

EAC CARES Progress Narrative Report

Response ID:76 Data

1. EAC-CARES Progress Narrative Report Login

Please enter your userword and password to begin the CARES Funding Progress Narrative. If you require assistance or have any questions, please contact CARESFunding@eac.gov.

2. Not a Bot Verification

reCAPTCHA answered

3. EAC CARES Progress Narrative Report

1. State:

Enter the name of the state or territory that received the grant and is submitting this report.

Alabama

2. Grant Number:

Enter the grant agreement number from the notice of grant award.

AL20101CARES

3. Report:

20 days after primary

4. DUNS/UEI:

Enter the recipient organization's Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number or System for Award Management (SAM) extended DUNS Number or the Unique Entity Identifier.

5. EIN:

Enter the recipient organization's Employer Identification Number (EIN) provided by the Internal Revenue Services.

6. Recipient Organization:

Enter the name of the recipient organization and address, including zip code.

Organization Name

Alabama Secretary Of State's Office

Street Address

600 Dexter Ave Suite S-105

City

Montgomery

State

AL

Zip

36130

7. Progress Narrative:

Progress During Reporting Period

The CARES Act requires states to submit a report after each primary and general election that includes a “full accounting of the State’s uses of the payment and an explanation of how such uses allowed the State to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.” Please provide a narrative report that describes how you used the funds to address the pandemic, the challenges you faced in responding to it and how you are meeting the state match requirement. Describe the major issues you faced in dealing with the pandemic in the election cycle and how you made funds available to local jurisdictions. Complete the cost table below describing your major expenditures under the grant. Add additional cost areas as needed that do not fit into the other categories.

For the Primary Runoff Election that was rescheduled from March 31, 2020 to July 14, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Alabama Secretary of State's Office expended \$2,219,420.57 of CARES Act monies in three main areas: supplemental poll worker pay, absentee election manager pay, and supplies, cleaning services, and personal protective equipment (PPE) for poll workers, local election officials, and polling places.

Supplemental Poll Worker Pay

Alabama provided supplemental pay for the state's poll workers who worked the July 14 primary runoff. \$25.00 each was allocated to all poll workers in addition to their normal poll worker pay. The additional allotment was meant to compensate the poll workers for the additional duties, such as sanitizing voting equipment throughout the day, that they would be responsible for on July 14. A total of \$321,725.00 was spent on this supplemental pay.

Absentee Election Manager Pay

The rescheduling of the primary runoff election extended the absentee voting period from 28 days to 133 days. The increased number of days in the absentee voting period increased the compensation costs for absentee election managers which placed a strain on the counties and the state. The Secretary of State's office reimbursed the county governing bodies, called County Commissions, a portion of the costs to ease this burden. In total, \$380,347.25 was reimbursed to the 67 counties for additional absentee election manager compensation.

Supplies, Cleaning Services, and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Alabama created an application system for reimbursement of cleaning supplies, PPE, cleaning services, and other items the counties felt were necessary to make the July 14 election as safe and germ-free as possible. The Secretary of State felt that the officials at the local level would be better able to determine the needs for their individual counties. The County Commissions, therefore, obtained quotes for the items they felt necessary and then submitted applications for reimbursement to the Secretary of State's office for review and approval. After the applications were reviewed to make sure all requests were applicable and reasonable, applications were approved or denied and money was disbursed to the counties. Requested items included, but are not limited to, hand sanitizer, masks, face shields, gloves, disinfectant cleaners, professional cleaning services, sneeze guards, and various other items. The Secretary of State's Office reimbursed a total of \$1,517,348.32 for supplies, cleaners, and PPE for the July 14 Primary Runoff.

State Match

The Alabama Secretary of State's Office is using a cash match system to make the required 20% match. This cash match is possible due to years of cost reductions and available funds under the care of the Secretary of State. For every county reimbursement made for the July 14 Primary Runoff, 80% came from CARES Act funding and 20% came from state funds under the care of the Secretary of State. For the total \$2,219,420.57 reimbursed to the counties for the July 14 election, \$1,775,536.47 of the funds came from CARES Act monies and \$443,884.10 came from state funds to make the required match. The Secretary of State, in an effort to be transparent, has provided a web page with all counties requested amounts, approved amounts, reimbursement applications, and state issued award letters for the public to review. This web page can be located <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/2020-cares-act-reimbursement>.

PROGRESS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

The CARES Act requires states to submit a report after each primary and general election that includes a “full accounting of the State’s uses of the payment and an explanation of how such uses allowed the State to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.” Please provide a narrative report that describes how you used the funds to address the pandemic, the challenges you faced in responding to it and how you are meeting the state match requirement. Describe the major issues you faced in dealing with the pandemic in the election cycle and how you made funds available to local jurisdictions. Complete the cost table below describing your major expenditures under the grant. Add additional cost areas as needed that do not fit into the other categories.

The final report is your opportunity to share the significant features of your activities and present information about the results you achieved. The document should be written as if the reader has no previous knowledge of your activities. EAC would like to share the final reports with all states. The report should cover the entire period of performance. Review and highlight all activities that occurred during the period of the grant. Include the table of expenditures with cumulative expenditures for the entire project period.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Summarize your entire project and the lessons learned during its implementation. Include a review of your successes and an assessment of how your activities addressed the pandemic. What did you learn about dealing with and preparing for a major crisis during an election year that can be helpful to other states? Did you make permanent changes to your processes? Were there unexpected benefits? Shortfalls?

8. 2020 HAVA CARES GRANTS

Current Period Amount Expended and Unliquidated Obligations

PANDEMIC GRANT COST CATEGORIES

	Federal	Match
Voting Processes, including additional costs for printing and mailing ballots, ballot tracking software, high speed scanners and letter opening equipment, mail drop boxes, hardware and software associated with signature comparison of returned ballots		
Staffing: Additional poll workers, election office staff diverted to pandemic response, temporary staff	\$304,277.80	\$76,069.45
Security and Training: Security for additional absentee or mail drop-boxes, pre- and post-election cleaning of polling places, staff and poll worker training on prevention processes		
Communications: Notifying public of changes in registration, ballot request options, precautions or voting procedures)		
Supplies: Additional laptops, mobile IT equipment, cleaning supplies, masks	\$1,213,878.66	\$303,469.66
Supplemental Poll Worker Pay	\$257,380.00	\$64,345.00

If you need additional rows for the summary table, please upload an Excel document with the same layout.

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 3265-0020

Name and Contact of the authorized certifying official of the recipient.

First Name

David

Last Name

Brewer

Title

Chief of Staff

Phone Number

334-242-7207

Email Address

david.brewer@sos.alabama.gov

2. Signature of Certifying Official:



Signature of: David Brewer

5. Report Submitted to EAC



Thank you, your progress narrative report has been submitted to EAC. Please keep the PDF download of your submission as grant record.

CARES Funding Progress Narrative Submission

Jul 16, 2020 09:27:56 Success: Email Sent to: david.brewer@sos.alabama.gov