks, 519,000 surgical masks, 63,000 medical gowns, 1,900 coveralls, 77,000 face shields, and 320,000 gloves from the Strategic National Stockpile to Minnesota.
- As of April 15, FEMA obligated \$342 K for Minnesota to respond to COVID-19 and will continue to obligate additional dollars per validated State requests.

Federal Agency Support: The Trump Administration continues to provide unprecedented resources, guidance, and regulatory flexibilities for State, local and tribal governments to develop and deploy innovative solutions for addressing COVID-19.

- **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 \$13.1 M to the State of Minnesota. More [here](#).
 - As of April 20, HHS has awarded \$12.3 M in CARES Act funding to 16 health centers across Minnesota to assist in combatting COVID-19. More [here](#).
 - Medical providers in Minnesota were allocated \$472.2 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 18, the State of Minnesota had received a total of \$83.9 M from HHS, through the Provider Relief Fund, CDC State and local funding, HRSA health centers, and other HHS grants.
 - On March 23, the State of Minnesota submitted a 1135 Medicaid Waiver request to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS). On March 27, CMS [approved](#) Minnesota’s waiver request offering new flexibilities to focus resources on combatting the outbreak and providing the best possible care to Medicaid beneficiaries in Minnesota.
 - 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 Minnesota 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 \$9 B in loans to over 46,000 Minnesota 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 20, SBA [declared](#) an economic disaster in Minnesota at the request of Governor Walz. The disaster declaration creates access to low interest loans for small businesses in across Minnesota. SBA continues to process and allocate Disaster Loans to eligible parties in Minnesota.
- **U.S. Department of the Treasury**
 - Economic Impact Payments authorized by the CARES Act have gone out to 80 million Americans in Minnesota 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 Minnesota, combined with

eligible units of local government in the State that apply, will receive over \$2.1 B. Governmental entities in the State of Minnesota have already received \$1.1 B of this allocation. 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 COVID-19 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 COVID-19 pandemic. More [here](#). MLF term sheet and guidance can be found [here](#).

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

- HUD made \$53.4 M in COVID-19 funding available to Minnesota 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 Minnesota 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 Minnesota 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 Minnesota.
- DOL has awarded over \$9.8 M in emergency unemployment insurance grants to Minnesota.

- **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 731,000 direct loan borrowers in Minnesota.
- DoED has also provided unprecedented reporting flexibilities to Minnesota 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 \$91.9 M to support postsecondary education students in Minnesota. 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 Fund (GEERF), authorized by the CARES Act, of \$43 M for Minnesota. 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 B relief program will provide \$16 B in direct support based on actual losses for agricultural producers and \$3 B in purchases of fresh produce, dairy and meat, including producers in Minnesota.
- USDA has provided numerous flexibilities and resources to the State of Minnesota 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 across Minnesota to find information about federal funding and partnership opportunities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)**

- DOT allocated \$309.7 M in Federal Transit Administration funds to help the Minnesota public transportation systems respond to the challenges of COVID-19. More [here](#).

- DOT awarded \$158.3 M from the Federal Aviation Administration to help fund continuing operations and lost revenue for airports in Minnesota. 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 COVID-19 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, including those in Minnesota, 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, including those in Minnesota, 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 Minnesota. More [here](#).
- **U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)**
 - DOJ allocated \$11.7 M in funds to Minnesota through the [Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding \(CESF\) Program](#) to assist the State and local government response to COVID-19. This includes \$8.1 M in funding to the State and \$3.6 M to local governments. More [here](#).