

COVID-19 Relief Rhode Island Impacts and Opportunities

On March 6, 2020, President Trump signed into law the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act. On March 13, 2020, President Trump declared that a nationwide emergency exists as a result of COVID-19 beginning on January 20, 2020. The Families First Coronavirus Response Act and Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act were signed into law by the President on March 18 and 27, 2020, respectively. A fourth act, the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act, was signed by the President on April 24, 2020. On December 27, President Trump signed into law a consolidated appropriations act for FY 2021 that contains \$900 billion in additional COVID-19 relief.

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. This report summarizes funding available from the six acts with particular emphasis on provisions that impact Rhode Island's state and local budgets and citizens. This memo updates the memo contained in the *Budget Analysis Fiscal Year 2022*. The staff notes that these figures are subject to frequent change as updated information becomes available.

Federal Coronavirus Relief Projections for Rhode Island	
Granting Federal Agency	Amount
Treasury	\$ 3,488.9
Federal Emergency Management Agency	446.4
Department of Education	1,046.3
Administration for Children and Families	185.2
Administration for Community Living	16.2
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	270.4
Health Resources and Services Administration	80.6
Labor	181.0
Justice	4.6
United States Department of Agriculture	10.5
Commerce	13.1
Homeland Security	4.3
Housing and Urban Development	67.9
Transportation	235.8
Independent Agencies	8.7
Health and Human Services	639.2
Total	\$ 6,699.1

\$ in millions

There are estimates that these federal actions provide \$6.7 billion to Rhode Island, not including optional tax changes for individuals and businesses or the direct stimulus payments to individuals. It should be noted that this total does not include direct unemployment insurance benefit payments to Rhode Island residents as a result of the several acts.

The following table shows the 58 items that combine to produce that total, in addition to funding that may be awarded through existing law regarding disaster declarations. It is followed by numbered explanations of each that correspond to the table, including notes where funding may be available through the most recently enacted legislation.

Federal Coronavirus Relief Projections for Rhode Island				
Item #	Item	Amount	Award Through	Act
1	Federal Disaster Declaration	\$ 446.4	State	Stafford Act
	Treasury			
2	Coronavirus Relief Fund	1,250.0	State	CARES
3	Rental Assistance	352.0	State	CCA 2021; ARP
4	State and Local Government Aid	1,780.6	State & Local	ARP
5	State Small Business Credit Initiative	56.2	Provider	ARP
6	Homeowner Assistance Fund	50.0	State	ARP
	Department of Education			
7	Governor's Fund	25.9	State	CARES; CCA 2021; ARP
8	K-12 Fund	646.3	State	CARES; CCA 2021; ARP
9	Rethink K-12 Education Models Grant	10.9	State	CARES
10	Higher Education Fund - General	349.5	State & Private	CARES; CCA 2021; ARP
11	Children with Disabilities & Homeless Youth	13.8	State	ARP
	Administration for Children and Families			
12	Child Care and Development Block Grant	126.4	State	CARES; CCA 2021; ARP
13	Community Services Block Grant	5.5	State	CARES
14	Low Income Home Energy & Water Assistance Program	40.3	State	CARES; ARP
15	Family Violence Prevention	0.9	State	CARES; ARP
16	Child Welfare Services	3.4	State	CARES; CCA 2021; ARP
17	Head Start	6.0	Provider	CARES; CCA 2021; ARP
18	Emergency Assistance to Children & Families	2.7	State	ARP
	Administration for Community Living			
19	Supportive Services	3.5	State	CARES; ARP
20	Congregate and Home Delivered Meals	8.2	State	Families First; CARES; CCA 2021; ARP
21	Family Caregivers	1.2	State	CARES; ARP
22	Protection of Vulnerable Older Americans	2.1	State	Families First; CARES; CCA 2021; ARP
23	Centers for Independent Living	0.9	Provider	CARES
24	Aging and Disability Resource Centers	0.3	State	CARES
	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention			
25	CDC Grants	270.4	State	CPR; CARES; PPP & Health Care; CCA 2021; ARP
	HRSA			
26	Community Health Centers	45.0	Provider	CPR; CARES; ARP
27	Workforce Programs	0.2	Provider	CARES
28	Community Mental Health Centers & Behavioral Healthcare Programs	35.3	State & Provider	CARES; ARP
	Labor			
29	Unemployment Insurance	178.7	State	Families First; CARES; CCA 2021; Presidential Directive; ARP
30	WIOA Dislocated Workers Funding	2.3	State	CARES
	Justice			
31	State and Local Law Enforcement	4.6	State & Local	CARES

Federal Coronavirus Relief Projections for Rhode Island				
Item #	Item	Amount	Award Through	Act
	USDA			
32	Food & Nutrition Assistance Programs	7.8	State	Families First; CARES; CCA 2021; ARP
33	Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)	2.7	State	Families First; ARP
	Commerce			
34	Awards to Fishery Participants ¹	6.3	Provider	CARES
35	Economic Adjustment Assistance	6.8	State	CARES
	Homeland Security			
36	Emergency Performance Management Grant	1.9	State	CARES
37	Emergency Food and Shelter Program	2.3	State	CARES
38	Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program	0.1	Local	CARES
	Housing and Urban Development			
39	Community Development Fund (CDBG)	22.2	State & Local	CARES
40	Homelessness Assistance Grants	11.2	State & Local	CARES
41	Public Housing Operating Fund	5.9	Local	CARES
42	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance	4.7	Provider & Local	CARES
43	Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS ²	0.6	State & Local	CARES
44	Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities	0.2	Local	CARES
45	HOME Investment Partnerships ²	23.1	Provider & Local	ARP
	Transportation			
46	Federal Transit Funding	134.7	State	CARES; CCA 2021; ARP
47	Grants-in-Aid for Airports	46.8	Airports	CARES; CCA 2021; ARP
48	Highway Infrastructure Programs	54.3	State	CCA 2021
	Independent Agencies			
49	Election Security Grants	3.0	State	CARES
50	National Endowment for the Arts	1.2	State	CARES;ARP
51	National Endowment for the Humanities	1.0	Provider	CARES;ARP
52	Institute of Museum and Library Services	2.4	State	CARES;ARP
53	COVID-19 Telehealth Program	0.2	Provider	CCA 2021
54	State Veterans Homes ³	0.8	State	CAA 2021
	Health and Human Services			
55	FMAP Rate Increase	301.0	State & Local	Families First
56	Provider Relief Funds	333.2	Provider	CARES
57	Hospital Preparedness	2.9	State & Provider	CARES
58	STAR Health Information Exchange Program	0.1	State & Provider	CARES
59	Advancing Health Literacy to Enhance Equitable Community Responses to COVID-19	2.0	State	CARES
	Total	\$6,699.1		

\$ in millions. Totals do not include competitive grants or loans for which RI might be eligible. Estimates from FFIS unless otherwise noted. ¹ National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, ² HUD, ³ Department of Veterans Affairs

1. Federal Disaster Declaration. Under current federal law, the Stafford Act authorizes the President to provide federal assistance when the magnitude of an incident or threatened incident exceeds the affected state, territorial, Indian Tribal, and local government capabilities to respond or recover. On March 13, 2020, the President declared that an emergency exists nationwide as a result of COVID-19 beginning on January 20, 2020. The Stafford Act constitutes the statutory authority for most federal disaster response activities, especially as they pertain to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) programs. Under this declaration, Rhode Island would qualify for reimbursement of 75 percent of certain expenses.

On April 13, 2020, Rhode Island requested that its share be waived and the Agency reimburse 100 percent of qualifying expenses. The request was denied; however, on February 2, 2021, President Biden directed the Federal Emergency Management Agency to retroactively increase the federal share from 75 percent to 100 percent beginning in January 2020 and extending through September 30, 2021. Federal guidelines suggest that these reimbursements will not duplicate assistance provided by the United States Department of Health and Human Services or any other federal agencies.

The FY 2020 audited closing shows \$111.0 million of expenses eligible for reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and Governor McKee’s FY 2021 revised and FY 2022 budget recommendations include \$362.1 million and \$156.3 million, respectively, for total spending of \$629.3 million over the three years. It should be noted that the \$111.0 million receivable was disallowed in FY 2020 and was moved to a general revenue expense. The administration expected to recognize Federal Emergency Management Agency revenue in FY 2021 to offset the general revenue expense.

The table below shows budgeted amounts of COVID-19 related expenditures and the respective funding sources from FY 2020 through the Governor’s FY 2022 recommended budget.

	CRF	FEMA	Other Federal	General Revenues	Total
FY 2020	\$ 255.0	\$ 111.0	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 366.0
FY 2021	995.0	362.1	314.2	14.2	1,685.5
FY 2022	-	156.3	171.8	-	328.0
Total	\$ 1,250.0	\$ 629.3	\$ 485.9	\$ 14.2	\$ 2,379.5

\$ in millions

The 2021 Assembly added \$13.3 million to the FY 2021 final budget. The majority of this, \$17.4 million, represents emergency relief for higher education from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriation Act. The Assembly added \$1,299.3 million to the FY 2022 enacted budget, mostly to reflect inclusion of funding from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act and American Rescue Plan Act.

The table below shows budgeted amounts of COVID-19 related expenditures and the respective funding sources from FY 2020 through the FY 2022 enacted budget.

	CRF	FEMA	Other Federal	General Revenues	Total
FY 2020	\$ 246.9	\$ 0.1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 247.1
FY 2021	1,001.5	363.3	327.5	12.5	1,704.8
FY 2022	1.5	82.9	1,471.1	-	1,555.6
Total	\$ 1,250.0	\$ 446.4	\$ 1,798.6	\$ 12.5	\$ 3,507.4

\$ in millions

Treasury

2. Coronavirus Relief Fund. The CARES Act provides \$150.0 billion for FY 2020 for states, tribal governments, and local governments. Payments to states are based on population; however, the act does include a minimum payment of \$1,250.0 million, which applies to Rhode Island. Funds can be used for “necessary” expenditures incurred related to COVID-19 that were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved, and were incurred between March 1, 2020 and December 30, 2020. Local governments with populations of at least 500,000 are eligible for direct payments from the state’s allotment; no Rhode Island municipality meets that threshold.

Guidance on the allowable uses of funds was released by the Department of the Treasury on April 22, 2020. It identifies expenditures that qualify as those used for actions taken to respond to the public health emergency. These may include expenditures incurred to respond directly to the emergency, such as medical or public health needs, as well as expenditures incurred to respond to “second-order” effects, such as providing economic support to those suffering from employment or business interruptions due to COVID-19 related business closures. Payroll expenses for public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency are allowable expenses as are those to facilitate compliance with COVID-19 related public health measures. These funds cannot be used for the state’s share of Medicaid expenses and expenditures otherwise reimbursed through other federal programs. The guidance is very clear that funds may not be used to fill shortfalls in government revenue. Costs must be incurred between March 1, 2020, and December 30, 2020. Revised federal guidance issued in September further clarified and broadened eligible costs.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act extends the date by which state and local governments are able to make expenditures from the Coronavirus Relief Fund from December 30, 2020 to December 31, 2021. The state spent \$246.9 million in FY 2020; the FY 2021 final budget includes \$1,001.5 million and the remaining \$1.5 million is budgeted in FY 2022.

3. Rental Assistance. The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, provides \$25.0 billion for states, tribal governments and local governments to provide support for rent and certain utilities expenses, prospectively or in arrears. Funding to the states and Washington D.C. is distributed in accordance with the formula for the Coronavirus Relief Fund including a minimum payment of \$200.0 million, which applies to Rhode Island.

States can use up to 10.0 percent of their allocations for supportive services to secure housing stability such as case management. Provided that recipients do not already receive a duplicative federal housing subsidy, households with income up to 80.0 percent of area median income that rent are eligible provided that an individual is qualified for unemployment benefits or has an income reduction due to the pandemic, and is determined to be at risk for homelessness or housing instability for past-due rent or utilities, unsafe or unhealthy living conditions, or other evidence as determined by the state. Grants can be used for rent or utilities prospectively or in arrears; payments are to be made to property owners or utility providers if possible. Grants are to be awarded on a quarterly basis, and can be reapplied for each quarter for 12 months. In certain instances, three additional months can be provided.

Priority goes to households with income under 50 percent area median income or where a member has been unemployed for 90 days. Based on Housing and Urban Development rates for 2020, the most current data available, 50 percent area median income for Rhode Island is \$31,450 to \$59,250 depending on family size. Based on that same data, 80.0 percent area median income is \$50,300 to \$94,850 depending on family size. The legislation provides for a reallocation of awards beginning September 30, 2021 from grantees which have not obligated at least 65 percent of the allocation; for Rhode Island, the threshold is \$130.0 million. Subsequent guidance from the U.S. Department of the Treasury stipulates that to determine income

threshold eligibility, the state may use annual income as defined by U.S. Housing and Urban Development or adjusted gross income as defined by the Internal Revenue Service for income tax purposes. The Governor’s recommended budget funds this initiative through the Department of Administration, and includes \$80.0 million for FY 2021 and \$120.0 million for FY 2022. The program is being administered by RI Housing and began taking applications on March 31, 2021.

The American Rescue Plan Act provides \$21.6 billion, of which \$2.5 billion is allocated at the discretion of the secretary for high need grantees, to continue this program. Grantees may grant awards through September 30, 2025; payments may be made to grantees through September 30, 2027. High need grantees are defined by criteria for housing cost burdens, living condition quality and density, and employment changes since February 2020. The act also extends the use of funds from the first rental assistance program from December 31, 2021 to September 30, 2022.

Initial payments to states are 40.0 percent of the total allocation with subsequent payments made over time; the initial allocation should be \$60.8 million for Rhode Island. Additional disbursements are provided when 75.0 percent of funding previously disbursed is obligated. Beginning March 31, 2022, unpaid funding may be reallocated among recipients that have obligated 50 percent of their total funding. After October 1, 2022, recipients that have obligated 75.0 percent of their total allocation may use the remaining funds for affordable housing and eviction prevention services. The total from all acts is \$352.0 million. 2021-H 6122, Substitute A, as amended includes \$314.0 million, including \$80.0 million for FY 2021 and \$234.0 million for FY 2022. The FY 2022 funding includes \$120.0 million from the CARES Act, and \$114.0 million from the American Rescue Plan Act. As of July 16, 2021, 7,019 applications totaling \$34.1 million of funding have been received, with 641 applications approved, totaling \$5.3 million of awards.

4. State and Local Government Aid. The American Rescue Plan Act provides \$360.0 billion to assist states and local governments to cover expenditures incurred from, and provide government services impacted by, coronavirus related revenue losses until December 31, 2024. From a state fiscal year perspective, this means funds will be available for use from FY 2021 through FY 2025. On May 10, 2021, the U.S. Department of the Treasury announced that the allocation to Rhode Island totals \$1.8 billion from three sources, the State Fiscal Recovery Fund, Local Fiscal Recovery Fund and Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund. The estimate assumes the state will receive \$1.1 billion from the recovery fund and \$112.7 million for capital expenses, and local governments will receive \$536.8 million; this is \$1.0 million more than previously estimated. The act provides that the capital funds and half of the state and local government funds be disbursed within 60 days of certified attestation from the state regarding the use of funds, with the remainder not to be paid within one year of the first disbursement. The allocated amounts anticipated are shown in the following table.

	Total	Year 1	Year 2
State	\$ 1,131,061,057	\$ 565,530,528	\$ 565,530,528
Local Governments	\$ 536,834,915	\$ 268,417,458	\$ 268,417,458
<i>Entitlement</i>	\$ 272,919,729	\$ 136,459,865	\$ 136,459,865
<i>Non-Entitlement</i>	58,146,731	29,073,366	29,073,366
<i>Counties</i>	205,768,455	102,884,228	102,884,228
Capital	\$ 112,728,834	\$ 112,728,834	\$ -
Grand Total	\$ 1,780,624,805	\$ 946,676,820	\$ 833,947,986

The Local Fiscal Recovery Fund provides allocations to three distinct divisions of local government: \$272.9 million for direct support to defined entitlement communities consistent with the Community Development Block Grant fund allocations, \$58.1 million for non-entitlement communities, and \$205.8 million for county governments. Entitlement communities in Rhode Island include Cranston, East Providence, Pawtucket, Providence, Warwick and Woonsocket. For the county government funds, the state is required to disburse

those funds to each government within each county on a per capita basis with respect to the county population.

Funds are intended to respond to the coronavirus pandemic and its negative economic impacts, and may be provided to households, small businesses, nonprofits, essential workers, or to impacted industries including tourism, travel, and hospitality, or infrastructure supports for water, sewer, or broadband systems. The FY 2022 enacted budget includes \$132.0 million of pass-through funding to locals. None of the state allocations including capital funds are authorized in the FY 2022 budget. This reflects the first tranche of non-entitlement and county funding. The entitlement community funding does not pass through the state's budget.

5. State Small Business Credit Initiative. The American Rescue Plan Act provides \$10.0 billion to recapitalize the State Small Business Credit Initiative established by the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010, to support small businesses impacted by the economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic. Funding is allocated by formula and distributed in one-third increments to states, territories, and eligible municipalities to expand existing or create new state small business investment programs, including state capital access programs, collateral support programs, loan participation programs, loan guarantee programs, and venture capital programs. The act provides that \$1.5 billion be allocated to support businesses controlled by the socially and economically disadvantaged, and \$1.0 billion set aside to increase the second and third incremental disbursements to recipients that “demonstrate robust support” for the socially and economically disadvantaged from the initial incremental disbursement. It also provides \$500.0 million each for businesses with fewer than ten employees and for technical assistance with priority to socially and economically disadvantaged businesses. The U.S. Department of Treasury updated preliminary allocations on May 4, 2021; Rhode Island's preliminary allocation is estimated at \$56.2 million; however, the notice of intent to apply for funding is anticipated to be available on May 10, and applications from states are due on December 11, 2021. The FY 2022 budget includes \$56.2 million.

6. Homeowner Assistance Fund. The American Rescue Plan Act provides \$10.0 billion through September 30, 2025 to establish a Homeownership Assistance Fund for eligible recipients that applied by April 25, 2021. The act includes a minimum allocation of \$50.0 million. The U.S. Treasury has allocated the minimum amount to Rhode Island as of April 14, 2021; however, the funding request portal was not available until April 16. The fund provides resources to assist homeowners of single to four family residences experiencing a pandemic-related hardship since January 21, 2020 with mortgage and other financial assistance including insurance, utility, internet, or other expenses to remain in their homes, or for reimbursement to state and local governments for homeowner assistance consistent with the aforementioned aid. The act requires 60.0 percent of the aid to be allocated to recipients with incomes up to 100.0 percent of the greater of area median income or United States median income, and requires the remaining funding be directed towards socially disadvantaged individuals. The FY 2022 budget includes \$25.0 million.

Education

The CARES Act includes \$30.8 billion for an Education Stabilization Fund, nearly all of which will be distributed to states through three separate funds described below. The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act includes an additional \$81.9 billion for the Education Stabilization Fund, nearly all of which will be distributed to states in the same manner as the CARES Act. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that Rhode Island will receive \$431.7 million for local education agencies and institutions of higher education, both public and private. To be eligible for these funds, states must first provide support for both elementary and secondary education and public higher education at no less than the three-year average for fiscal years 2017, 2018 and 2019 for both FY 2020 and FY 2021. This is referred to as maintenance of effort; the Secretary of Education has discretion to waive it.

Determining maintenance of effort requires a number of steps and decisions. For higher education, this includes funding for institutions and need-based financial aid, but excludes expenditures for research and development, tuition and fees, or capital projects. The Governor’s revised budget exceeded that threshold by \$83.1 million for elementary and secondary education and by at least \$15.9 million for higher education. The final FY 2020 budget exceeded the threshold by \$41.9 million for elementary and secondary education and by \$1.3 million for higher education.

Maintenance of Effort Calculations					
State Support	<i>K-12</i>	<i>K-12 Share of State Spending</i>	<i>Public Higher Education</i>	<i>Higher Ed. Share of State Spending</i>	
FY 2017	\$ 1,093.1	29.8%	\$ 172.1	4.69%	
FY 2018	\$ 1,141.2	30.1%	\$ 178.5	4.70%	
FY 2019	\$ 1,166.6	29.7%	\$ 185.5	4.73%	
Three-Year Average	\$ 1,133.7	29.85%	\$ 178.7	4.71%	
FY 2020 Final	\$ 1,096.4	27.69%	\$ 180.0	4.55%	
Chg. to 3-Yr. Average	\$ (37.3)	-2.2%	\$ 1.3	-0.16%	
FY 2021 Final	\$ 1,260.5	31.65%	\$ 189.3	4.75%	
Chg. to 3-Yr. Average	\$ 126.8	1.8%	\$ 10.6	0.05%	
FY 2022 Enacted	\$ 1,306.5	28.71%	\$ 212.6	4.67%	
Chg. to 3-Yr. Average	\$ 172.8	-1.14%	\$ 33.8	-0.03%	

\$ in millions

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act includes an additional \$81.9 billion for the Education Stabilization Fund, nearly all of which will be distributed to states in the same manner as the CARES Act. Unlike the CARES Act, which required state support for education be at least equal to average state spending from general revenues on those programs during the three-year period, the new maintenance of effort requirement is based on a share of spending rather than a specific dollar amount. The requirement is now based on the proportion of state spending on education compared to all state spending in those same years. For example, state spending on elementary and secondary education comprised 27.7 percent of state spending in FY 2017 through FY 2019, therefore spending in FY 2022 must comprise at least 27.7 percent of all state spending.

Consistent with the CARES Act, the Secretary of Education has the authority to waive this requirement. Based on the final FY 2021 budget, the maintenance of effort requirement would be met for both elementary and secondary education and for higher education. However, neither agency would meet the requirement based on the enacted FY 2022 budget. Despite significant increases in funding for both agencies, the state’s overall general revenue budget is \$568.2 million more for FY 2022 than the final FY 2021 budget. Information provided by the Department of Administration indicates that the state will apply for a waiver for FY 2022.

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act, which includes \$122.8 billion for emergency relief for elementary and secondary schools. This is in addition to both appropriations noted above. Funding is available for use through September 30, 2023, state education agencies will have to award funding within one year of receiving it. At least 90.0 percent must be distributed to local education agencies in the same manner as the prior bills. However, local education agencies must use at least 20.0 percent of their funds specifically to address learning loss.

Maintenance of effort requirements are consistent with the Consolidated Appropriations Act but for FY 2022 and FY 2023. Unlike prior legislation, the American Rescue Plan Act includes new maintenance of equity requirements. This requires that state funding for high need and high poverty local education agencies on a per-pupil basis for FY 2022 and FY 2023 be at least consistent with FY 2019. Additionally,

the bill includes a local maintenance of effort requirement for local education agencies; high poverty schools must maintain per-pupil funding and per-pupil full-time equivalent staff for FY 2022 and FY 2023. Consistent with prior legislation, the Secretary of Education is authorized to waive it. Rhode Island is estimated to receive a total of \$1,021.7 million from education stabilization funds across elementary, secondary, and higher education through the three acts.

7. Governor's Fund. The Education Stabilization Fund includes \$2.95 billion for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund for which Rhode Island is eligible for \$8.7 million. States must apply for funds, which will be awarded based on two formulas. Funds are for grants to local education agencies, higher education institutions and other education related entities within the state that have been most affected by the coronavirus.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act includes an additional \$4.1 billion for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund, of which \$2.8 billion would be set aside for grants for non-public schools. On January 8, the federal Department of Education published funding distributions by state; Rhode Island received \$10.9 million. Of this amount, \$3.8 million is flexible and \$7.1 million must be distributed to private schools.

In total, Rhode Island received \$19.7 million from Governor's Emergency Education Relief funds, of which \$12.5 million is flexible. Governor Raimondo decided that \$0.9 million would be used to increase student access to mental health professionals, including through the Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals, \$2.5 million to expand prekindergarten, \$5.3 million to expand access to the Community College in a manner similar to the Promise program, and \$3.9 million for the Office of Postsecondary Commissioner. The Office will use funds to: improve access to higher education and education training opportunities, support innovation of ongoing operations of those institutions of higher education that have been most impacted by COVID-19, and to protect education related jobs and increase the quality of child care programming. Governor McKee included the \$12.5 million in his FY 2022 budget recommendation. The Budget includes the funds as recommended.

The American Rescue Plan Act includes an additional \$2.8 billion for the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund. Funds must specifically be distributed to non-public schools. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates Rhode Island will receive \$6.2 million. In total, the state is estimated to receive \$25.9 million from Governor's Emergency Education Relief funds from all three acts. The Budget includes a total of \$13.4 million for support to non-public schools, including funding from both the Consolidated Appropriations Act and the American Rescue Plan Act.

8. K-12 Fund. The Education Stabilization Fund includes \$13.2 billion for emergency relief for elementary and secondary schools. State education agencies must apply for funds which will be awarded in proportion to Title I-A grants. Rhode Island received \$46.4 million; at least 90.0 percent must be distributed to local education agencies, proportionally to Title I-A funds. Funds can be used for preparedness and response activities related to and resulting from coronavirus, such as sanitizing school buildings and planning for long-term closures. Funds can also be used for educational activities, addressing the needs of special populations, and purchasing technology for students. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education made funding distribution estimates available to local education agencies on May 8, totaling \$41.7 million. No more than \$0.2 million or 0.5 percent of the total award may be used on administrative costs. These funds were included in the final FY 2020 budget.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act includes an additional \$54.3 billion for emergency relief for elementary and secondary schools. Consistent with the CARES Act, new funds will be awarded to states in proportion to Title I-A funds, of which at least 90.0 percent must be distributed directly to local education agencies. Recipients must use the funds by September 30, 2023 for educational activities, addressing the needs of special populations, and physical improvements related to

air quality. State education agencies have one year from receiving funds to make the awards. On January 5, the federal Department of Education published funding distributions by state; Rhode Island is anticipated to receive \$184.8 million, of which at least \$166.3 million must be distributed to local education agencies.

The American Rescue Plan Act includes an additional \$122.8 billion for emergency relief for elementary and secondary schools. This includes \$800.0 million for grants to identify and address the needs of homeless youth and \$122.0 billion to states in proportion to Title I-A funds, of which at least 90.0 percent must be distributed directly to local education agencies. Recipients must use funds by September 30, 2023 for educational activities and at least 20.0 percent of distributions to local education agencies must address learning loss. However, state education agencies have one year from receiving funds to make the awards. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates Rhode Island will receive \$415.1 million, at least \$373.5 million of which must be directly distributed to local education agencies.

The state is estimated to receive a total of \$646.3 million from Elementary and Secondary Education Emergency Relief funds across the three stimulus bills. The FY 2022 enacted budget includes a total of \$600.0 million authorized under the Consolidated Appropriations Act and the American Rescue Plan Act.

9. Rethink K-12 Education Models Grant. The CARES Act appropriates 1.0 percent of the \$30.8 billion allotted to the Education Stabilization Fund to be awarded through a grant process by the federal Department of Education for a Rethink K-12 Education Models grant. States can apply for funding under one of three priorities: continued learning parent microgrants, statewide virtual learning and course access programs, and field-initiated projects for educational models for remote learning to improve student outcomes. The Rhode Island Department of Elementary and Secondary Education was one of 11 states to be awarded grant funding. The state received \$10.9 million to be spent over three-years and will be used to increase access to high-quality remote learning. The Budget includes \$1.0 million for FY 2021 and \$6.9 million for FY 2022 based on projected spending. Remaining funds would be available for use in FY 2023.

10. Higher Education Fund - General. The CARES Act appropriates 46.3 percent of total Education Stabilization funds, or approximately \$14 billion for emergency relief for higher education institutions. Of the total, 90.0 percent of the funds will be awarded on a formula basis that accounts for a state's share of full-time equivalent Pell students. At least 50 percent must provide emergency financial aid to students to cover eligible expenses such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care and child care. Remaining funds may be used by institutions to defray expenses, such as lost revenue and technology costs associated with a transition to distance education. The final FY 2020 budget includes \$29.5 million for the state's public higher education institutions; the United States Department of Education indicated that the state's private institutions will receive \$36.0 million.

Additionally, 7.5 percent of the total funds will be allocated to minority serving institutions to be used to defray expenses; it may also be used for grants to students for any component of the student's cost of attendance, including food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care. Rhode Island institutions received \$1.7 million, including \$0.9 million for public institutions. The remaining 2.5 percent of funds will be allocated to institutions with the greatest need as determined by the Secretary of Education; *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that a private Rhode Island institution received \$0.4 million.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act includes an additional \$21.2 billion for emergency higher education relief. In data published on June 29, 2021, *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that Rhode Island Institutions will receive \$103.0 million. The information shows that public institutions will receive \$52.9 million of which \$14.3 million must be used for student aid, private institutions will receive \$50.1 million.

The American Rescue Plan Act includes an additional \$39.6 billion for higher education. In data published on June 29, 2021, *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that Rhode Island Institutions will receive

\$179.6 million. The information shows that public institutions will receive \$90.8 million and private institutions will receive \$77.2 million. At least half of the funding must be spent on emergency financial aid to students to help with tuition and basic needs like food, housing, and healthcare. The other half is for institutions to offset lost tuition revenue and increased costs from declining enrollment, transition to online, learning, the closure of revenue-producing auxiliary enterprises, cleaning, and personal protective equipment. This brings to the total from all acts to \$349.5 million.

The final FY 2021 budget includes \$17.4 million for the University based on information that these funds had been spent. The FY 2022 enacted budget includes the remaining \$128.0 million from Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act and American Rescue Plan Act. Over the two acts, the allocation by institution are \$48.5 million for the University of Rhode Island, \$34.6 million for Rhode Island College, and \$62.3 million for the Community College of Rhode Island.

11. Children with Disabilities & Homeless Youth. The American Rescue Plan Act includes \$3.0 billion for grants for students with disabilities. This includes \$2.6 billion for grants under part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, which establishes guidelines for school age children ages three to 21. It also includes \$200.0 million for preschool grants and \$250.0 million for infants and toddlers with disabilities, also under the Individuals with Disabilities Act. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates Rhode Island will receive \$11.0 million, including \$9.0 million for school age children, \$0.9 million for preschool, and \$1.2 million for infants and toddlers. Based on traditional grant awards, funding will likely be available for 27 months from the award. The FY 2022 enacted budget includes \$11.7 million.

The American Rescue Plan Act also includes \$800.0 million for students experiencing homelessness. Funding can be used to identify homeless children, provide wraparound services, and provide assistance enabling them to attend school and participate fully in school activities. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates Rhode Island will receive \$2.7 million.

Children and Families

12. Child Care and Development Block Grant. The CARES Act includes \$3.5 billion for child care assistance programs for low-income families. Funds can be used for payments to child care providers in the case of decreased enrollment or closures related to coronavirus, as well as ensuring providers are able to remain open or reopen. Funds can also be used to provide child care assistance to health care and other essential workers during coronavirus response efforts. Rhode Island is estimated to receive \$8.2 million from block grant funds, which can be used to offset Child Care Assistance Program payments that the state has continued to make while day care providers are closed. This funding is in addition to the state's FY 2020 block grant award of \$24.3 million including discretionary and restricted funds. Unspent funds may be carried forward into the next fiscal year.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act includes an additional \$10.0 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant. This is in addition to the state's FY 2021 block grant award. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates Rhode Island will receive \$23.9 million. The final FY 2021 budget includes \$18.8 million for direct grant awards to child care providers. Funds will be used to offset expenses incurred as a result of the public health emergency.

The American Rescue Plan Act includes \$39.0 billion for child care providers, including \$24.0 billion from child care stabilization funds which must be used to provide grants to child care providers with operating expenses during the pandemic. The Rhode Island Department of Human Services will distribute these funds through an application process. The act also adds \$15.0 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant, which can be used for the state's child care assistance program. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates that Rhode Island will receive \$35.7 million from block grant funds and \$57.3 million from stabilization funds. Block grant funds may be obligated in federal FY 2021 and the following two

fiscal years; while, stabilization funds are available only through September 30, 2021. Total funding to Rhode Island from the three acts would be \$126.4 million. The FY 2022 enacted budget includes the \$57.3 million for direct grants to providers. It also includes \$6.2 million from block grant funds for increased reimbursement rates to child care providers and \$0.5 million to limit the family share of child care assistance program expenses to 7.0 percent of income.

13. Community Services Block Grant. The CARES Act includes \$1.0 billion for the Community Services Block Grant with Rhode Island estimated to receive \$5.5 million to support programs and services, including those targeting low-income families. The supplemental appropriation is in addition to the state's annual \$4.1 million block grant award, nearly all of which is distributed to providers including community action agencies. The Budget includes \$4.1 million from the new federal funds for FY 2021 and the remaining funds for FY 2022.

14. Low Income Home Energy & Water Assistance Programs. The CARES Act includes \$900.0 million for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program or LIHEAP. Rhode Island is estimated to receive \$5.9 million to assist low income households meet the increasing costs of home energy and reduce the severity of an energy related crisis. This is in addition to the FY 2020 award of \$24.2 million. Eligibility for the program is unchanged. The Department of Human Services will work with local community action agencies to enroll recently eligible residents in the program. The enacted FY 2021 budget includes the \$5.9 million. The Budget shifts \$3.3 million from FY 2021 to FY 2022 based on projected expenditures.

The American Rescue Plan Act includes an additional \$4.5 billion for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. The FY 2022 enacted budget includes total awards of \$30.8 million, though funds are available for use until September 30, 2022. Total funding from the two acts would be \$36.7 million.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 also includes \$638.0 million in emergency funding to assist low-income households with water and wastewater bills. Rhode Island is estimated to receive \$2.0 million to assist low income households. The American Rescue Plan Act includes an additional \$500.0 million for the program, of which Rhode Island is estimated to receive \$1.7 million. Across both acts, the state is estimated to receive \$3.7 million; however, the funding is not included in the Budget.

15. Family Violence Prevention. The CARES Act includes \$45.0 million for family violence prevention grants. Rhode Island's Department of Human Services received \$0.2 million to be awarded to local organizations to provide temporary housing and assistance to victims of family, domestic, and dating violence. The FY 2021 budget includes an additional \$0.1 million, as some funds were spent in FY 2020.

The American Rescue Plan Act includes an additional \$200.0 million to carry out activities authorized under the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act. It includes \$18.0 million specifically for 309 grants to Native American tribes and \$2.0 million specifically for the national domestic violence hotline. Rhode Island's Department of Human Services is expected to receive \$0.4 million to be awarded local organizations as well as \$0.3 million for state domestic violence coalitions. Across both acts, the state is expected to receive a total of \$0.9 million.

16. Child Welfare Services. The CARES Act includes \$45.0 million for child welfare services. Rhode Island is estimated to receive \$0.1 million for services to prevent neglect, abuse or exploitation of children, support at-risk families through services which assist with youth returning to their families, promote the safety of youth in foster care or adoptive families, and provide training and professional development for Department of Children, Youth and Families staff. Rhode Island receives \$0.8 million annually; the additional funding represents an increase of approximately 17 percent.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act includes an additional \$400.0 million for child welfare services. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates Rhode Island will receive \$2.3 million, which is available through September 30, 2021.

The American Rescue Plan Act includes an additional \$350.0 million for child welfare programs authorized under the Child Care Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, including funding for community-based prevention services. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates Rhode Island will receive \$1.0 million which will remain available through September 30, 2023. In total, \$3.4 million is provided. The FY 2021 final budget includes \$1.8 million from federal Chafee funds. The FY 2022 enacted budget includes \$1.5 million from all other grants, including \$0.7 million for community-based child abuse prevention, \$0.3 million for Chafee education and training vouchers, \$0.3 million for child abuse prevention and \$0.2 million for family preservation and support.

17. Head Start. The CARES Act includes \$750.0 million for Head Start programs, of this amount \$500.0 million is for providers that can support supplemental summer learning programs and \$250.0 million is for expenses incurred resulting from the coronavirus. Seats in the summer program are to be prioritized for currently enrolled students entering kindergarten in the fall of 2020 and those with individualized education plans. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates that Rhode Island will receive a total of \$2.2 million to be distributed directly to the state's six current providers.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act includes an additional \$250.0 million for Head Start providers, which will be distributed directly to the state's providers. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates Rhode Island received \$0.7 million. The American Rescue Plan Act includes an additional \$1.0 billion for Head Start providers. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates Rhode Island providers will receive \$3.0 million, which will be directly distributed to them. This would bring total funding to \$6.0 million from the three acts.

18. Emergency Assistance for Children and Families. The American Rescue Plan Act includes \$1.0 billion to be distributed to states through a Pandemic Emergency Assistance Fund. Funds must be used for one-time, non-recurring benefits to children and families and cannot be used to supplant existing funds. Funds could be used to provide cash benefits, for example. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates Rhode Island will receive \$2.7 million.

Community Living

19. Supportive Services. The CARES Act includes \$200.0 million for supportive services for older and disabled individuals; Rhode Island is estimated to receive \$1.0 million which will be awarded to the Office of Healthy Aging. Funds can be used for program administration and distributed to providers for a variety of activities outlined in Title III-B of the Older Americans Act. These activities include health education, counseling, screenings, housing services, home modification, home security, transportation, elder abuse prevention and response activities, and in-home services, among others. The FY 2021 enacted budget includes \$0.8 million from the additional funds; the remaining \$0.2 million is included in the Governor's FY 2022 budget. Based on projected expenditures the Assembly shifted the \$0.8 million to FY 2022 which now includes the full grant award of \$1.0 million.

The American Rescue Plan Act includes an additional \$460.0 million for supportive services. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates Rhode Island will receive \$2.3 million. The act also includes \$44.0 million for disease prevention and health promotion programs for older Americans. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimate Rhode Island will receive \$0.2 million for preventative services. There does not appear to be a state match requirement. Legislation indicates that funding is available until spent; however, guidance from the Administration for Community Living has not yet been released. Total funding from the two acts would be \$3.5 million.

20. Congregate and Home Delivered Meals. The federal government has appropriated \$750.0 million for nutrition programs serving elderly and disabled individuals in response to the coronavirus. This includes \$250.0 million under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act and \$500.0 million under the CARES Act to support home-delivered meals, congregate meal services, and nutrition services. Rhode Island is estimated to receive a total of \$3.6 million for nutrition services, of which \$1.2 million has already been awarded. As of April 1, 2020, the Office of Healthy Aging distributed \$0.8 million for home-delivered meals to community providers and has since received federal approval to use the remaining \$0.4 million, which was designated for congregate meals, for that purpose as well. The FY 2021 enacted budget includes the \$2.2 million from the additional funds; \$1.4 million was spent in FY 2020.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act includes an additional \$168.0 million for congregate and home-delivered meals for elderly and disabled individuals. Rhode Island will receive \$840,000, which was distributed by the Office of Healthy Aging; the FY 2022 budget includes the funding. The American Rescue Plan Act includes an additional \$750.0 million for congregate and home-delivered meals. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates Rhode Island will receive \$3.6 million. Legislation indicates that funding is available until spent; however, guidance from the Administration for Community Living has not yet been released. The Budget does not include these funds as the Office had not received notification of award prior to June 2021. Total funding from the two acts would be \$8.2 million.

21. Family Caregivers. The CARES Act includes \$100.0 million for family caregiver support services, of which Rhode Island is projected to receive \$0.5 million. Funds can be used for activities outlined in Title III-E of the Older Americans Act, including providing information to caregivers on available support, assisting caregivers in accessing that support, individual counseling and caregiver training, respite care, and, on a limited basis, services that supplement the care provided by caregivers. Funds will be awarded to the Office of Healthy Aging and are limited for use to the previously mentioned activities, which includes respite services provided through the CareBreaks program. The FY 2021 enacted budget includes \$0.4 million; however, based on projected expenditures, the Assembly shifted \$0.3 million to FY 2022. Total funding available for FY 2022 is \$0.4 million.

The American Rescue Plan Act includes an additional \$145.0 million for family caregiver support. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates Rhode Island will receive \$0.7 million. Legislation indicates that funding is available until spent; however, guidance from the Administration for Community Living has not yet been released. Total funding from the two acts would be \$1.2 million.

22. Protection of Vulnerable Older Americans. The CARES Act includes \$20.0 million for elder rights protection activities, of which Rhode Island is projected to receive \$0.1 million. Funds are to support state Ombudsman programs and can be used to expand their virtual presence to residents and their families. There is no state match requirement. The FY 2021 budget includes \$0.1 million.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act includes an additional \$100 million to address abuse, neglect and exploitation of the elderly, including adult protective services and long-term care Ombudsman activities. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates Rhode Island will receive \$20,000 for the state Ombudsman program and \$704,000 for adult protective services. Guidance from the Administration for Community Living states that funding for both programs must be committed by September 30, 2022. Additionally, *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates that the state will receive \$553,842 for vaccine access to older individuals, including for advocacy and outreach.

The American Rescue Plan Act includes an additional \$10.0 million for state Ombudsman programs. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates Rhode Island will receive \$50,000. Legislation indicates that funding is available until spent; however, guidance from the Administration for Community Living has

not yet been released. Total funding would be \$1.4 million. The FY 2022 enacted budget includes \$30,000 for the Ombudsman program, \$0.4 million for vaccine access and \$0.7 million for adult protective services.

23. Centers for Independent Living. The CARES Act includes \$85.0 million for independent living centers, of which Rhode Island is projected to receive \$0.9 million. Funds will be awarded directly to the state's only center, the Ocean State Center for Independent Living located in Warwick. The Center provides a variety of services for elderly and disabled individuals, including assessment services, assistance with assistive technologies, advocacy and training, and independent living skills, among others.

24. Aging and Disability Resource Centers. The CARES Act includes \$50.0 million to be awarded as competitive grants to aging and disability resource centers. The Administration for Community Living will award funds to improve long term services and supports, beginning with grants to states to launch aging and disability resource center programs. Funding is also available to oversee active programs as well as No Wrong-Door systems. Rhode Island received notification on April 28, 2020 that it had been awarded \$0.3 million. The Budget includes \$0.2 million for FY 2021 and remaining funds are included for FY 2022.

Disease Control and Prevention

25. CDC Grants. The Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act provides \$2.2 billion to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for "CDC-Wide Activities and Programs." The funds may be used through federal fiscal year 2022 to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally. Of the total, \$950.0 million is for grants or cooperative agreements with states, municipalities and other entities for surveillance, laboratory capacity or other preparedness and response activities. The CARES Act includes an additional \$1.5 billion for surveillance, laboratory capacity, infection control and other response activities. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that Rhode Island's share from both sources will be \$11.5 million.

The Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act provides an additional \$1.0 billion to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The act also provides \$11.0 billion for additional testing capacity for states, local entities, territories, and tribal organizations. Based on guidance issued, funding will go to existing grant recipients for epidemiology and laboratory capacity for prevention and control of emerging infectious diseases. Recent estimates from *Federal Funds Information for States* suggest Rhode Island will receive \$87.6 million for the state testing component. Some of the requirements for the grant award include: a plan for testing a minimum two percent of the state's population each month, and how that will be increased by Fall 2020; a list of established and proposed laboratories that will be conducting tests; and plans for testing at non-traditional sites. Information obtained from *Federal Funds Information for States* shows that the Department of Health will receive an additional \$2.8 million from various grants, including \$1.2 million for COVID-19 vaccine preparedness.

The FY 2021 enacted budget includes \$76.9 million from these funds, including \$54.2 million for testing, \$16.9 million for contact tracing, \$3.4 million to purchase a building and equipment for the Office of State Medical Examiners, and \$2.4 million for data, modeling and analytics.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act provides an additional \$8.8 billion to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to prepare for, promote, distribute, administer, monitor, and track coronavirus vaccines to ensure broad-based distribution and vaccine coverage. The funds are available through federal fiscal year 2024. Of this amount, \$4.5 billion will be made available to states, municipalities and other entities. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that Rhode Island's share of that appropriation will be \$70.5 million, including \$61.0 million for testing and \$9.6 million for vaccine preparedness. The FY 2021 enacted budget included \$73.0 million from general revenues, including \$12.5 million for a vaccine campaign and \$60.5 million for testing. The Governor's FY 2021 revised budget excludes all but \$0.1 million of the general revenues because of the availability of these federal funds.

The American Rescue Plan Act provides an additional \$56.3 billion to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This includes \$47.8 billion for testing, contact tracing and mitigation activities, \$7.5 billion to plan, prepare for, promote, distribute, administer, monitor and track COVID-19 vaccines, and \$1.0 billion to improve rates of vaccination. These funds are to remain available until expended. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that Rhode Island's share will be \$78.3 million, including \$31.9 million for school testing, \$32.6 million for vaccine preparedness, \$1.5 million for genomic sequencing, \$5.0 million for disease intervention specialists, to do contract tracing and case management, and \$7.2 million to support new hiring to support COVID-19 response efforts.

Of the \$270.4 million allocation from the various Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the budget include \$145.2 million for FY 2021. The FY 2022 enacted budget includes \$188.0 million based on available federal funds, including \$111.0 million from the American Rescue Plan Act.

Community Health Centers

26. Community Health Centers. The CARES Act provides \$1.3 billion for FY 2020 for COVID-19 related expenses incurred by federally qualified health centers. Rhode Island has nine health centers and its \$7.3 million share has been awarded directly to the eight federally qualified health centers. The health centers received \$3.7 million to expand COVID-19 testing with awards ranging from \$0.2 million to \$1.0 million for Providence Community Health Centers. There is also \$79.0 million for rural health centers. The act also supports telehealth networks and resource centers and provides \$29.0 million for FY 2021 through FY 2025 along with a new reporting requirement. The Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act provides an additional \$7.8 million.

The American Rescue Plan Act includes an additional \$6.1 billion to expand access to vaccines. According to *Federal Funds Information for States*, Rhode Island centers will receive \$33.6 million for expanded access to vaccines and for information and education activities related to the vaccinations. Total funding from the two acts would be \$45.0 million.

27. Workforce Programs. The CARES Act provides \$4.4 million for the establishment of programs to support training health professionals to meet health care needs of high-risk populations, such as older individuals and those with chronic diseases. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that the University of Rhode Island will receive \$0.1 million. The act also includes \$23.7 million through competitive grants for each federal fiscal year 2021 through 2025 to reauthorize health profession workforce programs that plan, develop, operate, and evaluate projects to improve preventive medicine, health promotion and disease prevention, or access to, and quality of, health care services in rural or medically underserved communities. According to *Federal Funds Information for States*, \$0.1 million has been awarded to Brown University.

28. Community Mental Health Centers and Behavioral Healthcare Programs. The CARES Act includes \$425.0 million to support activities related to behavioral healthcare and substance abuse issues. According to *Federal Funds Information for States*, Rhode Island will receive \$6.0 million through the Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals including \$4.0 million provided to the state's seven community mental health centers to increase access to mental health services. Funding also includes \$2.0 million for emergency response grants to provide flexible funding to address mental health and substance use disorders, as well as to provide resources and support to youth and those who are homeless. It also includes \$0.8 million for suicide prevention activities.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act adds \$1.7 billion for substance abuse prevention and treatment and mental health block grants and up to \$600 million for the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Expansion Grant. According to *Federal Funds Information for States*, Rhode Island will receive \$10.2 million from the substance abuse and mental health block grants,

\$4.0 million from the expansion grant and another \$2.9 million in emergency grants. The Assembly included \$1.3 million for the expansion grant and \$2.9 million in FY 2022 for the emergency grant. The American Rescue Plan Act includes an additional \$3.0 billion for substance abuse prevention and treatment and mental health block grants. According to *Federal Funds Information for States*, Rhode Island will receive \$11.5 million in grant funds. The FY 2022 enacted budget assumes use of \$8.7 million from the mental health services block grant and \$13.5 million from the substance abuse block grant.

Labor

29. Unemployment Insurance. The Families First Coronavirus Response Act provides \$1.0 billion for emergency grants to states for activities related to processing and paying unemployment insurance benefits. State allocations are proportional to each state's relative taxable unemployment insurance wages. To be eligible for an additional grant, a state's unemployment claims must be at least 10.0 percent higher than the same quarter in the previous calendar year. For Rhode Island, \$3.3 million was available as the state meets the eligibility requirements. Prior to the health crisis, Rhode Island's unemployment rate was around 3.4 percent; the Department of Labor and Training reported 4.6 percent for March 2020.

April 2020 data suggested Rhode Island unemployment had reached at least 15 percent which qualified the state for both initial and supplemental grants. For states that receive both the initial and additional emergency unemployment insurance administration grants, the act provides full federal funding rather than the normal 50.0 percent cost share of extended benefits, including the first week for states with no waiting week, and for weeks of unemployment beginning after the date of enactment. The act also provides interest-free loans to states to help pay benefits through December 31, 2020, if needed. The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act extends these deadlines to March 14, 2021 and the state received an additional \$0.7 million in administrative grants to implement the extensions.

The CARES Act also provides \$100.0 million for grants for short-time compensation programs, where employers maintain their workforce through a reduction in hours and unemployment benefits make up for the reduction. Rhode Island already has such a program called workshare through the Department of Labor and Training. The state received \$0.3 million; \$0.1 million is for improving the administration of short-time compensation programs while \$0.2 million is for promoting and enrolling employers in these programs. States must apply for grants by December 31, 2023.

Additionally, on August 8, 2020, President Trump authorized the Federal Emergency Management Agency to use Stafford Act disaster relief funds to provide supplemental payments for lost wages; up to \$44.0 billion was authorized. According to data provided by the Department of Labor and Training, \$172.1 million has been provided to the state through December 27, 2020. The assistance provided a federally funded \$300 supplemental payment for those on unemployment programs for six weeks. The CARES Act had provided an extra \$600 payment per week through the end of July 2020. The program was subsequently extended to September 2021, and the Department estimates final expenditures will be \$173.0 million.

The American Rescue Plan Act extends enhanced unemployment insurance benefits until September 6, 2021. This includes an extension of the \$300 weekly federal unemployment insurance that is added to all unemployment benefits, the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation. It also includes extensions of the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance and the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation program. All other CARES Act and Families First Act unemployment programs are similarly extended until September 6. Total funding from all acts would be \$178.7 million. Though as noted earlier this is the administrative support. Actual benefit payments supported by federal funds and the programs established through the several acts total \$2,865.4 million through July 4, 2021.

30. WIOA Dislocated Workers Funding. The CARES Act includes \$345.0 million through September 30, 2022, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus for necessary expenses for the dislocated

worker assistance national reserve. Funds may also be used to replace grant funding previously obligated to an impacted area. The Department of Labor announced \$131.3 million of awards on April 15, 2020 of which Rhode Island received \$2.3 million. Funding is available through September 30, 2022, which is FY 2023. The Budget includes \$1.0 million for FY 2021 and \$0.7 million for FY 2022.

Public Safety

31. State and Local Law Enforcement. The CARES Act provides \$850.0 million in formula grants to states for the continuation of criminal justice programs. The Department of Justice released guidance on April 1, 2020, indicating Rhode Island is eligible for \$4.6 million with \$3.2 million going to the state and \$1.3 million going to local entities. According to the Department of Justice, funds may be used to hire personnel, pay overtime costs, cover protective equipment and supplies, address correctional inmates' medical needs and defray expenses related to the distribution of resources to hard-hit areas, among other activities. Grant funds may be applied retroactively to January 20, 2020.

Nutrition

32. Food and Nutrition Assistance Programs. The federal government appropriated \$25.5 billion for food and nutrition programs in response to the coronavirus pandemic. This includes \$8.8 billion for child nutrition programs, \$15.8 billion for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and \$850.0 million for the Commodity Assistance Program of which up to \$250.0 million can be spent on the distribution of food. Many of these benefits or reimbursements are paid on an individual basis. Funding for Rhode Island will be based on actual participation; however, *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates the state will receive a total of \$2.7 million from the emergency food assistance program. These funds are distributed to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank, which administers the program.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act increases the monthly SNAP benefit level by 15 percent through June 30, 2021 and extends benefit eligibility to college students who are eligible for a federal or state work-study program. It also provides additional funding for the emergency food assistance program. Rhode Island received \$0.3 million for SNAP administrative expenses, which is included in the final FY 2021 budget. The state also received \$1.3 million for the emergency food assistance program; as with earlier legislation, these funds will be distributed to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank and is included in the FY 2022 budget. Funding for both is available through September 30, 2021.

The American Rescue Plan Act extends the 15 percent increase in SNAP benefits through September 30, 2021 and extends a program to provide SNAP benefits for eligible school children when schools have reduced their hours or are closed for at least five days. *Federal Funds Information for States* estimates Rhode Island will receive \$3.7 million for administrative expenses. Funding is available for three years, from federal FY 2021 through FY 2023. Total funding from all acts would be \$7.8 million. The Budget includes \$0.7 million for FY 2022.

33. Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). The Families First Coronavirus Response Act provides a \$500.0 million supplemental appropriation to be used through September 30, 2021, distributed on a formula basis. The act allows flexibility to help serve families during the pandemic. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that Rhode Island will receive \$1.5 million.

The Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children nutrition assistance program is administered by the Department of Health. It provides supplemental foods, nutrition education and information, referral and coordination services for eligible low income women and children under the age of five, who are at risk of poor health and development because of inadequate nutrition or health care or both.

The American Rescue Plan Act provides \$880.0 million for the program, this includes \$490.0 million for benefit payments, which must be used through September 30, 2022. It also includes \$390.0 million for outreach, to increase program participation and modernization efforts; these funds will remain available until September 30, 2024. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that Rhode Island will receive \$1.2 million to increase benefits, bringing total funding from all acts to \$2.7 million. The FY 2022 enacted budget includes \$1.2 million based on projected expenses.

Commerce

34. Awards to Fishery Participants. The CARES Act provides \$300.0 million for assistance to tribes, persons, fishing communities, aquaculture businesses or other fishery-related businesses that have incurred revenue losses or any negative impacts to subsistence, cultural, or ceremonial fisheries resulting from COVID-19. According to *Federal Funds Information for States*, Rhode Island is expected to receive \$3.3 million. The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act provides an additional \$300.0 million for assistance to fishery-related businesses. On March 29, 2021 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced the allocation of funding would be based on total annual revenues from the commercial fishing, charter fishing, aquaculture, and processor and seafood sectors. Based on these calculations, Rhode Island is estimated to receive \$3.0 million. Total funding for Rhode Island fishery participants from both acts would be \$6.3 million; this funding does not pass through the state.

35. Economic Adjustment Assistance. The CARES Act provides \$1.5 billion for the Department of Commerce to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the economic injury coronavirus has created on states and communities. The grants may provide for development of public facilities, public services, and businesses including a revolving loan fund, planning, technical assistance, training, and any other assistance to alleviate long-term economic deterioration and sudden and severe economic dislocation. These funds are to be used by September 30, 2022. The FY 2022 enacted budget includes \$6.8 million.

Homeland Security

36. Emergency Performance Management Grant. The CARES Act includes \$400.0 million available until September 30, 2021, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically and internationally. Of the total amount, \$100.0 million is for Emergency Management Performance grants for local emergency management activities to support coordination, including communications and logistics. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that Rhode Island will receive \$942,000. Typically, Emergency Management Performance grants require a 50.0 percent state match; however, for all areas affected by COVID-19, the state share will be 25.0 percent.

The American Rescue Plan Act provides \$100.0 million for Emergency Management Performance grants. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that Rhode Island will receive \$940,000 which is available until September 30, 2025. In total, \$1.9 million would be provided from both acts. The FY 2022 enacted budget includes the funds authorized from the American Rescue Plan Act.

37. Emergency Food and Shelter Program. The CARES Act includes \$200.0 million for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program, of which Rhode Island's municipalities are estimated to receive \$776,000 directly. The American Rescue Plan Act provides \$400.0 million for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program, of which Rhode Island municipalities are estimated to receive \$1.6 million which is available until September 30, 2025. In total, \$2.3 million would be provided from both acts.

38. Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program. The CARES Act includes \$100.0 million for fire departments, state fire training academies and emergency medical service organizations. These funds are used for equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training and other resources. According to *Federal Funds Information for States*, Rhode Island municipalities are estimated to receive \$0.1 million.

The American Rescue Plan Act includes an additional \$300 million for firefighter programs. The amount that Rhode Island municipalities will receive from this allocation has not been determined and funds are available until September 30, 2025.

Housing and Urban Development

39. Community Development Fund (CDBG). The CARES Act appropriates \$5.0 billion through September 30, 2022, including \$2.0 billion distributed in accordance with the FY 2020 formula and \$1.0 billion to mitigate health risks and economic and housing disruptions caused by the coronavirus. The remaining funds will be allocated at the discretion of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. Rhode Island municipalities are estimated to receive \$22.2 million. Cranston, East Providence, Pawtucket, Providence, Warwick and Woonsocket will receive \$10.7 million of that total directly, with the state administering the funds for the remaining communities from the FY 2020 formula allocation. The funding has a performance period of six years, and 80.0 percent must be spent within three. The FY 2021 final budget includes \$2.9 million and \$5.2 million is enacted for FY 2022.

40. Homelessness Assistance Grants. The CARES Act appropriates \$4.0 billion through September 30, 2022; half of these funds are to be allocated under the same formula as FY 2020. Rhode Island is estimated to receive \$11.2 million. Pawtucket, Providence and Woonsocket will receive \$5.4 million directly from U.S. Housing and Urban Development, with the remaining funding provided through the state to private shelters. The FY 2021 final budget includes \$0.8 million and \$47,643 is enacted for FY 2022.

The Housing Resources Commission typically allocates funding to private shelters, but had originally allocated \$1.5 million from these funds to Housing Help RI, an initiative to provide emergency housing assistance to very low-income renters at immediate risk of homelessness. The program will provide one-time grants up to \$5,000 for past due rent, late fees or relocation assistance; awards will be paid directly to the property owner or operator. To be eligible, an applicant must be a Rhode Island resident who is renting or in transient housing, whose household earns less than 50.0 percent of the area median income and meets specific criteria for being housing insecure. It was subsequently reported that the restrictions on these funds hampered implementation, and essentially Coronavirus Relief funds were used instead.

The Rhode Island Commission for Human Rights will receive \$11,268 to publish COVID-19 related fair housing notices and to purchase technology that will allow the agency to operate remotely. The total from all acts would be \$11.2 million.

41. Public Housing Operating Fund. The CARES Act appropriates \$685.0 million through September 30, 2021, to support public housing. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates Rhode Island municipalities will receive \$5.9 million. This funding does not pass through the state.

42. Tenant-Based Rental Assistance. The CARES Act appropriates \$1.3 billion for rental assistance. This includes \$850.0 million for local public housing agencies' administrative expenses. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates Rhode Island municipalities will receive \$4.7 million directly from U.S. Housing and Urban Development. This funding does not pass through the state.

43. Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS. The CARES Act appropriates \$65.0 million through September 30, 2021, with allocations made to municipalities available until September 30, 2022. The U.S. Housing and Urban Development website indicates allocations to Rhode Island entities will total \$0.6 million, including \$0.2 million to the City of Providence. The FY 2021 final budget includes \$0.1 million, and \$5,122 is included for FY 2022.

44. Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities. The CARES Act appropriates \$15.0 million through September 30, 2023 for project-based housing for people with disabilities. The funding is intended

to support coronavirus response activities to maintain normal operations. U.S. Housing and Urban Development reports that Providence and Pawtucket will receive \$181,273 and \$42,612 respectively. This funding does not pass through the state.

45. HOME Investment Partnerships. The American Rescue Plan Act provides \$5.0 billion through September 30, 2025, provided that \$50.0 million for administration and oversight be available through September 30, 2029, for tenant based rental assistance to prevent homelessness and housing instability through home counseling, support services, acquisition and development of non-congregate shelters for permanent or affordable housing, or emergency shelters for those experiencing or at risk of homelessness, or fleeing interpersonal violence, sexual assault or human trafficking. Administrative costs are limited to 15.0 percent, and an additional 5.0 percent may be allocated to community housing development or non-profit organizations administering eligible activities with certain limitations. U.S. Housing and Urban Development reports Pawtucket, Providence and Woonsocket will receive \$9.6 million directly, with \$13.5 million passed-through Rhode Island Housing to other communities.

Transportation

46. Federal Transit Funding. The CARES Act provides \$25.0 billion for Transit Infrastructure grants to help transit agencies prevent, prepare and respond to COVID-19. Funds are available for use from January 20, 2020, until expended and will be allocated through existing formula grant programs. Rhode Island will receive \$104.4 million, of which \$91.2 million will go to the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority and \$13.3 million will go to the Department of Transportation. The Federal Transit Administration issued guidance on April 2, 2020, and the use appears to be flexible. The funds can be used for operational expenses, defined as “necessary to operate, maintain, and manage a public transit system.” This includes drivers’ salaries, fuel or items having a useful life of less than one year. There is no matching requirement and funds do not have to be incorporated into a state’s Transportation Improvement Plan for use, unless they will be used for “substantial functional, locational or capacity changes.”

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act provides an additional \$14.0 billion to transit agencies. The funds are available for use until they are expended. The funds will be allocated through existing formula grant programs. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority will receive \$0.6 million from this allocation.

The American Rescue Plan Act provides an additional \$30.5 billion to transit agencies for operating expenses. The funds are available for use through September 30, 2024 and will be allocated through existing formula grant programs. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority will receive \$29.5 million from this allocation. Total funding from the three acts would be \$134.7 million.

The Budget reflects use of the Department of Transportation’s portion of the funds, including \$6.8 million in FY 2021 and \$4.8 million in FY 2022; \$1.7 million was spent in FY 2020.

47. Grants-in-Aid for Airports. The CARES Act provides \$10.0 billion to the Federal Aviation Administration for grants-in-aid to airports to prevent, prepare and respond to COVID-19. The funds are available for use until they are expended. Commercial service airports will receive funding based on number of passengers that boarded an aircraft there in calendar year 2018, as well as the amount of debt and the amount of money the airport has in reserve, using its fiscal year 2018 data. General aviation airports will receive funding based on the airport’s category, such as national, regional, local and unclassified; T.F. Green is categorized as a regional airport. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that the allocation to Rhode Island airports will be \$24.0 million.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act provides an additional \$2.0 billion for grants-in-aid to airports. The funds can be used for expenses related to operations, personnel, cleaning and debt service. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that the allocation to Rhode Island airports will be \$6.2 million.

The American Rescue Plan Act provides \$8.0 billion in relief for airports. Of that amount, \$6.5 billion must be used for grants-in-aid to airports, which can be used for expenses related to operations, personnel, cleaning and debt services. The amount that Rhode Island airports will receive from this allocation has not yet been determined. Preliminary information from *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that Rhode Island airports will receive \$16.7 million. This would provide \$46.8 million to Rhode Island airports from these three acts.

48. Highway Infrastructure Programs. The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act provides \$10.0 billion for Highway Infrastructure Programs. The funds are available for use until they are expended. Eligible uses include preventative maintenance, operations, personnel, contractors, debt service payments and coverage for revenue losses. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that Rhode Island will receive \$54.3 million with no required state match. The budget includes \$36.0 million for FY 2021 and \$18.0 million in FY 2022.

Independent Agencies

49. Election Security Grants. The CARES Act includes \$400.0 million for election security grants to prevent, prepare for and respond to the coronavirus in the 2020 federal election cycle. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates Rhode Island will receive \$3.0 million. Through two executive orders the Governor delayed the presidential primary election from April 28, 2020 until June 2, 2020, making it a predominantly mail ballot election and altering procedures and timelines. The Secretary of State estimated this would require an additional \$0.9 million for printing and mailing costs. The FY 2021 budget included \$1.9 million; \$1.1 million was spent in FY 2020.

50. National Endowment for the Arts. The CARES Act includes \$75.0 million to remain available through September 30, 2021, to be distributed as grants through the National Endowment for the Arts. The Rhode Island State Council on the Arts reports it will receive \$424,300. The legislation waives the state's matching requirement. The FY 2020 final budget included \$355,000.

The American Rescue Plan Act provides \$135.0 million until expended to be distributed through the National Endowment for the Arts, of which 40.0 percent is for state arts agencies and regional arts organizations to support programming and general operating expenses and cover costs related to the coronavirus pandemic. The Rhode Island State Council on the Arts was awarded \$754,100 with no state match or maintenance of effort requirement. Total funding from the two acts totals \$1.2 million. The FY 2021 final budget includes the \$129,863 and the FY 2022 enacted budget includes the \$754,100 supplemental award.

51. National Endowment for the Humanities. The CARES Act includes \$75.0 million to remain available through September 30, 2021 to be distributed as grants. The Rhode Island State Council for the Humanities, a 501(c)(3) organization, reports it will receive \$416,300.

The American Rescue Plan Act provides \$135.0 million until expended to be distributed through the National Endowment for the Humanities, of which 40.0 percent is for humanities councils to support programming and general operating expenses and cover costs related to the coronavirus pandemic. Total funding from the two acts would be \$1.0 million. The FY 2022 enacted budget includes the \$627,536 the Rhode Island State Council for the Humanities is expected to receive.

52. Institute of Museum and Library Services. The CARES Act provides \$50.0 million in grants to expand digital network access, purchase internet accessible devices, and provide technical support services for libraries and museums to prevent, prepare for and respond to COVID-19. The funds are available through September 30, 2021. The act waives any matching fund requirement. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates Rhode Island will receive \$0.2 million; the funds will go to the Office of Library and Information Services. The FY 2021 enacted budget authorized this spending.

The American Rescue Plan Act provides \$200.0 million for “necessary expenses” to carry out museums and library services. The act requires that at least 89 percent of the funding be awarded and the funds are to remain available until expended. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that Rhode Island will receive \$2.2 million which is included in the FY 2022 enacted budget. Total funding from the two acts would be \$2.4 million.

53. COVID-19 - Telehealth Program. The CARES Act provides \$200.0 million to support efforts of health care providers to address the coronavirus by providing telecommunications services, information services, and devices necessary to enable the provision of telehealth services during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that Rhode Island will receive \$0.2 million.

54. State Veterans Homes. The federal Department of Veterans Affairs announced it will make grants totaling \$1 billion to State Veterans Homes to ensure residents continue to receive high quality care, live in modern, safe facilities and are protected from the COVID-19 pandemic. Funds, which were authorized through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, can be used for emergency payments to existing state veterans homes to prevent, prepare and respond to COVID-19. The FY 2022 enacted budget includes \$0.8 million from new federal funds for the Rhode Island Veterans’ Home.

Health and Human Services

55. FMAP Rate Increase. The Families First Coronavirus Response Act increases the federal contribution rate for Medicaid by 6.2 percent. For Rhode Island, the rate increased from 52.95 percent to 59.15 percent for FY 2020 and from 53.81 percent to 60.01 percent for FY 2021. This higher match rate is available in the quarter when the public health emergency began, or January 1, 2020, until the end of the quarter when the public health emergency ends which has been extended to July 19, 2021, now covering all of FY 2021. The Biden Administration announced plans to continue renewing the enhanced rate through at least the end of calendar year 2021, or for the first half of FY 2022. States must retain their program eligibility and other procedures to take advantage of this opportunity

FY 2020 final expenses included \$77.8 million in general revenue savings. The FY 2021 final budget assumes savings of \$148.1 million, and for FY 2022, the budget assumes general revenue savings of \$75.1 million for total savings of \$301.0 million over the three fiscal years. The Assembly also reserved \$39.0 million from general revenues in FY 2022 in the event the public health emergency ends before October 1, 2021, requiring a higher state match earlier than expected. This information is not likely to be final until August.

56. Provider Relief Funds. The CARES Act provides \$100 billion for necessary expenses to reimburse eligible health care providers for health care related expenses or lost revenues attributable to coronavirus. Distribution is left to the discretion of the Department of Health and Human Services. On April 10, 2020, the first \$30 billion was released to providers who received Medicare fee-for-service claims payments in calendar year 2019. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates Rhode Island health care providers received \$128.4 million of this. Another \$12 billion was dedicated to “hot spots,” and approximately 400 hospitals that provided care to 100 or more COVID-19 patients as of mid-April received this funding, including Rhode Island Hospital which got \$19.8 million from the first round. There was a second round of awards with the state receiving \$71.3 million. Additionally, *Federal Funds Information for States*

indicates Rhode Island will receive \$50.2 million of the \$4.9 billion set aside for skilled nursing facilities and another \$63.5 million of the \$10.2 billion set aside for safety net hospital distribution awards. This goes to hospitals that serve a disproportionate number of Medicaid patients or provide large amounts of uncompensated care with hospitals receiving a minimum of \$5 million up to a maximum \$50 million. A total of \$333.2 million was awarded from provider relief funds

57. Hospital Preparedness. The CARES Act provides “at least” \$250.0 million for hospital preparedness activities. The Department of Health’s Center for Emergency Preparedness and Response helps hospitals and healthcare entities plan for, respond to, and recover from mass casualty events. It also provides grants to cities and towns to enhance emergency response preparedness. According to *Federal Funds Information for States*, Rhode Island received \$2.9 million of the \$334.9 million that has been released. This includes \$0.5 million for the Hospital Association of Rhode Island through the Department of Health. The FY 2021 enacted budget authorized this spending.

58. STAR Health Information Exchange Program. The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology is providing \$20.0 million from the CARES Act to help increase data sharing between health information exchanges and immunization information systems. This includes \$10.0 million for the Strengthening the Technical Advancement and Readiness of Public Health Agencies via the Health Information Exchange Program by helping communities improve health information sharing related to vaccinations. Public health agencies can get additional help tracking and identifying patients who have yet to receive their second vaccine dose and better identify those who may be high-risk who have not yet received a vaccination. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates Rhode Island will receive \$0.1 million of the \$5.0 million, reflecting the first year of funding. Funding will go directly to the Rhode Island Quality Institute. There will be a second round with another \$5.0 million.

59. Advancing Health Literacy to Enhance Equitable Community Reports to COVID-19. The Consolidated Appropriations Act provides \$250.0 million to improve the access, use and outcomes of vaccination, testing, contact tracing and health behaviors related to COVID-19 among racial and ethnic minority populations. Projects funded will use, and document participation in, evidence-based, culturally and linguistically appropriate health literacy strategies to increase testing, contact tracing, vaccination and/or other mitigation measures. *Federal Funds Information for States* indicates that Rhode Island will receive \$2.0 million.

60. Stimulus Payments to Individuals. The CARES Act provides direct payments to individuals in the form of a tax credit. Individuals will receive \$1,200 and married couples filing jointly will receive \$2,400. There is also a \$500 payment for each dependent child younger than 17. Payments are reduced for individuals with adjusted gross incomes over \$75,000 or over \$150,000 for couples so that anyone making over \$99,000 or \$198,000 for individuals and couples, respectively, would not receive a payment.

The Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act provides a refundable tax credit of \$600 per eligible family member. The credit is \$600 per taxpayer plus \$600 per qualifying child. The credit would be \$1,200 for married couples filing jointly. The credit phases out for individuals with modified adjusted gross incomes of \$75,000 or \$150,000 for couples.

The American Rescue Plan Act provides a \$1,400 tax credit for each family member that is paid similar to the stimulus payments in the CARES Act and Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021. The credit is \$1,400 for a single taxpayer and \$2,800 for joint filers plus \$1,400 per dependent. The credit phases out between \$75,000 and \$100,000 of adjusted gross income for an individual and between \$150,000 and \$200,000 for joint filers based on the information on 2019 or 2020 tax returns, whichever is most recently available.