

The Trump Administration Is Supporting the People of Illinois

“We have the best doctors, the best military leaders, and the best logistics professionals anywhere in the world. And we’re orchestrating a massive Federal response unlike anything our country has ever seen.”

– President Donald J. Trump

Overview: Response and recovery efforts are Locally executed, State managed, and federally supported. Successful emergency management requires nationwide cooperation and unity of effort, combining the strength and ingenuity of our citizens and private sector with a sweeping, all-inclusive, and whole-of-government response. The below is a partial overview of Federal assistance provided to the State of Illinois and the people of Illinois to combat COVID-19 (coronavirus). The below information is bolstered by hundreds of additional actions by the Federal Government to help the people of Illinois. Implementation of the CARES Act is ongoing which will also bring additional support to Illinois.

Supportive Actions by President Donald J. Trump:

- **President Trump Declares a National Emergency:** On March 13, President Trump [declared](#) a national emergency concerning the coronavirus. The emergency declaration authorized direct Federal assistance, temporary facilities, commodities, equipment, and emergency operation costs for all states, including Illinois, pursuant to section 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.
- **Illinois’ Major Disaster Declaration:** On March 24, the Governor J.B. Pritzker submitted a major disaster declaration request to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). On March 26, President Trump [approved](#) the request declaring a major disaster in the State of Illinois and ordered Federal assistance to supplement State, Tribal, and Local recovery efforts in the areas affected by COVID-19.
- **Historic Economic Relief:** On March 27, President Trump signed the CARES Act into law. The law provides unprecedented economic relief to American citizens, small businesses, workers, healthcare providers, and State, Local, and Tribal governments and builds on the *Families First Coronavirus Response Act*. More [here](#). Additional Illinois allocation information is found below.
- **National Guard Support:** On March 30, President Trump [directed](#) FEMA to fund 100% of the emergency assistance activities provided by Illinois National Guard personnel in Title 32 duty status, per Governor Pritzker’s request.

Testing & Logistics Support: FEMA is working with the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS), other Federal agencies and private sector partners to allocate and deliver key resources to Illinois. FEMA continues to work with industry partners to produce, allocate and distribute PPE and ventilators (including expediting critical supplies from overseas to various U.S. locations).

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has worked with the State of Illinois to increase hospital capacity in the Chicago metro area by over 4,000 beds (as of April 8) in four COVID-19 facilities. The USACE provided resources and personnel to create alternate care facilities in Chicago (McCormick Place Convention Center – 3,000 beds), in Melrose Park (Westlake Hospital – 314 beds), in Blue Island (Metro South Medical Center – 513 beds), and in Elgin (Sherman Hospital – 283 beds). More [here](#).
- The Defense Logistics Agency awarded a contract to Battelle Critical Care Decontamination Systems for 60 N95 decontamination system units for the sanitation and reuse of N95 respirators. Of the six systems initially deployed: two went to New York and one each to Illinois, Massachusetts, Ohio and Washington.
- The Trump Administration is coordinating [Project Air Bridge](#), a coordinated public-private partnership designed to expedite the movement of critical supplies from other countries to the United States, which is being led by Rear Admiral John Polowczyk of the Joint Chiefs. The below table shows personal protective equipment (PPE) that flowed to entities within the State of Illinois from March 28 to April 10:

PPE	3/28 – 4/3	4/4 – 4/10	Total
N95 Masks	291,200	809,300	1,100,500
Surgical & Procedural Masks	2,100,700	2,246,300	4,347,000
Eye & Face Shields	18,000	9,100	27,100
Isolation & Surgical Gowns	871,800	1,055,500	1,927,300
Surgical & Exam Gloves	36,570,200	28,361,000	64,931,200

- In addition to the Project Air Bridge efforts, as of April 14, FEMA has delivered 600 ventilators, 540K N-95 masks, 1.2 M surgical masks, 213,000 medical gowns, 7,000 coveralls, 260,000 face shields, and 1.1 M gloves from the Strategic National Stockpile to Illinois.
- As of April 15, FEMA has obligated \$250 M for Illinois to respond to COVID-19 and will continue to obligate additional dollars per validated State requests.
- In Illinois, the Federal Government supported 5 mobile testing sites to increase testing in the State.

Federal Agency Support: The Trump Administration continues to provide unprecedented resources, guidance, and regulatory flexibilities for State, tribal, and local governments to develop and deploy innovative solutions for addressing the coronavirus.

- U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)

- Through the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provided \$23.7 M to the State of Illinois and \$12.2 M for the City of Chicago for COVID-19 preparation and response efforts. More [here](#).
- On March 19, the State of Illinois submitted a request to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid for a 1135 Medicaid Waiver. On March 23, CMS approved Illinois' waiver request offering new flexibilities to focus resources on combatting the outbreak and providing the best possible care to Medicaid beneficiaries in Illinois. More [here](#).
- HHS and CMS have issued guidance on several topics to help inform decisions made by State and local health officials and private sector partners, including operational guidance for Illinois nursing homes, telemedicine, elective surgery, insurers.
- As of April 8, HHS has awarded \$51.6 M in CARES Act funding to 45 health centers across Illinois to assist in combatting COVID-19. More [here](#).
- Medical providers in Illinois were allocated \$1.2 B for the first round of funding from the Provider Relief Fund, with most of that provided Friday, April 10.
- HHS has sent 61 personnel from the Centers for Disease Control, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, and the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps to Illinois to provide technical assistance and support operations.

- U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

- As a result of the CARES Act, the SBA created four [additional loan/funding programs](#) to assist businesses impacted by COVID-19. As of April 13, the SBA issued over \$12.5 B in loans to over 44,000 Illinois small businesses.
- On March 19, SBA declared an economic disaster in Illinois at the request of Governor Pritzker. The disaster declaration creates access to low interest loans for small businesses in across Illinois. SBA continues to process and allocate Disaster Loans to eligible parties in Illinois. More [here](#).

- U.S. Department of the Treasury / Federal Reserve

- Economic Impact Payments authorized by the CARES Act have gone out to 80 million Americans in Illinois and across the country on Monday, April 13. These payments are being automatically issued to eligible 2019 or 2018 federal tax return filers who received a refund using direct deposit. More [here](#). Social Security recipients who do not file tax returns will automatically receive economic impact payments. More [here](#).

- Treasury is operationalizing stimulus relief to States, Tribes, and eligible units of local government as authorized under the CARES Act's Coronavirus Relief Fund. The State of Illinois, combined with eligible units of local government in the State that apply, will receive \$4,913,633,437. More [here](#).
 - On Thursday, April 9, the Department of the Treasury and Federal Reserve launched a Main Street Business Lending program and a Municipal Liquidity Facility (MLF) to support the flow of credit to American workers, businesses, states, counties, and cities impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. The MLF will provide up to \$500 B in direct financing to states, counties, and cities to help ensure they have the funds necessary to provide essential services to citizens and respond to the coronavirus pandemic. More [here](#). MLF term sheet and guidance can be found [here](#).
- **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**
 - HUD made \$150.7 M in COVID-19 funding available to Illinois via CARES Act authorizations. More [here](#).
 - On April 1, HUD implemented the CARES Act requirement to provide up to one year of payment forbearance for FHA single-family borrowers experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19. More [here](#).
 - On April 10, HUD implemented the CARES Act requirement to provide FHA multifamily borrowers with forbearance for up to three months if they agree not to evict tenants during that period. More [here](#).
- **U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)**
 - As a result of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, DOL [expanded paid sick, family, and medical leave](#); the Department has offered flexibilities and emergency administrative capacity expansion grants for unemployment insurance that will help the people of Illinois.
 - DOL has awarded over \$20.9 M in Phase I emergency unemployment insurance and \$8.3M in dislocated worker grants to the State of Illinois.
- **U.S. Department of Education (DoED)**
 - On March 20, DoED suspended Federal student loan payments and waived interest during the Federal emergency, which could help up to 1.58M direct loan borrowers in Illinois. More [here](#).
 - On March 27, DoED granted Illinois' request for waiver of assessment, accountability and certain reporting requirements. More [here](#).
- **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)**
 - USDA has and continues to provide numerous flexibilities and resources to the State of Illinois to ensure children and low income Americans have access to food during the national emergency. More [here](#).
 - USDA published a [COVID-19 Federal Rural Resource Guide](#) for rural residents, businesses, and communities to find information about federal funding and partnership opportunities during the coronavirus pandemic.
- **U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)**
 - DOT allocated \$1.6 B in Federal Transit Administration funds to help the Illinois' public transportation systems respond to the challenges of COVID-19. More [here](#).
 - DOT awarded \$446 M from the Federal Aviation Administration to help fund continuing operations and lost revenue for airports in Illinois. More [here](#).
- **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)**
 - VA traditionally provides Veterans' healthcare, benefits and memorial affairs. In times of national crisis, such as the current Coronavirus pandemic, VA provides services to the Nation based on requests from states, while being clear that Veterans are first. This is known as VA's [Fourth Mission](#).
 - The VA has made 35 beds available at three facilities in Illinois: the Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital, the Marion VA Medical Center, and the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center. VA has also provided a mobile pharmacy unit in Chicago.

- **U.S. Department of State (DOS)**
 - The State Department launched an unprecedented global effort to bring home citizens from every corner of the globe and has repatriated thousands of Americans from multiple countries. As of April 15, DOS coordinated the repatriation of nearly 70,000 Americans, including over 600 from Illinois, from 106 countries. More [here](#).
 - **U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)**
 - DOJ allocated \$30.8M in funds to Illinois through the [Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding \(CESF\) Program](#) to assist the State and local government response to the coronavirus. This includes \$20 M for the State and \$10.9 M for local governments. More [here](#).
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Important Resources for Government Leaders and Illinois Citizens

- **Up-To-Date Information:** The most up-to-date, verified information and guidance can be found via the CDC Prevention Coronavirus Disease 2019 website – www.coronavirus.gov. FEMA setup a [website](#) to help the public distinguish between rumors and facts regarding the response to the coronavirus pandemic.
- **Coronavirus Guidelines for America:** On Tuesday, March 31, the White House announced updated [Coronavirus Guidelines for America \(Español\)](#), extending social distancing efforts through April 30. On April 3, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued [guidance](#) recommending individuals wear cloth face coverings *in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain* (e.g. grocery stores and pharmacies, particularly in areas of significant community-based transmission). On April 8, CDC also provided [guidelines](#) regarding when people in critical infrastructure roles can return to work after being exposed to a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19. Additional information on critical infrastructure below.
- **COVID-19 Response and Disaster Recovery Primer:** Learn more about the response and recovery process via this important resource – [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Pandemic: Response and Recovery Through Federal-State-Local-Tribal Partnership](#). FEMA’s public assistance guidance for COVID-19 response efforts can be found [here](#). Guidance for tribal governments can be found [here](#).
- **Fraud and Scam Protection:** The Department of Justice is remaining vigilant in detecting, investigating, and prosecuting wrongdoing related to the crisis. Find out how you can protect yourself and helpful resources on DOJ’s Coronavirus Fraud Prevention [website](#). The Federal Trade Commission has also established a [website](#) with helpful information to help consumers avoid coronavirus-related scams.
- **Mental Health Resources:** The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration’s (SAMHSA) Disaster Distress Helpline – 1-800-985-5990 (or text TalkWithUs to 66746) – provides 24/7, 365-day-a-year crisis counseling and support to anyone who is seeking help in coping with the mental or emotional effects caused by developments related to the coronavirus pandemic. Learn more about the Disaster Distress Helpline [here](#).