
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 594 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY J. WARD, BARTOLOTTA, COLLETT, KANE, PHILLIPS-HILL,
L. WILLIAMS, KEARNEY AND AUMENT, APRIL 21, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT,
APRIL 21, 2021

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343, No.176), entitled
2 "An act relating to the finances of the State government;
3 providing for cancer control, prevention and research, for
4 ambulatory surgical center data collection, for the Joint
5 Underwriting Association, for entertainment business
6 financial management firms, for private dam financial
7 assurance and for reinstatement of item vetoes; providing for
8 the settlement, assessment, collection, and lien of taxes,
9 bonus, and all other accounts due the Commonwealth, the
10 collection and recovery of fees and other money or property
11 due or belonging to the Commonwealth, or any agency thereof,
12 including escheated property and the proceeds of its sale,
13 the custody and disbursement or other disposition of funds
14 and securities belonging to or in the possession of the
15 Commonwealth, and the settlement of claims against the
16 Commonwealth, the resettlement of accounts and appeals to the
17 courts, refunds of moneys erroneously paid to the
18 Commonwealth, auditing the accounts of the Commonwealth and
19 all agencies thereof, of all public officers collecting
20 moneys payable to the Commonwealth, or any agency thereof,
21 and all receipts of appropriations from the Commonwealth,
22 authorizing the Commonwealth to issue tax anticipation notes
23 to defray current expenses, implementing the provisions of
24 section 7(a) of Article VIII of the Constitution of
25 Pennsylvania authorizing and restricting the incurring of
26 certain debt and imposing penalties; affecting every
27 department, board, commission, and officer of the State
28 government, every political subdivision of the State, and
29 certain officers of such subdivisions, every person,
30 association, and corporation required to pay, assess, or
31 collect taxes, or to make returns or reports under the laws
32 imposing taxes for State purposes, or to pay license fees or
33 other moneys to the Commonwealth, or any agency thereof,

1 every State depository and every debtor or creditor of the
2 Commonwealth," in emergency COVID-19 response, providing for
3 appropriations from the account and for Nonprofit Economic
4 Emergency Delivery System Grants Program.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Article 1-C of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.343,
8 No.176), known as The Fiscal Code, is amended by adding a
9 subarticle to read:

10 SUBARTICLE B.1

11 APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE ACCOUNT

12 Section 115-C. Definitions.

13 The following words and phrases when used in this subarticle
14 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
15 context clearly indicates otherwise:

16 "Current fiscal year." The fiscal year beginning July 1,
17 2020, and ending June 30, 2021.

18 Section 116-C. Construction with the General Appropriation Act
19 of 2020.

20 All appropriations contained in this subarticle from the
21 General Fund shall be in addition to any appropriation under the
22 act of May 29, 2020 (P.L. , No.1A), known as the General
23 Appropriation Act of 2020, and the act of May 29, 2020 (P.L. ,
24 No.2A), known as the COVID-19 Emergency Supplement to the
25 General Appropriation Act of 2019.

26 Section 117-C. Appropriations from the account.

27 To the Department of Community and Economic Development for
28 the current fiscal year, \$200,000,000 of Federal amounts is
29 appropriated from the COVID-19 Response Restricted Account for
30 COVID Relief - Nonprofit Economic Emergency Delivery System
31 Grants Program under section 135-C.

32 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

1 Section 135-C. Nonprofit Economic Emergency Delivery System
2 Grants Program.

3 (a) Use of funds.--From money appropriated to the department
4 for COVID Relief - Nonprofit Economic Emergency Delivery System
5 Grants Program, \$200,000,000 shall be transferred to the
6 authority and shall be used to make grants under this section.

7 (b) Establishment of program.--The authority shall establish
8 the program as a Statewide competitive grant program.

9 (c) Purpose of program.--The program shall receive
10 applications and award grants to eligible community-based
11 nonprofit organizations in accordance with this section.

12 (d) Application.--The authority shall develop an application
13 for eligible community-based nonprofit organizations to apply
14 for grants under this section within 30 days of the effective
15 date of this section. The application shall be made available
16 and posted on the authority's publicly accessible Internet
17 website and shall be in a form that can be completed
18 electronically or through the United States mail.

19 (e) Deadline.--No application for a grant under this section
20 may be submitted 30 days after the date the authority makes the
21 application available and posted on the authority's publicly
22 accessible Internet website.

23 (f) Guidelines.--The authority shall establish guidelines
24 that are consistent with the provisions of this section within
25 30 days of the effective date of this section. The guidelines
26 shall be:

27 (1) Submitted to the Legislative Reference Bureau for
28 publication as a notice in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

29 (2) Posted on the authority's publicly accessible
30 Internet website.

1 (g) Program requirements.--

2 (1) An eligible community-based nonprofit organization
3 must be one of the following categories:

4 (i) Child-care centers, early childhood learning
5 centers and after-school programs.

6 (ii) Community-based, federally qualified health
7 centers and rural health clinics.

8 (iii) Substance abuse treatment facilities.

9 (iv) Domestic violence centers.

10 (v) Organizations operating transportation and food
11 distribution systems.

12 (vi) Employment and workforce training and
13 educational centers.

14 (vii) Alternative learning and career training
15 institutions.

16 (viii) Organizations serving intellectual or
17 developmental disabilities.

18 (ix) Early intervention service providers.

19 (x) Mental health and substance abuse counseling.

20 (xi) Food banks, food pantries and soup kitchens.

21 (2) An eligible community-based nonprofit organization
22 must provide one or more of the following services:

23 (i) Child care.

24 (ii) Education and safety net services for
25 vulnerable youth, including child welfare, youth
26 development programs and crisis intervention.

27 (iii) Homelessness and housing insecurity assistance
28 services, including mortgage and rent relief, emergency
29 quarantine housing, transitional housing, rapid rehousing
30 and warming shelters.

1 (iv) Mental health treatment programs and substance
2 abuse counseling services.

3 (v) Facility and home-based or community-based
4 services for individuals with intellectual or
5 developmental disabilities.

6 (vi) Early intervention services.

7 (vii) Medical treatment for chronic conditions.

8 (viii) Procurement and distribution of personal
9 protective equipment and testing.

10 (ix) Employment readiness, including career
11 readiness, placement and retraining programs.

12 (x) Procurement, distribution or transportation of
13 food.

14 (3) An eligible community-based nonprofit organization
15 that has already received public funding during the COVID-19
16 pandemic must explain in its application why additional
17 funding is necessary above and beyond the public funding
18 already received.

19 (h) Grant limits.--The authority may award a grant to an
20 eligible community-based nonprofit organization not to exceed
21 \$500,000.

22 (i) Award of grants.--The authority shall award grants and
23 make grant payments under this section no later than two months
24 after the deadline for submitting the grant application or 30
25 days prior to any Federal or State imposed deadline established
26 for the use of such funds, whichever is sooner.

27 (j) Expiration.--This section shall expire after the money
28 transferred to the authority under subsection (a) has been
29 exhausted. The authority shall transmit notice of the date that
30 the money is exhausted to the Legislative Reference Bureau for

1 publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

2 (k) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following
3 words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this
4 subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

5 "Authority. " The Commonwealth Financing Authority.

6 "Eligible community-based nonprofit organization." A tax-
7 exempt 501(c)(3) institution that meets the criteria for grants
8 under subsection (g) and that was subject to financial strain
9 due to closure, increased service delivery or a loss of revenue
10 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the proclamation of
11 disaster emergency issued by the Governor on March 6, 2020,
12 published at 50 Pa.B. 1644 (March 21, 2020), and any renewal of
13 the state of disaster emergency.

14 "Program." The Nonprofit Economic Emergency Delivery System
15 (NEEDS) Grants Program established under this section.

16 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.