



STATE OF TEXAS

May 11, 2020

Dear County and City Leaders:

Thank you for your continued work to combat the coronavirus and address the ancillary effects of that fight in your communities. These are tremendously difficult times for all Texans. Please know that the elected representatives in your state government are working continuously to protect the health and safety of this state, mitigate the economic ramifications of COVID-19, and build a path towards recovery.

As you are keenly aware, Congress passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to provide much needed resources to help governments, businesses, and individuals respond to the current pandemic. President Trump signed the CARES Act into law and his administration continues to provide guidance on the numerous avenues of federal funding the legislation provides. Within the CARES Act, the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) was created to provide financial resources to state and local governments. As it relates to the CRF, Texas has received approximately \$11.24 billion from the United States Department of Treasury (Treasury) for direct coronavirus related expenses based on the funding formula provided in the CARES Act.

Consistent with the CARES Act, 45 percent of the total \$11.24 billion state allocation—approximately \$5.06 billion—will be made available to local governments. Of that \$5.06 billion, Treasury has directly sent just over \$3.2 billion to the six cities and 12 counties in Texas with a population greater than 500,000. That leaves approximately \$1.85 billion that the state can make available to the cities and counties in the rest of the state.

Counties below 500,000 population and the Cities within them

The 242 counties, and each of the cities within those counties, that did not receive direct allocations from Treasury are eligible to apply to the state for a per capita allocation from the \$1.85 billion. Cities with a population less than 500,000 located in counties with a population exceeding 500,000 are addressed later in this letter. County allocations will be calculated based on the population in the unincorporated areas of the county. We encourage cities and counties to work together to address expenses that cross jurisdictional lines.

May 18, 2020
(Exhibit #15)

The first allocation from the \$1.85 billion in local funds will be made available to these cities and counties on a \$55 per capita allotment. Twenty percent of each jurisdiction's allocation will be available immediately upon certification to the State that grant terms will be followed. Importantly, Treasury has provided strict guidelines for local governments to receive funds. Treasury affirmed that the State can transfer funds to local governments "provided that the transfer qualifies as a necessary expenditure incurred due to the public health emergency and meets the other criteria of section 601(d) of the Social Security Act. Such funds would be subject to recoupment by the Treasury Department if they have not been used in a manner consistent with section 601(d) of the Social Security Act." Treasury has also instructed that "funds may not be used to fill shortfalls in government revenue to cover expenditures that would not otherwise qualify as an eligible expenditure." Also, all costs must be incurred before December 30, 2020, to qualify for funding.

Once jurisdictions provide documentation on the initial funding, they will then be able to access the remainder of their allocation on a reimbursement basis. The unallocated funds will be reserved for local expenses as future outbreaks and the long-term impacts of COVID-19 are better known.

Cities below 500,000 population within Counties exceeding 500,000 population

The direct Treasury disbursements to the 12 counties were calculated based on their population, less the total population inside cities larger than 500,000 that reside within those counties. In the same way that cities and counties across the rest of the state will be provided funding on a per capita basis, and are encouraged to work together to address expenses that cross jurisdictional lines, the 12 counties that received direct funding from Treasury based on the total number of residents in their counties (excluding those in the six largest cities) are expected to use their funds to address expenses incurred by incorporated areas with a population less than 500,000 that are located in those counties as well as the needs of residents in unincorporated areas of those counties. Each of the incorporated areas located in a county that received a direct allocation from Treasury should seek funding for COVID-19 expenses directly from that county.

How to Apply

The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) will administer the reimbursement process for the CRF. TDEM is partnering with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension to provide individual assistance to each of you throughout the process, and that work is already underway. All of the information to apply for the CRF, as well as guidance about eligible uses, can be found at the following website: www.tdem.texas.gov/crf. Questions can also be emailed to TDEM at CRF@tdem.texas.gov.

County and City Leaders

May 11, 2020

Page 3

Thank you again for your work on behalf of your residents. All Texans expect government to work in a unified fashion to address this unprecedented situation, and we will continue to do so. We understand there will be numerous questions, and we are committed to working through them with you. In the meantime, please refer to the TDEM website for guidance.

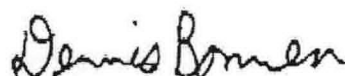
Sincerely,



Governor Greg Abbott



Lt. Governor Dan Patrick



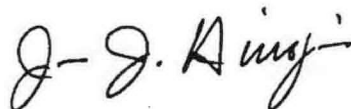
Speaker Dennis Bonnen



Senator Jane Nelson
Chair, Senate Finance Committee



Representative Giovanni Capriglione
Chair, House Appropriations Committee



Senator Juan Chuy Hinojosa
Vice-Chair, Senate Finance Committee



Representative Oscar Longoria
Vice-Chair, House Appropriations Committee

Place	Jan 2019 Population Est.	Relative Population	\$55 Per Capita	20% of Allocation
Sweeny	4,182	4,182	\$230,010	\$46,002
West Columbia	4,269	4,269	\$234,795	\$46,959
	260,608			
Brazos County	229,211	26,134	\$1,437,370	\$287,474
Bryan	85,224	85,224	\$4,687,320	\$937,464
College Station	116,998	116,998	\$6,434,890	\$1,286,978
Kurten	371	371	\$20,405	\$4,081
Millican	240	240	\$13,200	\$2,640
Wixon Valley	244	244	\$13,420	\$2,684
	203,077			
Brewster County	9,203	3,238	\$178,090	\$35,618
Alpine	5,965	5,965	\$328,075	\$65,615
	5,965			
Briscoe County	1,546	476	\$26,180	\$5,236
Quitaque	379	379	\$20,845	\$4,169
Silverton	691	691	\$38,005	\$7,601
	1,070			
Brooks County	7,093	2,096	\$115,280	\$23,056
Falfurrias	4,997	4,997	\$274,835	\$54,967
	4,997			
Brown County	37,864	12,868	\$707,740	\$141,548
Bangs	1,588	1,588	\$87,340	\$17,468
Blanket	392	392	\$21,560	\$4,312
Brownwood	19,898	19,898	\$1,094,390	\$218,878
Early	3,118	3,118	\$171,490	\$34,298
	24,996			
Burleson County	18,443	11,853	\$651,915	\$130,383
Caldwell	4,538	4,538	\$249,590	\$49,918
Snook	541	541	\$29,755	\$5,951
Somerville	1,511	1,511	\$83,105	\$16,621
	6,590			
Burnet County	48,155	22,983	\$1,264,065	\$252,813
Bertram	1,617	1,617	\$88,935	\$17,787
Burnet	6,881	6,881	\$378,455	\$75,691
Cottonwood Shores	1,345	1,345	\$73,975	\$14,795
Granite Shoals	5,117	5,117	\$281,435	\$56,287
Highland Haven	433	433	\$23,815	\$4,763
Horeshoe Bay	827	827	\$45,485	\$9,097
Marble Falls	7,125	7,125	\$391,875	\$78,375
Meadowlakes	1,827	1,827	\$100,485	\$20,097

Place	Jan 2019 Population Est.	Relative Population	\$55 Per Capita	20% of Allocation
Borden County	654	654	\$35,970	\$7,194
	654			
Bosque County	18,685	10,344	\$568,920	\$113,784
Clifton	3,562	3,562	\$195,910	\$39,182
Cranfills Gap	289	289	\$15,895	\$3,179
Iredell	340	340	\$18,700	\$3,740
Meridian	1,511	1,511	\$83,105	\$16,621
Morgan	515	515	\$28,325	\$5,665
Valley Mills	1,197	1,197	\$65,835	\$13,167
Walnut Springs	927	927	\$50,985	\$10,197
	8,341			
Bowie County	93,245	31,918	\$1,755,490	\$351,098
De Kalb	1,712	1,712	\$94,160	\$18,832
Hooks	2,774	2,774	\$152,570	\$30,514
Leary	491	491	\$27,005	\$5,401
Maud	1,079	1,079	\$59,345	\$11,869
Nash	3,858	3,858	\$212,190	\$42,438
New Boston	4,660	4,660	\$256,300	\$51,260
Red Lick	1,054	1,054	\$57,970	\$11,594
Redwater	1,126	1,126	\$61,930	\$12,386
Texarkana	38,816	38,816	\$2,134,880	\$426,976
Wake Village	5,757	5,757	\$316,635	\$63,327
	61,327			
Brazoria County	374,264	113,656	\$6,251,080	\$1,250,216
Alvin	28,179	28,179	\$1,549,845	\$309,969
Angleton	20,571	20,571	\$1,131,405	\$226,281
Bailey's Prairie	798	798	\$43,890	\$8,778
Bonney	354	354	\$19,470	\$3,894
Brazoria	3,467	3,467	\$190,685	\$38,137
Brookside Village	1,662	1,662	\$91,410	\$18,282
Clute	12,156	12,156	\$668,580	\$133,716
Danbury	1,878	1,878	\$103,290	\$20,658
Freeport	12,556	12,556	\$690,580	\$138,116
Hillcrest	779	779	\$42,845	\$8,569
Holiday Lakes	1,247	1,247	\$68,585	\$13,717
Iowa Colony	2,229	2,229	\$122,595	\$24,519
Jones Creek	2,195	2,195	\$120,725	\$24,145
Lake Jackson	27,699	27,699	\$1,523,445	\$304,689
Liverpool	573	573	\$31,515	\$6,303
Manvel	13,532	13,532	\$744,260	\$148,852
Oyster Creek	1,199	1,199	\$65,945	\$13,189
Pearland	115,891	115,891	\$6,374,005	\$1,274,801
Quintana	119	119	\$6,545	\$1,309
Richwood	4,247	4,247	\$233,585	\$46,717
Sandy Point	245	245	\$13,475	\$2,695
Surfside Beach	581	581	\$31,955	\$6,391

funds may only be used to cover costs that:

1. Are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
2. Were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CARES Act) for the state or government; and
3. Were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020.

Note: A cost is “incurred” when the responsible unit of government has expended funds to cover the cost.

Categories of Eligible Expenditures

Click here for detailed examples

1. Medical expenses
2. Public health expenses
3. Payroll expenses for public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
4. Expenses of actions to facilitate compliance with COVID-19 related public health measures.
5. Expenses associated with the provision of economic support in connection with the COVID-19 public health emergency.
6. Any other COVID-19 – related expenses reasonably necessary to the function of government that satisfy the fund’s eligibility criteria.

TO START THE PROCESS BY WHICH YOU RECEIVE YOUR INITIAL PAYMENT, THE COUNTY JUDGE OR MAYOR OF THE JURISDICTION MUST REVIEW, AGREE TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS AND SIGN THE CERTIFICATION FORM. THIS SIGNED DOCUMENTATION MUST BE EMAILED TO CRF@TDEM.TEXAS.GOV (<mailto:CRF@TDEM.TEXAS.GOV>) OR UPLOADED BACK TO THIS WEBSITE. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE EMAIL CRF@TDEM.TEXAS.GOV (<mailto:CRF@TDEM.TEXAS.GOV>).

Step 1.

Download and read the terms and conditions of the Coronavirus Relief Fund.

Terms and Conditions (https://tdem.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/CRF-Terms-and-Conditions_Final.pdf)

Step 2.

Download, fill out, and sign the attached CRF form.

CRF Form (<https://tdem.texas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/CRF-Certification-Signature-Pages.pdf>)

Step 3.

Email the CRF form to CRF@TDEM.texas.gov (<mailto:CRF@TDEM.texas.gov>)

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