

EAC CARES Progress Narrative Report

Response ID:286 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.

American Samoa

2. Grant Number:

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

AS20101CARES

3. Report:

November 23 after general election

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

American Samoa Election Office

Street Address

P.o. Box 3970

City

Pago Pago

State

AS

Zip

96799

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.

The CARES Act Funding was very instrumental in the success of the 2020 General Election. The General Election was administered in accordance with the Governor's Covid-19 Proclamation and in compliance with the use of CARES Act Funding. A full accounting of the usage of the CARES Act funding is as follows.

Personnel: Additional election office staff were hired on short-term contract to assist in the additional preparations and efforts for the GE amidst Covid-19. The Election Action Plan included the opening of significantly more polling stations in order to disburse crowds into smaller groups in each voting district. With the additional polling stations, more poll workers than usual were hired and trained to administer the election. Other contract workers hired on for the purpose of planning and executing a successful GE included health experts, professional cleaners and security officers. These additional personnel played major and vital roles in the success of the 2020 General Election.

Materials & Supplies: Equipping each polling station with sufficient materials and supplies to maintain a sanitary and safe area/polling station was of the utmost importance. Office supplies and materials that were necessities for accommodating our short-term contract hires were also purchase and proved a good investment not just for the 2020 General Election but for future elections.

Training and Travel: American Samoa consists of 5 inhabited islands. Commercial travel between the islands was and is suspended by declaration of the American Samoa Governor. In order to ensure the participation of the outer islands in the General Election, the Government and Election office partnered up to charter a flight and boat trips between the islands to ensure all residents of the territory were afforded the opportunity to vote, and poll workers on each island were trained properly to administer the election.

Communication: Outreach programs for the purpose of getting the public informed about the changes and safety measures incorporated into the administering of the 2020 General Election was a huge success. With the CARES Act funding, we were able to utilize all avenues of communication available to the territory.

Voting process: By declaration of the American Samoa Governor, the territory's borders were closed and caused many of the territory's residents to be stranded off-island. The election office launched a Covid-19 absentee voting initiative that allowed for all registered voters off-island to vote by mail-in absentee voting. This initiative, fully funded but the CARES Act saw a 120% increase in absentee voting.

The CARES Act fund along with the efforts by the American Samoa Government and the Election Office staff is credited with the success of the 2020 General Election.

FINAL PROGRESS NARRATIVE REPORT

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	\$100,000.00	
Staffing: Additional poll workers, election office staff diverted to pandemic response, temporary staff	\$300,000.00	
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	\$50,000.00	
Communications: Notifying public of changes in registration, ballot request options, precautions or voting procedures)	\$25,000.00	
Supplies: Additional laptops, mobile IT equipment, cleaning supplies, masks	\$125,000.00	

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

4. Certification

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

First Name

Lealofi

Last Name

Uiagalelei

Title

Chief Election Officer

Phone Number

6(84) 699-3570

Email Address

ldsaelua@gmail.com

2. Signature of Certifying Official:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Uiagalelei', written in a cursive style.

Signature of: Lealofi Uiagalelei

5. Report Submitted to EAC

CARES Funding Progress Narrative Submission

Dec 09, 2020 22:02:37 Success: Email Sent to: ldsaelua@gmail.com