

BERKS COUNTY **CARES** GRANT PROGRAM



Guidelines for Public Health Services Application

Revised 10/1/20

Application Overview

- Grant applications will be reviewed by a committee who will make recommendations to the Berks County Commissioners.
- Applicants must verify compliance with Governor Wolf's directives regarding COVID-19 safety precautions.
- No matching funds are required.
- All grant expenditures must be directly related to COVID-19. Expenses can be charged from March 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020. Funds will be provided on a reimbursement basis only.
- Applicants must serve Berks County residents.
- Applicants must declare what other CARES Act funding has been received, though this will not preclude the organization from receiving funds from this distribution.
- CARES Act funds cannot duplicate another funding source.
- The intent of this grant is to supply funds to as many projects as possible; therefore, awards may be subject to partial funding.
- Applicants will be required to report on the number of residents served, how they were served, and the impact on the community. Must identify the community need and how the service will mitigate that need. Must provide data that clearly identifies the demographics of those served.
- This overview and guidelines are subject to change as additional guidance regarding CARES Act funding is received by Berks County.
- Applicants may request up to \$100,000 or up to \$150,000 if primarily serving a low to moderate income area or residents (based on CDBG guidelines).

Required Documents

- Copy of most recent IRS 990 filing (applicable to organizations with annual revenue greater than \$50,000).
- Most recent accountant or internally prepared audit for the organization's most recent fiscal year.
- 2020 Year-to-Date financial statements or Revenue and Expense Report.
- Completed W-9 Form.
- A signed and completed application.
- Any additional documentation to support financial loss due to COVID19.
- IRS ruling or determination letter.

Eligible Uses

The funds can be used for "necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019" that are incurred between March 1 and September 30, 2020. Eligible cost categories are defined below. The County of Berks has the authority to determine whether a particular use of the funding is allowable.

Eligible Applicants

- Non-profit hospitals or clinics
- For-profit hospitals or clinics with a community benefit
- Non-profit or for-profit organization operating residential (short- or long-term) facility for historically disenfranchised or vulnerable populations
- Non-profit or for-profit healthcare providers
- Emergency Medical Services

Eligible Cost Categories

Public Health Initiatives

- COVID-19 testing or screening not covered by private or government payer insurance, or FEMA Public Assistance programs
- Contact tracing as explicitly authored by Berks County or local municipality but administered by the hospital, organization, or entity
- Communication and community outreach to inform public of public health guidance
- Emergency Medical or Alternate Transportation Costs for COVID-19 patients not covered by private or government payer insurance, or FEMA Public Assistance programs
- Non-congregate sheltering costs for front-line staff interacting with COVID-19 patients
- COVID-19 preparation and response emergency planning

Protective Measures

- Security or screening labor
- PPE or related protective equipment not covered by FEMA Public Assistance
- Increased disinfection costs of patient waiting, or treatment areas not already incorporated in operating costs or chargeable to private or government payer insurance programs
- Lease and/or outfitting costs for temporary facilities to comply with Centers of Disease Control health guidance

Costs associated with modifying delivery of services

- IT/IS hardware or software costs associated with the implementation of tele-medicine

Any other emerging need with a clear nexus to COVID-19 not covered by any other federal, state, or local funding source, and deemed appropriate and necessary by Berks County.

Ineligible Cost Categories

- Revenue replacement
- Expenses for the State share of Medicaid
- Damages covered by insurance
- Exclusions outlined in section 5001(b) of the CARES Act [1]
- Workforce bonuses other than hazard pay or overtime.
- Severance pay
- Legal settlements

Timeline

September 30 th	Applications available at 9 AM
October 16 th	Applications due by 5 PM
October 20 th – 26 th	Applications are reviewed
October 27 th	Recommendations to County Commissioners
October 29 th	Grant Awards announced by Commissioners
October 30 th - November 20 th	Execute Contracts and Certifications with Approved Grantees