

# **American Rescue Plan Summary**

\*this will be updated as we get more information on process

# **MONEY FOR WORKING FAMILIES**

**What:** Additional \$1,400 per person (bringing total relief to \$2,000)

#### Who Qualifies:

- Single filers with incomes up to \$75,000, head of household filers with incomes up to \$112,500, and joint filers with incomes up to \$150,000 will receive the full \$1,400.
- The stimulus payments include US citizens, lawful permanent residents, DACA recipients and others who hold a valid social security number.
- US citizens married to an ITIN holder are eligible for the payment, but their ITIN holding spouse is not.
- Dependent US citizen children are eligible for the payments if they have a US citizen parent, but not if both parents are ITIN holders.

**How to Access:** This payment will be sent to you via check or direct deposit from the IRS. You do not need to take any action to get this payment, but if you are having difficulty receiving it, you can <u>contact</u> my office for assistance.

# **EXPANDED CHILD TAX CREDIT**

**What:** This will make the child tax credit fully refundable and increases the amount to \$3,000 per child (\$3,600 for a child under age 6). Advance payments will be made based on the parents' 2019 or 2020 tax returns. Experts estimate this will cut child poverty in half.

The advance payments would begin on July 1, 2021.

#### Who Qualifies:

- Single filers earning up to \$75,00
- Head of household filers earning up to \$112,500

• Joint filers earning up to \$150,000

**How to Access:** The Secretary of the Treasury will issue child tax credit payments in advance without any action on your part. If you are having difficulty, <u>contact</u> our office for help.

## **HELP SCHOOLS SAFELY REOPEN**

**K-12:** Allocates \$130 billion to help K-12 schools reopen safely nationwide. Colorado will receive \$1.2 billion. Specifically, this will allow schools to:

- Purchase personal protection equipment, repair ventilation systems, reduce class sizes, and hire staff to care for students' health.
- Reserve 20% of funds to make up for lost time and learning in the classroom.

Child Care: Colorado will receive \$466 million for child care facilities.

**Universities:** Colorado will receive \$495 million for higher education. At least 50% of funding must be reserved for emergency financial aid grants for students to prevent homelessness and hunger.

**Internet Connectivity:** \$7.6 billion will go towards expanding internet connectivity nationwide for communities, specifically in schools and libraries.

# **UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

**What:** Extends Pandemic Unemployment Insurance (a supplemental \$300 a week) through September 6, 2021.

**How to Access:** A claim must be filed with Colorado's unemployment insurance program in order to qualify. Start here to file a claim.

If you have any trouble receiving unemployment benefits, please <u>contact</u> my office.

# **SMALL BUSINESSES & NONPROFITS**

**Nonprofits:** \$7.25 billion in additional funding will go towards the PPP and 501(c) eligibility will be expanded.

**Restaurants:** \$28.66 billion will go towards the Restaurant Revitalization Program to support bars and restaurants with fewer than 20 locations. In the first 21 days, restaurants owned and operated by women, veterans, or those who are socially and economically disadvantaged will receive priority. \$5 billion has been reserved for supporting small restaurants and bars that had annual revenue of less than \$500,000 in 2019.

**Small Businesses:** \$15 billion will go towards emergency grants through EIDL. This will specifically help those who applied for aid in 2020 but did not receive the full \$10,000 grant. \$10 billion will be used to support small business financing. \$2.5 will be dedicated to business owners and operators who are socially and economically disadvantaged.

• Who Qualifies: The Small Business Administration (SBA) will be giving EIDL grants in three categories. The first includes businesses that have no more than 300 employees and must demonstrate a loss of greater than 30% for an eight week period between March 2, 2020 and December 31, 2020. These are businesses that did not receive their initial requested payment, and will be eligible for up to \$10,000, specifically \$1,000 per employee. Another window is exclusive to businesses with less than 10 employees and losses of 50%, and the third for businesses with fewer than 10 employees and losses between 30%-50%.

To apply for a PPP or SBA loan, please contact your bank.

If you need assistance with accessing PPP loans, SBA grants, or have additional questions please **contact** my office.

# STATE AND LOCAL RELIEF

The bill provides \$350 billion in direct stabilization funds for local and state governments. Under the bill, local governments of every size will benefit from funds. These funds are essential to keep critical workers on the job, including frontline health care workers, police, firefighters, transit workers, teachers, EMS, and other vital workers who help keep us safe.

Colorado will receive \$6 billion for state and local governments.

For a full list of projected funds for Colorado cities and counties see <u>here.</u>

# NATIONAL COVID-19 VACCINATION PROGRAM

\$20 billion has been allocated to create a National COVID-19 Vaccination Program, which will include funds to the CDC to prepare, promote, distribute, and track COVID-19 vaccines. Funds

will also benefit FEMA, the Indian Health Service, and BARDA for their vaccine-related activities.

# **INCREASE OF COVID-19 TESTING AND MITIGATION**

\$51 billion has been allocated to increase and create a national strategy for testing, contact tracing, surveillance, and mitigation. Specifically, this will include:

- Funding the Defense Production Act to increase domestic production of PPE, vaccine production, and COVID-19 tests.
- Supporting the Indian Health Service's testing and mitigation activities.
- Increasing genomic surveillance to track and respond to more dangerous stains of SARS-COV-2.

# **EXPANDING HEALTH COVERAGE AND LOWERING HEALTH CARE COSTS**

**What:** This expands Affordable Care Act (ACA) subsidies by granting an estimated 4.5 million additional Americans coverage.

#### Who Qualifies:

- This removes the cap that makes families with incomes above 400% of the poverty level ineligible for subsidies.
- No one will need to pay over 8.5% of their income for an ACA silver plan.
- Those below 150% of the poverty level will not need to pay premiums.
- Those receiving unemployment at any time in 2021 will be able to purchase an ACA silver plan for no premium.
- Those who choose to use COBRA to continue using their employer's health coverage after losing their jobs will receive a 100% subsidy. This will be valid through September 30, 2021. Those who choose to do so will be required to pay the full cost of their coverage (including employer contribution).

#### **HOUSING ASSISTANCE**

\$26 billion will go towards emergency rental assistance and \$10 billion will go towards the Homeowner Assistance Fund. \$4.75 billion will go towards solutions for Americans experiencing homelessness.

# **FOOD SECURITY**

Investments will be made in SNAP, WIC, Pandemic EBT, and other critical nutrition assistance programs. Specifically, this includes expanding access to school meals and food assistance year-round (P-EBT) and the USDA's Child and Adult Care Food Program.

As always, if you have any questions you can **contact** my office.

#### ACCESS TO CHILDCARE AND EARLY LEARNING

Through the Child Care and Development block grant, \$39 billion will go to child care providers and financial relief for families. The Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit for 2021 will increase the amount of child/dependent care expenses eligible for credit to \$8,000 for one qualifying individual and \$16,000 for two or more. The amount of annual funding for the Child Care Entitlement to States will increase to \$3.550 billion. \$1 billion will go towards Head Start's safe reopening; Colorado will receive close to \$11 million.

# TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES (TANF)

\$1 billion will go to TANF to cover needed additional cash assistance.

#### PANDEMIC EMERGENCY FUND

\$1 billion will go towards a Pandemic Emergency Fund that will provide assistance to low-income families.

#### PENSION SECURITY

In order to protect Multiemployer Pension Plans, a new financial assistance program will be created and provide cash payments to secure retirees' benefits. It will also provide single employer pension plans with funding relief.

# **IMPROVING TAX CREDITS**

The Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit for 2021 will increase the amount of child/dependent care expenses eligible for credit to \$8,000 for one qualifying individual and \$16,000 for two or more. The maximum Earned Income Tax Credit will be raised to about \$1,500 and the income limit will be \$21,000. Employee Retention Credit will be extended through the end of 2021 and payroll tax credit for employers will extend from March 31, 2020 to September 30, 2021.

# FARM COMMUNITIES, GROWERS, PRODUCERS

\$3.6 billion will go to the USDA to increase food donations and improve worker safety (purchase PPE, test kits, etc). It will also provide debt relief for socially disadvantaged farmers, fund farmers of color, and relief for rural America's health needs.

#### SUPPORTING TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS' RESPONSE TO COVID-19

\$20 billion will go directly to tribal governments to reduce health inequities and improve economic opportunities. The IHS will receive \$6 billion for accessible testing, vaccines, tracing, and mental health resources. The bill includes \$850 million for Bureau of Indian Education-operated schools and Tribal Universities; \$10 million will go towards Native American language preservation. Funding will also go towards the Bureau of Indian Affairs, housing assistance, and business support.

# IMPROVING WORKER SAFETY AND COMPENSATION COVERAGE

\$150 million will go towards worker protection programs and OSHA enforcement. It will also ensure frontline workers get compensation coverage.

#### SUPPORTING VETERANS AND SERVICE MEMBERS

The American Rescue Plan invests in ensuring that veterans do not have copays or cost-sharing, funds the VA to provide health care services and sick leave, and provides nearly \$400 million for up to a year of retraining assistance.

# FEMA/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund will be supported to reimburse state, local, and tribal governments. The Economic Development Administration will receive \$3 billion to provide support to communities disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.

# **SUPPORTING TRANSIT/AIRLINE INDUSTRY WORKERS**

\$20 million will go towards supporting transit agencies in working through the pandemic and an additional \$1.5 billion will keep Amtrak fully operational through 2021.