



Podcast 83

Special video episode on
COVID aid and state budget
July 13, 2020





Hazard Pay

\$100 million available on first come, first served basis

Eligibility

- Law enforcement officers
- EMTs, Paramedics, 9-1-1 Operators
- Local Unit of Government Corrections Officers
- Airport Public Safety Officers
- Eligible personnel associated with ambulance operations licensed under section 20920 of the Public Health Code (1978 PA 368)
- Private EMTs and paramedics who contract with municipalities or hospitals, if the hazard pay premiums are paid through the applicant



Hazard Pay

Application process

- Must register with Federal System for Award Management (SAM) prior to submitting an application to Treasury
- Applications can be found on Michigan Department of Treasury website under the local government section – COVID-19 updates
- Apply between now and Sept. 30
- \$1,000 per person; maximum \$5 million to any one local unit
- Round 1 applications through Sept. 20, 2020
- Must be paid to eligible personnel by Sept. 30, 2020
- Payments from Treasury will go out no later than Nov. 14, 2020



Public Safety and Public Health Payroll Reimbursement

- \$200 million for counties, cities, villages, townships excluding Kent, Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties
- To reimburse for eligible public safety and public health payroll expenditures under CARES Act
- Two rounds of payments based on how much is claimed during the first round



Public Safety and Public Health Payroll Reimbursement

ROUND 1

- Applications due by July 17, 2020, at 11:59 p.m.
- Expenses incurred during the months of April and May 2020
- Distribution by Sept. 18, 2020

ROUND 2:

- If funds are still available after Round 1; Treasury will announce this in August
- Expenses incurred during the months of April, May, June and July 2020
- Distribution by Nov. 7, 2020



Public Safety and Public Health Payroll Reimbursement

Eligible expenses

- Public safety and public health payroll expenditures that have not or will not be reimbursed under the First Responder Hazard Pay Premiums Program (FRHPPP) or by any other federal funds
- Overtime
- Normal Leave (Sick and Vacation)
- Long-term Leave and FMLA due to COVID-19
- Hazard Pay – cannot also request under the First Responder Hazard Pay Premiums Program
- Fringes
 - Employer sponsored insurance premiums
 - Employer paid payroll taxes
 - Employer retirement contributions



Public Safety and Public Health Payroll Reimbursement

Other key issues

- If there are not enough appropriated funds, the reimbursement will be prorated based on a local unit's percentage of all the expenses submitted.
- Contracts: You cannot be reimbursed for the same expenses by two different places, so if you provide services to a township and that township has paid you for those payroll expenses, you would have to reimburse those dollars to the township with non-federal funds before applying for reimbursement from the CARES Act dollars

Can payroll expenses, which are already budgeted in a most recently approved budget as of March 27, 2020, be funded by CRF funds?

- Yes, CRF money can be used for payroll expenses for public safety and public health, whose services are “substantially dedicated” to mitigating or responding to COVID-19 public health emergency. In addition, personnel that were diverted to a “substantially different” function, due entirely to the COVID-19 public health emergency, to mitigating or responding to COVID-19 are allowable expenses.
- It is up to each jurisdiction to define its own thresholds of “substantial dedication” and to maintain clear documentation of the justification for that decision.
- The State of Michigan, in its own use of the CRF funding, is utilizing the public safety presumption that all payroll expenses are presumed to be related to mitigating the COVID pandemic.