

\$400 million of emergency HAVA funds allocated for Covid-19 aid

April 16, 2020

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020 awards \$425 million to states and U.S. territories in the form of the Help America Vote Act. These funds are classified as for necessary, reasonable and allocable expenses that improve 2020 general election security. An additional \$400 million in HAVA funds were provided in the Coronavirus Aid. Relief and Economic Security Act to ensure the health and safety of voters and election workers during the Covid-19 outbreak. The extra grant money can be used for coronavirus-related expenses such as mail-in balloting, buying protective equipment for poll workers and disinfecting voting machines. Democrats on the House Homeland Security Committee on Monday pressed top chamber leaders from both parties to also include cybersecurity funding for state and local governments in the next legislative response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Allowable spending costs under emergency HAVA grants awarded in response to the Covid-19 outbreak

The additional \$400 million in emergency HAVA funds awarded under the CARES Act can cover these costs incurred because of the Covid-19 pandemic.



Purchase of cleaning supplies to disinfect polling stations and voting equipment



Costs incurred to communicate changes in voting processes due to the pandemic



Purchase of protective masks for staff and poll workers



Purchase of laptops for election staff working remotely during the pandemic



Costs to pay for unanticipated increase of mailed absentee ballots due to voter self-isolation and quarantine during Covid-19



Hiring of temporary staff to process unanticipated increased demand for absentee ballots



Costs related to cancellation fees for meetings, training or travel without prior approval as well as costs incurred for pausing and restarting activities



Costs incurred to conduct virtual training to improve administration of federal elections



Costs to lease polling facilities instead of using assisted living facilities as polling places

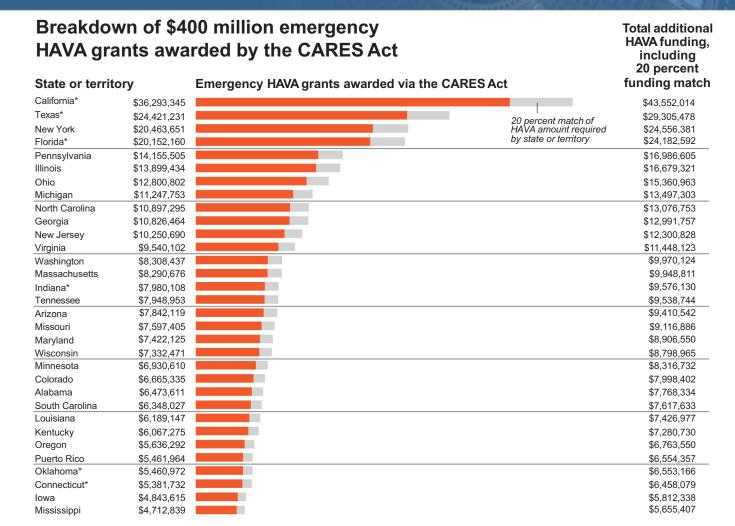


Sources: Election Assistance Commission, POLITICO staff reports



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^{*}As of April 15, according to the EAC, California, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Indiana, Maine, Nevada, Oklahoma and Texas have not submitted program narratives and budgets describing spending plans required by April 27, 2020 to access 2020 HAVA grant awards. These states must now also describe how they used or plan to use the emergency HAVA funds during this pandemic to secure federal elections.

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HAVA grants awarded by the CARES Act State or territory Emergency HAVA grants awarded via the CARES Act			Total additional HAVA funding, including 20 percent funding match
Arkansas	\$4,703,886		\$5,644,663
Kansas	\$4,607,890	HAVA amount required by state or territory	\$5,529,469
Nevada*	\$4,496,720		\$5,396,064
Utah	\$4,321,708		\$5,186,049
New Mexico	\$3,889,527		\$4,667,433
West Virginia	\$3,797,620		\$4,557,144
Nebraska	\$3,676,857		\$4,412,229
Idaho	\$3,396,453		\$4,075,744
Hawaii*	\$3,295,842		\$3,955,010
Maine*	\$3,292,585		\$3,951,102
New Hampshire	\$3,262,422		\$3,914,906
Rhode Island	\$3,016,343		\$3,619,611
Alaska	\$3,000,000		\$3,600,000
Delaware	\$3,000,000		\$3,600,000
District of Columbia	\$3,000,000		\$3,600,000
Montana	\$3,000,000		\$3,600,000
North Dakota	\$3,000,000		\$3,600,000
South Dakota	\$3,000,000		\$3,600,000
Vermont	\$3,000,000		\$3,600,000
Wyoming American Samoa	\$3,000,000		\$3,600,000 \$600,000
	\$600,000	Exempt from	
Guam Northern Marianas	\$600,000 \$600,000	= = =	\$600,000 \$600,000
Virgin Islands	\$600,000	- I require meant	\$600,000
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