



NORTH CAROLINA

STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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July 15, 2020

To: County Directors of Elections

**From: Karen Brinson Bell, Executive Director
Amy Strange, Chief Operating Officer**

**Re: 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ("CARES") Act Funds &
2020 Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Funds – Election Administration
Preparedness for 2020 Federal Elections**

This packet contains information on federal 2020 CARES Act funding and federal 2020 HAVA funding allocated to your county by the North Carolina General Assembly in Session Law 2020-17, sections 11.1, 11.2 and 11.3.

CARES Act Funds

In March 2020, Congress passed, and the President signed into law, the CARES Act to deliver an economic relief package to assist the country in coping with the public health and economic impacts of COVID-19. The CARES Act includes \$400 million in emergency funds made available to states to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus for the 2020 federal election cycle. North Carolina's share of the federal funds is \$10,947,139. In June 2020, the North Carolina General Assembly passed, and the Governor signed into law, House Bill 1169, which appropriated required State matching funds of \$2,120,497. Each county board of elections will receive a portion of the State's CARES Act funding, which must be used in compliance with the requirements in S.L. 2020-17 and the federal 2020 CARES Act in connection with the November 3, 2020 General Election.

Each county has the option to either receive the county's CARES Act subgrant in an up-front, lump sum amount, or request that the State Board of Elections manage the county's CARES Act subgrant while following the county's spending directives. *A Grant Request Disbursal Package will be forthcoming to all counties by Friday, July 17, 2020.*

2020 HAVA Funds

In December 2019, Congress passed, and the President signed into law, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020. The Act includes \$425 million in new Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds, made available to states to improve the administration of elections for Federal office, including to enhance technology and make election security improvements. North Carolina's share of the federal funds is \$11,677,441. In June 2020, the North Carolina General Assembly passed, and the Governor signed into law, House Bill 1169, which appropriated required State matching funds of \$2,335,488. Each county can receive reimbursements for eligible HAVA expenses, with a minimum reimbursement amount of \$10,000 per county. Counties can receive up to a maximum reimbursement of \$250,000, on a first-come, first-served basis until the total funds available are expended.

NOTICE OF SUBGRANT -2020 CARES Act Funds

Subgrantee:	Buncombe County Board of Elections	
Subgrantee Address:	77 McDowell Street Asheville, NC 28801	
Agreement Number: 03-25-11	Budget Period: 7/1/2020 – 12/31/2020	
Funds Description		
This obligation of funds constitutes the Subgrantee’s share, as authorized under Session Law 2020-17, of \$10,947,139 of federal and \$2,120,497 of state matching funds awarded under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, P.L. 116-136 for the 2020-2021 fiscal year to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic during the 2020 federal election cycle.		
Funding Information		
Description	Permissible Uses	Amount
Base Funding [S.L. 2020-17 Sec. 11.1(b)(1/2/3)]	Expenditures incurred to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic during the 2020 federal election cycle, including but not limited to: --Providing for increased postage costs for mail-in absentee ballots sent out by the county board of elections. --Ensuring an adequate number of poll workers by (i) use of advertising or public awareness campaigns or (ii) offering incentive compensation and other pay increases. --Recruiting members and promoting the use of multi-partisan assistance teams.	\$20,000
Second Primary Funding [S.L. 2020-17 Sec. 11.1(b)(4)]	Expenditures incurred to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic during the June 23 Second Primary election for federal office.	\$123,758
One-Stop Voting Funding [S.L. 2020-17 Sec. 11.1(b)(5)]	Early one-stop voting-related expenses that are specifically to prevent, prepare for and respond to the coronavirus pandemic.	\$117,892
Remaining Funding [S.L. 2020-17 Sec. 11.1(c)]	Expenditures incurred to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic during the 2020 federal election cycle.	\$102,183
Total CARES Act Funding		\$363,833

Grant Administration
Grant Administration Award recipients and sub-recipients must adhere to all applicable federal requirements including Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance: Title 2 C.F.R. Subtitle A, Chapter II, Part 200-Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 C.F.R. § 200).
Reporting Requirements
Counties receiving lump sum payments must send monthly reports accounting for the county's use of funds to the State Board of Elections by the following deadlines: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. September 16, 2020b. October 16, 2020c. November 16, 2020d. December 16, 2020e. January 15, 2021f. February 16, 2021 No reports are due from counties whose funds are managed by the State Board of Elections.

NOTICE OF SUBGRANT -2020 HAVA Funds

Subgrantee:	<i>Buncombe County Board of Elections</i>
Subgrantee Address:	<i>77 McDowell Street Asheville, NC 28801</i>
Agreement Number: NC20101001-11	Budget Period: 7/1/2020 – 6/30/2021
Funds Description	
This obligation of funds constitutes the Subgrantee's share, as authorized under Session Law 2020-17, of \$11,677,441 of federal and \$2,335,488 of state matching funds awarded under Election Security Grants in the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020 to improve the administration of federal elections.	
Funding Information	
Description	Amount
Reimbursement Minimum [S.L. 2020-17 Sec. 11.2.(a)]	\$10,000.00
Reimbursement Maximum [S.L. 2020-17 Sec. 11.2.(a)]	\$250,000.00, depending on available funding
Permissible Uses	
<p>Reimbursement-eligible expenditures are those incurred to improve the administration of federal elections, as authorized under HAVA Title I, Section 101, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the administration of elections for Federal office, including to enhance election technology and make election security improvements • Educating voters concerning voting procedures, voting rights, and voting technology. • Training election officials, poll workers, and election volunteers. • Improving, acquiring, leasing, modifying, or replacing voting systems and technology and methods for casting and counting votes. • Improving the accessibility and quantity of polling places, including providing physical access for individuals with disabilities, providing non-visual access for individuals with visual impairments, and providing assistance to Native Americans, Alaska Native citizens, and to individuals with limited proficiency in the English language. • Establishing toll-free telephone hotlines that voters may use to report possible voting fraud and voting rights violations, to obtain general election information, and to access detailed automated information on their own voter registration status, specific polling place locations, and other relevant information. • Expenditures incurred to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus pandemic during 2020 federal elections. 	
Grant Administration	
Grant Administration Award recipients and sub-recipients must adhere to all applicable federal requirements including Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance: Title 2 C.F.R. Subtitle A, Chapter II, Part 200-Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (2 C.F.R. § 200).	