

Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Town Hall Q&A 7-23-20

How do we know if we are eligible and what was the website, again?

https://www.michigan.gov/msp/0,4643,7-123-72297_34040_77095---,00.html

So, we should submit for planned expenses, it will get approved and then we will make the purchases and seek reimbursement?

Yes.

Can a nonprofit apply? a .org?

No, not directly but a local jurisdiction can share with a non-profit (need to have a written signed agreement, signed and dated)

If expenses qualify for FEMA also, which funding should we use first?

Our funding is easier and does not have a match. If you can spread around what you want to purchase between different grants, that's a way to approach it. I can't tell you which to apply for first.

Municipal employees removed from their regular position to perform the function of "standing post" to evaluate the public as they access municipal buildings? Would this salary be covered?

We can't pay salary, but we can pay overtime

Is the list of what we can use it for available online?

Yes. And the MML will send links to the spots that list these.

What about overtime for court security who are screening visitors to courthouse?

Yes, we can pay overtime.

We have court security officers who have been "reassigned" to be stationed at the entrance to the courthouse facility to screen the public entering the facility. This has resulted in the need for overtime to provide this coverage. Is this overtime eligible?

Yes. We can't pay salary, but we can pay overtime and additional *contractual* salaries.

Are all counties not eligible? I don't see Genesee County listed anywhere and we have courts and a jail.

Genesee County was eligible for direct federal aid. It did not run through the MSP grant process discussed here.

If I heard correctly, these funds are not specifically for our law enforcement department. Our main municipal building is separate from our Public Safety Department building. Is the PPE, plexiglass barriers, and cleaning supplies purchased for our main municipal building eligible for this grant?

Allocations were made to criminal justice agencies. None were made to cities, counties, townships, or villages. If the local law agency wants to share and buy plexiglass for the municipality, it can.

The application says the following can apply: Indian tribes; local law enforcement; county sheriff offices; county prosecutor offices; Michigan circuit, district, and probate courts; the Michigan State Police (MSP); the Michigan Department of Attorney General; and the State Appellate Defenders Office (SADO).

What about equipment that would normally be shared but due to COVID there is a need for each member to have individually?

Depends what it is. Need more detail. Email CESF staff for help.

Can we purchase one additional uniform for each officer for their use after they are exposed at work but must remain at work.

We are only approving additional washable uniforms with proper justification.

In order to allow for social distancing, could our courts remove pews from the court rooms and purchase individual chairs to allow for spacing?

We would pay for the chairs but not removal of pews.

We are looking at putting in negative pressure in 2 of our holding cells. Would this be eligible?

Yes, as long as you can justify that it is directly related to coronavirus and is not something you were looking at prior to March 1, 2020.

I know that Vehicles are excluded. We no longer are running 2-man units at night due to COVID to limit cross contamination of officers. Is mileage from those additional patrol units reimbursable?

Yes, with proper detail and justification.

Our facilities and IT depts have purchased sanitizing items, PPE, zoom memberships, etc. that are used by all depts. Will we be able to prorate those costs based on number of employees or square footage and submit the portion related to the sheriff/courts/prosecuting attorney?

Yes. For memberships, we will only pay for a one-year membership as the grant ends 9/30/21.

Is Jackson County in the same situation as Genesee County in that the County is not listed in any of the allocation documents?

Yes. Here is the link to eligible entities from the federal aid.

<https://bja.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh186/files/media/document/fy20-cesf-allocations-mi.pdf>

Michigan Municipal League: MSP CESF Page: https://www.michigan.gov/msp/0,4643,7-123-72297_34040_77095---,00.html

How long does it take to get a SIGMA #?

Not sure, this is through the state of Michigan. You can visit the [SIGMA Vendor Self-service Site](#) to access your existing account or register for one. If you have questions, the site also lists contact information for help with SIGMA.

Our Public Safety Department altered the normal work schedule to reduce the number of officers in the building at the same time, to help reduce interaction. This resulted in some overtime being paid. Is this overtime eligible?

If the normal work schedule was reduced, then the assumption would be that the salaries were also proportionately reduced. Therefore, there should also be extra money available that could be used. If there is still OT required, this is eligible with proper detail and justification, as well as a comparison of pre-COVID salaries.

Can COVID expenses related to our Fire Department be included in our budget?

Yes, if you want to share with them.

Would a front entrance kiosk/window setup for social distancing and screening be eligible? What about legal costs?

Yes, we will pay for a kiosk.

Windows are eligible but not the installation of them, as we are encouraging the ones with table footings and/or clips. Construction is not eligible.

Yes to legal costs if it is directly related to coronavirus.

My city police department - the district court located in my city - neither appeared on the list. How can I find out why?

Your city probably received a direct federal allocation for CESF, in which case you would not be eligible for this funding stream.

Are these grants available to counties and prosecutors to apply/ receive?

Not counties, but yes to prosecutors that are on the allocation list.

What about fringes related to hazard pay?

No. No hazard pay or anything related to it.

Are costs of hiring contracted security to man building entrances covered?

Yes

Our CMH does nothing for our jail.

Sheryl Kubiak: Please contact us at Center for Behavioral Health and Justice - or email spk@wayne.edu regarding collaboration with CMH

For Judge McCormack:

MDOC has required jails to institute strict protocols to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in facilities. In March, SCAO recommended releasing individuals from jail as part of the Judicial COVID-19 mitigation efforts. SCAO has recently instituted guidelines to protect courts (staff/Public) with remote protocols but allowed business to go back to some form of normal. With court business going back to a form of normal, we are currently seeing low crime offenders/technical violators being sent to jail for overnight and weekend stays. Does this make sense with COVID-19 cases increasing and is protecting the jail population from COVID-19 no longer a priority of the judicial branch? I understand there are statutory timelines for various matters, and this may be the reason for current actions by the courts. Just looking for thoughts on this. Thank you!!

I can't speak for any individual decision but in my view, Courts should continue to use the tools they have been using to protect jail populations. Jails are high density places with lots of revolving population, and therefore a great risk for COVID spread. Courts across the state have used the Jail Taskforce recommendations to reduce jail populations and should continue to do so whenever possible. SCAO's lack to full capacity guidelines encourage continued remote proceedings.