

North Carolina Department of Public Safety

Emergency Management

Roy Cooper, Governor Erik A. Hooks, Secretary Michael A. Sprayberry, Executive Director

Costs for COVID-19 Vaccinations Eligible for Public Assistance

On November 19, 2020, FEMA issued a <u>COVID-19 Pandemic Vaccination Planning FAQ</u> to provide information about the effort to support the distribution and administration of COVID-19 vaccinations, including assistance available through the FEMA Public Assistance Program. The purpose of this is to provide insight into eligible costs under the FEMA Public Assistance Program as it pertains to the administration, distribution, storage and handling of the approved vaccine, and to provide information into other programs available for assistance in administering the vaccine.

Sources of Federal Funding

The Federal government will cover the costs associated with the procurement and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines to enrolled COVID-19 providers. Coordinated efforts to distribute the vaccine will be primarily through established healthcare systems and distribution points approved by Operation Warp Speed. Operation Warp Speed will also be providing vaccination kits with supplies to support the administration of the vaccine, at no cost. Most private and public healthcare providers including TRICARE, Medicare, Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), and other HHS funding sources will cover the costs of the administration of the vaccine. Healthcare providers can seek reimbursement for uninsured individuals through HHS's <u>COVID-19 Uninsured Program</u>. Administration fees can be charged to the program or entity providing reimbursement for COVID-19 vaccines.

Eligible Work under FEMA Public Assistance

Costs incurred by State, local, Territorial, and Tribal (SLTT) governments to support the distribution and administration of the vaccine may be eligible for Public Assistance. Such costs must be in accordance with the Public Assistance program eligibility requirements as identified in the FEMA Public Assistance Program and Policy Guide and COVID-19 Pandemic Work Eligible for Public Assistance.

Examples of eligible work and costs under FEMA PA include, but are not limited to:

- Personal protective equipment (PPE), other equipment, and supplies required for storing, handling, distributing/transporting and administering COVID-19 vaccines.
 - PPE includes items necessary for proper handling and administration of vaccines as well as handling dry ice for storage and transportation needs.
 - Transportation support includes refrigerated trucks and transport security when reasonable and necessary.
 - Equipment includes, coolers, freezers, temperature monitoring devices, and portable vaccine storage units for transportation.

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- Supplies include emergency medical supplies, sharps containers (for medical waste), and supplies necessary for proper storage like cannisters of liquid nitrogen or dry ice.
- Facility support costs, including leasing space for storage and/or administration of vaccines, utilities, maintenance, and security.
- Additional staff if necessary, including medical and support staff not paid for by another funding source, consistent with FEMA PA labor policies (see *Chapter 2:V.A. Applicant (Force Account) Labor* of the <u>PAPPG (V3.1)</u>.
- Onsite infection control measures including PPE for staff as well as cloth face coverings for patients, temperature scanners, physical barriers (e.g., plexiglass dividers), and disinfection of the facility in accordance with CDC guidance.
- Emergency medical care associated with vaccine administration (e.g., to address allergic reactions to the vaccine or other emergency medical needs that arise in the administration of the vaccine).
- Medical waste disposal.
- Communications to disseminate public information regarding vaccinations.

Duplication of Funding

FEMA may provide Public Assistance funding for eligible work that may also be eligible for funding under another Federal program as long as funding for the same item of work and associated costs are not provided by another source of Federal funding, insurance, or other funding source. Costs are not eligible under Public Assistance for which providers have received or will receive payments from health insurance, TRICARE, Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, or other Federal programs.

Submitting your Streamlined Project Application

Applicants are encouraged to submit COVID-19 vaccination costs under its own streamlined project application. For more information, please reach out to your NCEM Grant Manager.

More information on COVID-19 vaccine planning and distribution may be found at through the following: <u>CDC Interim Playbook</u>, <u>Operation Warp Speed Fact Sheet</u> and <u>Vaccine Distribution</u> <u>Strategy</u>, <u>CDC COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ</u>, <u>CDC: 8 Things to Know About Vaccine Planning</u>, and <u>COVID-19 Recovery Resource Roadmaps</u>.

If you have any questions, please contact your assigned Grants Manager by referring to the map with contact information (following).







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	12: <u>Michele Faison</u> 984-218-2498	Ashe, Avery, Caldwell, McDowell, Mitchell, Watauga, Yancy	7: <u>Stacey Anderson-Ebener</u> 512-822-7946	Edgecombe, Harnett, Johnston, Nash, Wilson, Wake	2: <u>Helen Bunch</u> 984-500-7131	Beaufort, Bertie, Hyde, Martin, Pitt, Tyrell, Washington	
	13: <u>Andy Andrews</u> 984-297-5642	Burke, Catawba, Cleveland Gaston, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Union	, 8: <u>Shonda Corbett</u> 984-218-3385	Anson, Chatham, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond, Scotland	3: <u>Jeff Welker</u> 984-222-4159	Carteret, Craven, Greene, Lenoir, Pamlico	
	14: <u>Tara Fikes</u> 984-222-5188	Buncombe, Cherokee, Graham, Haywood, Madison, Swain	9: <u>Eric Jefferson</u> 984-233-3124	Caswell, Davie, Forsyth, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry, Yadkin	4: <u>Barbara Johnson</u> 919-812-1554	Duplin, Cumberland, Jones, Onslow, Pender, Sampson	
	15: <u>Tara Fikes</u> 984-222-5188	Clay, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Polk, Rutherford, Transylvania	10: <u>Stacey Anderson-Ebener</u> 512-822-7946	Alamance, Davidson, Durham, Guilford, Orange, Randolph	5: <u>Thomas Bennett</u> 984-233-9581	Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Hoke, New Hanover, Robeson	