

Frequently Asked Questions

General

- What is the Alabama Health Care and Emergency Response COVID-19 Relief Grant Program?

This program is an initiative of Governor Kay Ivey to provide support to Alabama-Based Health Care and Emergency Response Providers that have been impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. U.S. Treasury guidance allows the State to use Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) dollars for qualified expenditures. Therefore, the State of Alabama will offer cash grants in an amount up to \$15,000 for providers that meet eligibility requirements. More information about the grant application process and eligibility requirements is included in the responses to “Frequently Asked Questions” below and on the Alabama Coronavirus Relief Fund website at <https://crf.alabama.gov/>.

- Where did the funding come from?

Alabama received approximately \$1.8 billion from the CARES Act Fund. \$35 million of these funds will be distributed to Alabama’s Health Care and Emergency Response Providers as \$15,000 cash grants.

- Is there any cost to me associated with the grant?

No.

- What is the timeline of the application?

Monday, October 5, 2020

Starting on October 5, 2020, health care and emergency response providers are encouraged to complete an application through Submittable [Online Portal](#).

Friday, October 16, 2020

Application period closes at noon on October 16, 2020.

- What is the deadline to complete the application?

On October 16, 2020 at noon.

- How many providers will receive the funds?

There is no set cap on the number of organizations that may be awarded a grant. Grants will be awarded to qualifying applicants on a first-come-first-served basis until the funds are exhausted.

- What type of expenses are not permissible under this grant?
 - *As reimbursement for cost or damages covered by insurance.*
 - *For expenses that have been or will be reimbursed under any federal program, including the PPP, Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program, or PUA.*
 - *For reimbursement to donors for donated items or services.*
 - *For workforce bonuses other than hazard pay or overtime.*
 - *For severance pay.*
 - *For legal settlements.*

For further context of permissible use of the grant award, please review Coronavirus Relief Fund Guidance and Coronavirus Relief fund Frequently Asked Questions on the [U.S. Department of the Treasury Website](#).

- How will I be notified about the status of my application?

To find out the status of your application, please log into your [online portal](#).

- Is there a way for me to know that my application was successfully submitted?

You will receive an email confirmation letting you know your application has been submitted. You may also log into your [online portal](#).

- Who can I contact to follow up with my application?

Please log into your [online portal](#) to find the status of your application.

Eligibility

- *Who is eligible to apply?*

Eligible applicants include:

- *Primary Care Clinics*
- *Ambulance/EMS Service Providers*
- *Pharmacies*
- *Physician Offices*
- *Dentist Offices*
- *Other Health Practitioner Offices (Will need to specify)*
- *Outpatient Care Centers*
- *Medical and Diagnostic Laboratories*
- *Home Health Care Businesses*
- *Assisted Living Facilities*
- *Physical Therapy Offices*
- *Rescue Squad Organizations*

- *Volunteer Fire Departments*
- *911 Boards*

Ineligible Applicants include:

- *Providers seeking support for service locations outside of Alabama*
- *Any hospitals or nursing homes in Alabama*
- *Providers not included in the eligible applicant list above*

*****Those who have received funds from the State of Alabama Small Business, Nonprofit or Faith-Based Grant Programs are NOT eligible to apply.*****

- Are there eligibility requirements?

Yes. Providers must verify that it:

- *Was in business and fully operational as of March 1, 2020 and continues to be operational as of the date of the application.*
- *Has incurred eligible expenses due to the interruption of business, up to the grant amount requested.*
- *Has not received a federal Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan, Economic Injury Disaster Loan, or Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA); OR, if received or expected to be received, incurred eligible business interruption expenses up to the amount requested that were not covered with these funds.*
- *Does not exist for the purpose of advancing partisan political activities, does not directly lobby federal or state officials, and has not employed or otherwise worked with a lobbyist as defined in Section 36-25-1, Code of Alabama 1975, at any point during 2020.*

- Are providers that are located out of the state of Alabama eligible to apply?

No.

- Can I apply more than once for the same provider location?

No. Each provider can only apply for and be awarded one grant award through this program.

- If there is more than one provider service location, can I apply for each?

Yes, if each provider location has its own taxpayer identification number and files and reports its income on separate returns using its own taxpayer identification number. Please note that you must complete a different application for each provider location

that has its own taxpayer identification number and that each provider location must meet each of the eligibility requirements.

- Will hospitals or nursing homes be eligible to receive any funding from this grant?

No. Any Alabama hospital or nursing home will NOT be eligible for the Alabama Health Care and Emergency Response COVID-19 Relief Grant Program.

- Do I have to have a certain number of employees to apply?

No minimum or maximum number of employees is required.

- If I received a Paycheck Protection Program loan, and Economic Injury Disaster Loan or other COVID-19 related relief, am I eligible to apply?

Yes. A provider may still apply if it received or is expected to receive money from a federal program such as the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), Economic Injury Disaster Loan Emergency Advance, or Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program; however, the amount requested from the grant program must be reduced by the amount received or expected to be received from such federal programs and insurance.

- If found to be ineligible, are there other grant programs that I can apply for?

The [Coronavirus Relief Fund Website](#) will have information about other grant opportunities and support as it becomes available.

Application Process

- What information do I need to have to complete my application?

You will need information about the provider, including the provider's EIN, copy of an updated W-9, a copy of a voided check or bank memo, and any other supporting documentation that may be deemed necessary for award.

- Will I have the option to save my application to make any changes and submit later or will I be required to complete the application in one setting?

You may save your application and come back to it at a later date (prior to application deadline) using your online portal credentials.

- Can the application be changed after it has been submitted?

No. Once the application has been submitted, you will not be able to make any changes.

- Can I resubmit my application if I fail to submit supporting documentation with my application?

Only one application will be accepted per provider location.

- Can I submit my application via regular mail or email?

No. Currently, the program is only accepting applications through Submittable [Online Portal](#).

- If I received notice that my application needs more information, how long do I have to correct it?

Once correspondence is sent to correct an application for more information, the form will be open for edit and the applicant has 48 hours to complete the required updates. If the application has not been updated at that time, the application will be reviewed as is and may not be eligible for payment.

Payment Information

- How will I receive my funds (by check or direct deposit)?

Grant funds will be disbursed by direct deposit using the bank information provided on the application. To help ensure that payments are properly distributed, bank information submitted with an application will be subject to review prior to the distribution of funds. To avoid delays in the disbursement of grant funds, applicants must provide bank account information for a depository account with a valid bank routing number. Please verify with your bank that this information is correct before submitting the application. We will not accept banking information for a prepaid debit card or similar payment medium. (Please note, although these verification measures may slow down the disbursement of grant funds, they are necessary to ensure that your organization is the one receiving any grant funds awarded and that an application has not been submitted on your behalf without your knowledge.) If the bank information provided with the application has previously been designated as fraudulent, the grant application will be denied.

- Will these funds be issued to me as a loan or a grant?

A grant.

- Do I have to repay these funds?

No, unless it is determined the information contained within the application was false, fraudulent, or materially misleading.

- How much can I apply for?

A health care or emergency response provider applicant may apply for and be awarded a grant equal to the amount of eligible expenses up to \$15,000.

- Do I need to document or report how I use the funds I receive?

Yes, you should document any eligible expenses that were paid using the grant award.

Account Registration

- Will I have to create an account/profile in order to complete the application?

Yes. To apply, please go through the [Online Portal](#).

Technical Troubleshooting

- Who do I need to contact if I have any technical difficulties with the application process or if I'm unable to log into my account?

For Application Customer Support, please contact:

Submittable

Monday-Friday 10-6pm (CST)

[Submittable Help](#)