



COVID-19 ECONOMIC RESOURCES

Congressman Earl Blumenauer ■ Third District of Oregon ■ blumenauer.house.gov

On March 27, Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, to immediately bolster our health care response, aid individuals faced with unemployment and financial insecurity, and provide relief to businesses who protect their employees. This document provides a summary of key provision of the new law.

Additionally, to help Oregonians navigate the sweeping changes and newly-available resources, I have created a “COVID-19 economic stabilization resources” page on my website that I will update as we get more information: <https://blumenauer.house.gov/covid-19-economic-stabilization-resources>.

HELP FOR INDIVIDUALS

Expanded and Improved Unemployment Insurance

- A \$600 increase for every American, which equates to 100 percent of wages for the average American without a paycheck struggling through the crisis.
- An additional 13 weeks of federally-funded unemployment insurance benefits are immediately be made available.
- A waiving of waiting periods and expanded access to allow for part-time, self-employed, and gig economy workers.

Direct Payments to Oregonians

- Direct payments of \$1,200 for each adult individual (\$2,400 for joint filers), with an additional \$500 for each child under age 17, available for individuals making up to \$75,000 (individual) and \$150,000 (married), with the value begins decreasing and then phases out completely for those making over the full payment income cap.

Student Loan Relief

- Student loan payments delayed for 6 months for borrowers with federally-held loans



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HELP FOR OUR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

- New funding for the hospitals, community health centers, and health care providers most affected by COVID-19 that can be used to purchase personal protective equipment (PPE) desperately needed by our health care workers, including, ventilators, n95 masks, gowns, gloves, etc.
- Additional resources for the Department of Veterans Affairs to support increased demand for health care services at VA facilities and through telehealth, including the purchase of medical equipment and supplies, testing kits, and personal protective equipment.

HELP FOR OREGON

- \$150 billion to assist states, tribes, and local governments that must pay for new expenses related to COVID-19 response, including approximately \$1.635 billion for Oregon.

HELP FOR SMALL BUSINESSES AND THEIR EMPLOYEES

- \$350 billion in loan forgiveness grants to small businesses and non-profits to maintain existing workforce and help pay for other expenses like rent, mortgage, and utilities.
- \$10 billion for SBA emergency grants of up to \$10,000 to provide immediate relief for small business operating costs.
- \$17 billion for SBA to cover 6 months of payments for small businesses with existing SBA loans.



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OTHER NEEDED ASSISTANCE

- \$25 billion to transit agencies, which have all seen a drastic drop in revenues as social distancing has been implemented, to protect the jobs of the employees of the transit agencies, funding their paychecks during this public health emergency.
- \$2 billion for the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Emergency Solution Grants to address the impact of the coronavirus among individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and to support additional homeless assistance, prevention, and eviction prevention assistance.
- \$3.5 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant program to support child care and early education.
- \$900 million for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to help low-income families pay their heating and cooling bills.
- \$750 million for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Coronavirus State, Local and Tribal Grants to help agencies cope with the public health emergency.
- \$850 million to support state and local law enforcement agencies, which can be used to obtain the personal protective equipment and other medical items they may need during this public health emergency.
- \$400 million for Election Assistance Grants for states to help prepare for the 2020 elections. Coronavirus is already resulting in the postponement of some primaries and this funding can help states make voting safer for individuals. Funding can be used to increase the ability to vote by mail and expand early voting, among other things.