

Public Health and Negative Economic Impacts: Assistance to Households

Households or populations presumed to be negatively impacted by the pandemic: Those who experienced unemployment, increased food or housing insecurity, or have low to moderate incomes.

Enumerated uses:

- **Food assistance**, including capital expenditures related to food banks and other facilities primarily dedicated to addressing food insecurity.
- **Emergency housing assistance**: Assistance with rent; rental arrears; utility costs; arrears in electricity, gas, water and sewer, trash removal, energy costs, including reasonable accrued late fees; mortgage payment assistance; financial assistance to allow homeowners to reinstate a mortgage or to pay other housing-related costs due to a period of forbearance, delinquency or default; mortgage principal reduction; assistance with mortgage interest rate reductions; counseling to prevent foreclosure or displacement; relocation expenses following eviction or foreclosures (rental security deposits, application or screening fees); assistance for delinquent property taxes; emergency assistance for those experiencing homelessness, either on the individual level or for groups of individuals (examples: master leases of hotels, motels or similar facilities to expand available shelters); capital expenditures related to transitional shelters.
- **Emergency assistance for pressing needs**: Burials, home repairs, weatherization, other needs.
- **Internet access or digital literacy assistance**: Services that expand internet access without constructing new networks; subsidies for the cost of internet services; programs that support adoption of internet service; digital literacy programs; programs that provide devices and equipment to access the internet (e.g., tablets, routers, or computers to households).
- **Cash assistance**: Must be reasonably proportional to the negative economic impact addressed.
- **Survivor's benefits**: Cash assistance to widows, widowers or dependents of those who have died from COVID-19.
- **Assistance accessing or applying for public benefits or services**: Services to increase awareness and uptake of assistance programs.
- **Promoting healthy childhood environments**: Childcare and early learning services; home visiting services for families, pregnant women, new mothers, and newborns; child welfare

services, including services to foster youth and those aging out of the system and services that address financial, educational, child development or health supports, including supports for kinship care. Improvements to or new construction of childcare, daycare, and early learning facilities are eligible capital expenditures.

- **Addressing the impacts of lost instructional time:** Services to any K-12 student who lost access to in-person instruction for a significant period of time, including high-quality tutoring and other extended learning opportunities, differentiated instruction, activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students, expanding and improving language access for parents and families, assistance to parents and families for effectively supporting students, high-quality assessments to assess students' academic progress, behavioral health services for children and youth in schools.
- **Long-term housing security and affordable housing:** Permanent, supportive housing or other programs/services that improve access to stable, affordable housing among people who are homeless; affordable housing projects to increase supply of affordable and high-quality living units; projects eligible for funding under the National Housing Trust Fund or Home Investment Partnerships Program; down payment assistance; homeownership assistance eligible under Community Development Block Grant (24 CFR 507.201(n)); affordable housing developments targeted to specialized populations such as recovery housing for individuals in recovery from substance abuse; operating expenses for eligible affordable housing projects; rehabilitation and repair of public housing.
- **Health benefits:** Programs that create, expand, or financially support paid sick, medical and or family leave programs; programs or services to expand access to health insurance coverage, such as subsidies for health insurance premiums or expansion of health insurance plans to cover additional employees who lack coverage.
- **Services for the unbanked and underbanked:** Low or no-cost financial services, such as pre-paid debit cards, transitional services to facilitate long term access to banking and financial services; financial literacy programs and community outreach to increase awareness about low-cost, no-overdraft fee accounts; new approaches to help overcome barriers to banking access.
- **Assistance to Unemployed and Underemployed workers:** Services to accelerate rehiring, such as job training, childcare assistance, assistance with transportation to and from jobsites or interviews, incentives for newly employed workers, assistance to unemployed workers seeking to start small businesses, subsidized employment, combined education and on-the-job training programs; job fairs or grants to businesses to hire underserved workers. Job and workforce training centers are eligible capital expenditures. Contributions to unemployment trust funds and repayment of principal amount due on advances, with restrictions.

Disproportionately Impacted Households

The following enumerated uses apply only to disproportionately impacted households, which are defined as: Programs or services provided in a Qualified Census Tract, to households living in a QCT, to low-income households or communities, and by tribal or territorial governments.

- **Community health workers:** Pay to community health workers to help residents access health and social services.
- **Lead hazards:** Remediation of lead paint or other lead hazards; testing for food lead levels; public outreach and education; emergency measures such as bottled water and water filters. Housing vouchers and relocations assistances, including residential counseling, rent subsidies, and programs to help individuals move to areas with higher levels of economic mobility. Eligible capital expenditures: Improvements to existing facilities to remediate lead contaminants, medical facilities and equipment to address disparities in public health outcomes.
- **Building strong, healthy communities:** Neighborhood features that promote improved health and safety outcomes include parks, green spaces, recreational facilities, sidewalks, pedestrian safety features like crosswalks, projects that increase access to health foods, streetlights, neighborhood cleanup programs, and projects to revitalized public spaces.
- **Vacant or abandoned properties:** Rehabilitation, renovation, maintenance, or costs to secure vacant or abandoned properties; acquisition costs of vacant or abandoned properties; removal and remediation of environmental contaminants or hazards of vacant or abandoned properties; demolition or deconstruction of vacant or abandoned buildings, paired with greening or other lot improvement as part of a strategy for neighborhood revitalization; greening or cleanup of vacant lots or other efforts to make vacant lots safer; conversion of vacant or abandoned housing for affordable housing; inspection fees or other costs to ensure compliance with laws and regulations for demolition, greening or other remediation activities.
- **Addressing education disparities:** Early learning services, assistance to high-poverty school districts to advance equitable funding across districts and geographies, and other educational and evidence-based services to address the needs of students. Educational services like tutoring or afterschool programs, summer education and enrichment programs, and supports for student needs. Improvements or new construction of schools and other educational facilities or equipment are eligible capital expenditures in disproportionately impacted communities.