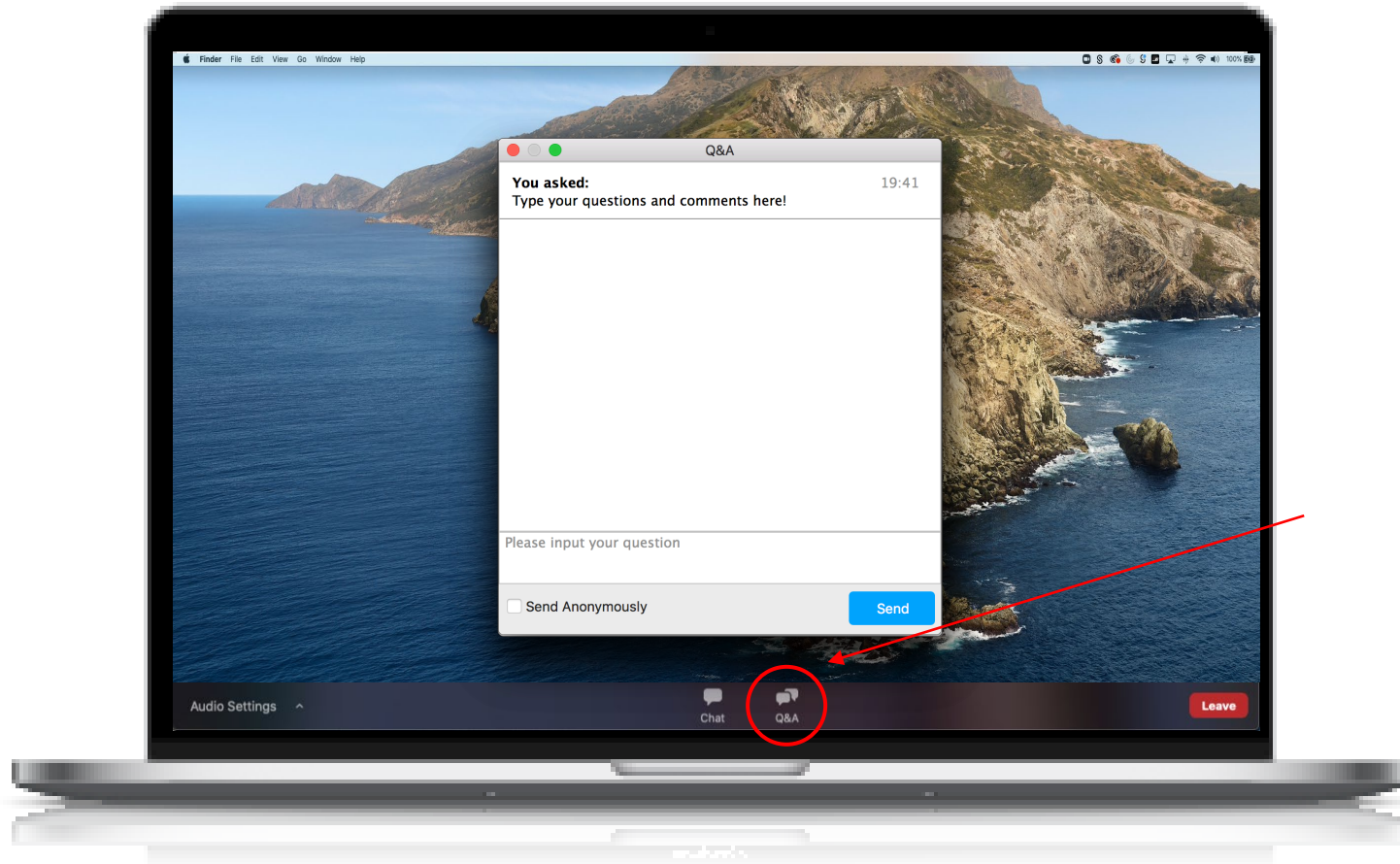




Department of
**Finance &
Administration**

Local Government Training Program

Eligibility: Public Health Expenses



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Objectives

- Public Health Response Overview
- Examples of Eligible Expenses
- Reporting Requirements



Public Health Expenses Overview

Public Health Response: Overview

- “to respond to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)...”
- Eligibility Test:
 1. **Identify a need or negative impact** of the COVID-19 pandemic; and
 2. **Identify how** the program, service, or other intervention **addresses the identified need or impact.**

Public Health Response: Overview

- Public Health Expenditures Identified by Treasury:
 - 1. COVID-19 Mitigation & Containment:**
 - Services and programs that are needed to contain COVID-19
 - 2. Medical Expenses:**
 - Care and services to address public health needs, risks presented by new variants and long-term effects of the virus.
 - 3. Behavioral Health:**
 - New or enhanced government services to meet mental health, substance use, and other behavioral needs.
 - 4. Public Health & Safety Staff:**
 - Human resources necessary to respond to the negative public health impacts of the pandemic.

Public Health Response: Overview

- Providing care and services to respond to new **COVID-19 variants**, long-term effects, and overall impact on the public's health.
- Enhancement of **healthcare capacity**, including healthcare facilities.
- Enhancement of public health **data systems**.
- **Supporting vulnerable populations** to access medical or public health services.
- **Enforcement** of public health orders.
- **Ventilation** improvements in key settings such as healthcare facilities.
- Support **congregate living facilities**
- Enhanced **services for child-welfare and foster families**
- **Behavioral healthcare programs**



Public Health:
Examples of Eligible
Expenses

Public Health: Eligible Expenses

- **EVENT ORGANIZATION FOR A TEMPORARY COVID-19 VACCINATION CENTER**
 - **Description:** This program is to organize 10 vaccination events for the general public in alignment with President Biden’s national plan to respond to COVID-19. These events will be advertised and will serve to provide a safe and convenient space for walk-up COVID-19 vaccinations. Qualified healthcare staff will be hired and equipped with all the necessary equipment and resources to administer vaccines.
 - **Documentation** Invoice, Proof of payment, Proof of delivery (if applicable), Payroll documentation (if applicable), Detailed narrative describing the number of people served and how the expenses submitted were necessary as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency
 - **Expenditure Category:** 1.1 Covid-19 Vaccination
 - **Programmatic Reporting Data:** N/A
 - **Project Demographic Distribution Reporting Required:** Recipient must report on whether projects are primarily serving disadvantaged communities.

Public Health: Eligible Expenses

- **RETAIL PHARMACY COVID-19 TESTING**

- **Description:** In order to ensure the most convenient access to free testing, the State will expand the number of retail pharmacy sites throughout the State where anyone can get tested for free through the HHS free testing program by 25%. Making testing free and convenient is in alignment with President Biden's national plan to respond to COVID-19. This program will allocate funding to reimburse providers for COVID-19 testing of people without health insurance.
- **Documentation** Invoice, Proof of payment, Proof of delivery (if applicable), Payroll documentation (if applicable), Detailed narrative describing the number of people served and how the expenses submitted were necessary as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency
- **Expenditure Category:** 1.2 Covid-19 Testing
- **Programmatic Reporting Data:** N/A
- **Project Demographic Distribution Reporting Required:** Recipient must report on whether projects are primarily serving disadvantaged communities.

Public Health: Eligible Expenses

- **SMALL BUSINESS CONTACT TRACING**

- **Description:** All expenses related to testing and tracing COVID-19 infections including rapid result COVID-19 tests and resources for communication to inform all employees and patrons that they may be exposed, and sick time for employees to receive testing and to self-quarantine. Additionally, this program will fund the training, protective equipment, and data support systems necessary for COVID contact tracing efforts.
- **Documentation:** Invoice, Proof of payment, Proof of delivery (if applicable), Payroll documents (if applicable), Detailed narrative describing the number of people served and how the expenses submitted were necessary as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency
- **Expenditure Category:** 1.3 Contact Tracing; 1.2 COVID-19 Testing—need to split into two separate projects so that each project only touches one expense category
- **Programmatic Reporting Data:** N/A

Public Health: Eligible Expenses

- **AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS FOR A NURSING HOME/LONG TERM CARE FACILITY**
 - **Description:** This program would provide funding to nursing home and long term care facilities for the elderly whom are at heightened risk to suffer from COVID-19. Among the eligible expenses would be inspection, testing, and maintenance of current ventilation systems, the purchase portable air filtration units and air filters, and servicing or upgrading HVAC systems.
 - **Documentation:** Invoice, Proof of payment, Proof of delivery (if applicable), Payroll documents (if applicable), Detailed narrative describing the number of people served and how the expenses submitted were necessary as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency .
 - **Expenditure Category:** 1.4 Prevention in Congregate Settings
 - **Programmatic Reporting Data:** N/A
 - **Use of Evidence Reporting Required:** Recipient must identify the total funds that are allocated to evidence-based interventions.

Public Health: Eligible Expenses

- **PPE AND SANITIZATION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

- **Description:** This program would provide funding for the purchase of PPE and supplies necessary to clean and disinfect schools to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID 19. These funds will make face masks available to all public school employees and students. A new disposable face mask is to be made available at the start of every school day. Additionally, these funds can be used to train janitorial staff on the best ways to sanitize schools and to educate teachers and students on the proper use of personal protective equipment.
- **Documentation:** Invoice, Proof of payment, Proof of delivery (if applicable), Payroll documentation (if applicable), Detailed narrative describing how the expenses submitted were necessary as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency
- **Expenditure Category:** 1.5 Personal Protective Equipment
- **Programmatic Reporting Data:** N/A

Public Health: Eligible Expenses

- **ALTERNATIVE CARE SITES**

- **Description:** These funds are to be used to establish alternative care sites (ACS) for cases when traditional healthcare environments are overwhelmed with COVID patients. These sites would provide patients with COVID-19 with medical care for the duration of their isolation period. Examples of ACS non-traditional environments include converted hotels or mobile field medical units.
- **Documentation:** Invoice, Proof of payment, Proof of delivery (if applicable), Payroll documents (if applicable), Detailed narrative describing the number of people served and how the expenses submitted were necessary as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- **Expenditure Category:** 1.6 Medical Expenses
- **Programmatic Reporting Data:** N/A

Public Health: Eligible Expenses

- **RESIDENTIAL DETOXIFICATION SERVICES**

- **Description:** Increased stress from COVID and the inability to access support groups during quarantine exacerbated many adults' existing substance abuse issues. This program funds detoxification services. Detoxification is a medical service that helps people withdraw from addictive substances in a medically safe and effective manner. Detoxification services include counseling, education, case management and referrals to treatment and other community services. Outreach, screening, assessment and referral services help people get substance use services, case management and peer support.
- **Documentation:** Invoice, Proof of payment, Proof of delivery (if applicable), Payroll documents (if applicable), Detailed narrative describing the number of people served and how the expenses submitted were necessary as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- **Expenditure Category:** 1.11 Substance Use Services
- **Programmatic Reporting Data:** N/A
- **Use of Evidence Reporting Required:** Recipient must identify the total funds that are allocated to evidence-based interventions.

Public Health: Eligible Expenses

- **MENTAL HEALTH CALL CENTER**

- **Description:** The purpose of these funds is to provide immediate crisis counseling mental health services for people who are experiencing emotional distress related to COVID-19 by way of a crisis call center staffed by trained counselors providing. These will counselors provide: Crisis counseling for people in emotional distress related to any natural or human-caused disaster; Information on how to recognize distress and its effects on individuals and families; Tips for healthy coping; Referrals to local crisis call centers for additional follow-up care and support.
- **Documentation:** Invoice, Proof of payment, Proof of delivery (if applicable), Payroll documents (if applicable), Detailed narrative describing the number of people served and how the expenses submitted were necessary as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- **Expenditure Category:** 1.10 Mental Health Services
- **Programmatic Reporting Data:** N/A
- **Use of Evidence Reporting Required:** Recipient must identify the total funds that are allocated to evidence-based interventions.

Public Health: Eligible Expenses

- **PAYROLL COSTS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND OTHER PUBLIC SECTOR STAFF**

- **Description:** Under ARPA, funds can be used for payroll and certain benefits costs of “public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees” but only “to the extent that their services are devoted to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency.” The Treasury has further indicated that a recipient “may consider public health and safety employees to be entirely devoted to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency, and therefore fully covered, if the employee, or his or her operating unit or division, is primarily dedicated to responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency.” Treasury’s guidance specifically permits recipients to use ARPA funds to cover pension costs of employees who qualify to have their payrolls costs covered by ARPA. The ability to use ARPA funds on ordinary pension costs under certain circumstances is a welcome clarification that will be beneficial to municipalities.
- **Documentation:** Invoice/ Receipt supporting expenses claimed, Shipping/ Receiving documents showing date of receipt if applicable, check copy or other proof of payment, Detailed narrative describing expenses submitted were necessary as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- **Expenditure Category:** 1.9 Payroll costs for Public Health, Safety and other public sector staff responding to COVID-19.
- **Programmatic Reporting Data:** Number of government FTEs responding to COVID-19 supported under this authority.



Reporting Requirements

Public Health: Reporting Requirements Reminders

- Expenses are reported on a project-by-project basis.
- Projects must align to one expenditure category ONLY.
- Required reporting for each project include:
 - Project information
 - Obligation and expenditure amounts
 - Subaward types and amounts
 - Programmatic data (if applicable)
 - Project demographic distribution (if applicable)

Public Health: Reporting Requirements

- **Level of Detail Required:**

- **Project Description:**

- Must describe the project in sufficient detail to provide understanding of the major activities that will occur.
 - Required to be between 50-200 words.
 - Projects should include only closely related activities directed towards a common purpose.

Public Health: Reporting Requirements

- **Level of Detail Required:**
 - **Project Demographic Description:**
 - Recipients must report whether certain types of projects are targeted to economically disadvantaged communities, as defined by HUD's Qualified Census Tract.
 - Recipients will be asked to identify whether or not the project is serving an economically disadvantaged community.

Public Health: Reporting Requirements

- **Level of Detail Required:**
 - **Project Demographic Description: (cont'd)**
 - To minimize the administrative burden on recipients while ensuring that this important aspect of program performance is tracked, recipients may assume that the funds for a project count as being targeted towards economically disadvantaged communities if the project funds are spent on:
 - A program or service is provided at a physical location in a Qualified Census Tract (for multi-site projects, if a majority of sites are within Qualified Census Tracts);
 - A program or service where the primary intended beneficiaries live within a Qualified Census Tract;
 - A program or service for which the eligibility criteria are such that the primary intended beneficiaries earn less than 60 percent of the median income for the relevant jurisdiction (e.g., State, county, metropolitan area, or other jurisdiction); or
 - A program or service for which the eligibility criteria are such that over 25 percent of intended beneficiaries are below the federal poverty line.

Public Health Expenditure Categories

1.1 COVID-19 Vaccination[^]

1.2 COVID-19 Testing[^]

1.3 COVID-19 Contact Tracing

1.4 Prevention in Congregate Settings *

1.5 Personal Protective Equipment

1.6 Medical Expenses

1.7 Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency

1.8 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses

1.9 Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19

1.10 Mental Health Services*

1.11 Substance Use Services*

1.12 Other Public Health Expenses

*Denotes areas where recipients must identify the amount of the total funds that are allocated to evidence-based interventions

[^]Denotes areas where recipients must report on whether projects are primarily serving disadvantaged communities

Public Health: Programmatic Data

- Additional programmatic data required for expenditure category 1.9 Payroll for Public Health and Safety Employees:
 - Number of government FTES responding to COVID-19 supported under this authority

Questions?

Please contact TNARPA.Support@hornellp.com.