

FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORT

(Follow form instructions)

1. Federal Agency and Organizational Element to Which Report is Submitted Election Assistance Commission				2. Federal Grant or Other Identifying Number Assigned by Federal Agency (To report multiple grants, use FFR Attachment) PR20101CARES			
3. Recipient Organization (Name and complete address including Zip code) State Of Elections Commission 550 AVE ALTERIAL B, SAN JUAN, PR 009181480							
4a. DUNS Number	4b. EIN	5. Recipient Account Number or Identifying Number (To report multiple grants, use FFR Attachment)		6. Report Type	7. Basis of Accounting		
				<input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Annual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annual <input type="checkbox"/> Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accrual		
8. Project/Grant Period (Month, Day, Year) From: March 28, 2020				9. Reporting Period End Date (Month, Day, Year) December 31, 2020			
To: December 31, 2020							
10. Transactions					Cumulative		
<i>(Use lines a-c for single or combined multiple grant reporting)</i>							
Federal Cash (To report multiple grants separately, also use FFR Attachment):							
a. Cash Receipts					\$3,881,359.00		
b. Cash Disbursements					\$2,286,938.25		
c. Cash on Hand (line a minus b)					\$1,594,420.75		
<i>(Use lines d-o for single grant reporting)</i>							
Federal Expenditures and Unobligated Balance:							
d. Total Federal funds authorized					\$3,881,359.00		
e. Federal share of expenditures					\$2,286,938.25		
f. Federal share of unliquidated obligations					\$95,836.10		
g. Total Federal share (sum of lines e and f)					\$2,382,774.35		
h. Unobligated balance of Federal funds (line d minus g)					\$1,498,584.65		
Recipient Share:							
i. Total recipient share required					\$776,272.00		
j. Recipient share of expenditures					\$447,696.54		
k. Remaining recipient share to be provided (line i minus j)					\$328,575.46		
Program Income:							
l. Total Federal share of program income earned					\$0.00		
m. Program income expended in accordance with the deduction alternative					\$0.00		
n. Program income expended in accordance with the addition alternative					\$0.00		
o. Unexpended program income (line l minus line m and line n)					\$0.00		
11. Indirect Expense	a. Type	b. Rate	c. Period From	Period To	d. Base	e. Amount Charged	f. Federal Share
g. Totals:					\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
12. Remarks: Attach any explanations deemed necessary or information required by Federal sponsoring agency in compliance with governing legislation: State interest earned: \$0							
13. Certification: By signing this report, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the report is true, complete, and accurate, and the expenditures, disbursements and cash receipts are for the purposes and intent set forth in the award documents. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)							
a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official Hidalgo Betances, Aideliz HAVA COORDINATOR/BUDGET ANALYST				c. Telephone (Area code, number, and extension)			
b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official Hidalgo Betances, Aideliz				d. Email Address			
e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year) March 1, 2021							

Standard Form 425
OMB Approval Number: 4040-0014
Expiration Date: 02/28/2022

Paperwork Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act, as amended, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB Control Number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 4040-0014. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: US Department of Health & Human Services, OS/OCIO/PRA, 200 Independence Ave, SW, Suite 336-E, Washington DC 20201. Attention: PRA Reports Clearance Officer

FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORT

(Additional Page)

Federal Agency & Organization : Election Assistance Commission

Federal Grant ID : PR20101CARES

Recipient Organization : State Of Elections Commission
550 AVE ALTERIAL B, SAN JUAN, PR 009181480 :

DUNS Number :

EIN :

Reporting Period End Date : December 31, 2020

Status : Awarding Agency Approval

Remarks : State interest earned: \$0
State interest expended: \$0
Program income earned: \$0
Program income source: N/A
Program income expended: \$0

During this reporting period, the state match expended were allocated under the State Commission of Puerto Rico's funds. There is a special allocation for the State Match funds of \$776,272 that hasn't been used, but the next reporting period will be reflected activities to support the grant.

Federal Agency Review

Reviewer Name :
Phone # :
Email :
Review Date :
Review Comments :

EAC Progress Report

1. Login

3. EAC Progress Report

1. State or Territory:

Puerto Rico

2. Grant Number:

PR20101CARES

3. Report:

CARES (Off-cycle report only due February 28, 2021)

4. Grant:

Please select only one.

CARES

5. Reporting Period Start Date

3/28/20

6. Reporting Period End Date

12/31/2020

7. DUNS/UEI:

8. EIN:

9. Recipient Organization:

Organization Name

State Election Commission Of Puerto Rico

Street Address

550 Arterial St. Hato Rey

City

San Juan

State

PR

Zip

00917

4. Progress and Narrative

10. CARES Grant Specific:

Describe how you used the funds to address the pandemic.

PUERTO RICO STATE ELECTION COMMISSION
HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT (HAVA)
2020 HAVA CARES PROGRESS REPORT
Cumulative Report from 03/23/2020 to 01/31/2021

CARES Grant Specific:

Describe how you used the funds to address the pandemic:

As described in the previous report, the State Election Commission of Puerto Rico as the established programs and budget narrative submitted before, distributes these funds to accomplish the following activities: prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus for the 2020 elections. This report shows almost the complete disbursement from the inception of the grant until January 31, 2021. The final disbursements will be reflected in the next report.

HAVA CARES funds were used to attend the massive increase in Absentee Voting solicitations, to ensure a safe environment for voter and electoral staff and comply with the educational campaign for voters on how to exercise their right to vote in a safe

way, protecting them for COVID-19 contagion. Also, the funds helped the State Election Commission to guarantee a safe place all the time in the workplaces and in the polling places. CARES funds were used to continuously cleanse and disinfect shared areas, acquiring thermometers for the monitoring of all voters and polling officials, purchases for the acquisitions of masks, hand sanitizer, gloves, face shields, and other prevention material for the electorate and polling officials.

In the categories and budget program established we have expended the following:

Grant Award: \$3,881,359

Total of Expenditures from this reporting period: \$2,286,938.25

Total of Obligations from this reporting period: 95,836.10

Total: \$2,382,774.34

11. Describe the major issues you faced in dealing with the pandemic in the election cycle.

Besides the recent challenges that Puerto Rico has faced, taking into consideration the polling centers' relocation because of the current southern earthquakes, the main ones identified were the short time to perform the electoral activities in a pandemic. Considering the lock down, one of the massive challenges faced was finding suppliers to provide us with the equipment and materials to carry out the activities for these electoral events, ensuring the security measures to prevent COVID_19. As a result, it is the first time that The Puerto Rico State Election Commission was required to perform the equivalent of two general elections, considering the massive increase in absentee voting solicitations. As previously reported, a judicial determination extended the date of applications for absentee voting for people and over 60-year-old, making the electoral process even harder. As a reference, in 2016, the total absentee vote was 23,189, while for the 2020 election it was 227,769, an increase of almost nine times than in past elections.

12. Describe in detail what happened during this reporting period and explain how you implemented the approved grant activities.

During this reporting period all the activities under the grant were performed. As described and previously reported, the present report will show disbursements of pending obligations made during the General Elections. The disbursement under the different activities are detailed below:

FEDERAL Match

Temporary Staffing, additional poll workers, diverted to pandemic repose - \$997,357.55 0

Technical Adviser, professional services, cleaning of polling places, etc.- 151,280 0

Printing of Additional JAVA Ballots and envelopes - 327,655 0

Voter Registration Equipment - 0 0 (pending obligation of 208,270)

Cleaning Materials & Supplies - 686,481.80 88,444.06

Communications; COVID_19 Educational Campaign - 220,000 0

13. Provide a timeline and description of project activities funded to meet HAVA requirements. Provide an analysis of how such activities conform to the submitted State Plan or Program Narrative as applicable.

Under the HAVA CARES grant agreement #PR20101CARES, the State Election Commission was fulfilling the activities consistent with the laws described in Section 906 of HAVA, and were not use in a manner inconsistent with the requirements of Tittle III of HAVA, as following:

Activities projected during Fiscal Year 2019-2020

FEDERAL MATCH

Temporary Election Office Staffing \$997,357.55 0 (we are projecting the temporary staff payment settlements under the state matching funds)

Professional Services 151,280 0

Additional Electoral Expenses 327,655 0
Voter Registration Equipment 0 0 (pending obligation of 208,270)
Cleaning Material and Supplies 686,481.80 88,444.06
COVID-Voting Measurements Educational Campaign for Voting 220,000 0

14. Describe any significant changes to your program during the course of the project, or if the project was implemented differently than described in your original State Plan or Program Narrative.

Otherwise enter - no significant changes during this period.

No significant changes in the course of CARES grant projects were made during this period.

15. Describe any favorable developments which enabled meeting time schedules and objectives sooner or at less cost than anticipated or producing more or different beneficial results than originally planned.

Otherwise enter N/A.

N/A

16. Report on the number and type of articles of voting equipment obtained with the funds. Include the amount expended on the expenditure table.

Otherwise enter - No articles of voting equipment purchased during this period.

No articles of voting equipment purchased during this period.

17. Provide a description of any security training conducted and the number of participants.

Otherwise enter - no security training conducted during this period.

No security training conducted during this period.

18. Subgrants (if applicable):

Describe how you made funds available to local jurisdictions.

Provide a description of the major categories of subgrant activities local voting districts will accomplish with the funds.

Otherwise enter N/A.

N/A

19. Match (if applicable):

Describe how you are meeting the matching requirement.

Otherwise enter - match not required.

The State Election Commission (CEE) had to ensure state participation allocating some expenditures as additional absentee ballots and cleaning materials and supplies for COVID_19 prevention under the State Election Funds. As of today, the expenditures made under the state election funds are \$447,696.48. However, CEE requested the Financial Oversight & Management Board of Puerto Rico to authorize state funds to fulfill these purposes, totaling \$776,271. These funds have not been used yet because they were approved in October 15, an allocation intended to pay the temporary additional staff settlement payments (liquidations). As with the activities and budget program submitted under this grant, we have a projection of expenditures pending ascending to \$208,270 to implement remote working equipment that couldn't be allocated under the grant because of the limitation of available suppliers that could provide the amount of equipment request.

20. Issues Encountered:

Describe all major issues that arose during the implementation of the project and the reasons why established goals were not met, if appropriate. Address each issue separately in its own section, and describe whether and how the issues were resolved. Also, briefly discuss the implications of any unresolved issues or concerns.

Otherwise enter - no issues encountered.

Other issues encountered by the Absentee Voting Projects Manager faces to carry out the increment of the absentee voting request were as follows:

- Material shortages or late delivery
- Lack of more phone lines for each district
- Lack of equipment and technology such as computers, fax, scanner, and printers to be able to meet the volume of requests by email
- Internet band expansion (need for faster connection)
- Materials for printers (inks) for excess uncovered applications
- Systematic training process, which would enable new staff to be trained efficiently, quickly, virtually and individually
- More aggressive disclosure of prevention protocols COVID_19 in mass media for voters
- Need for a more expansive place
- Need to establish two emails to address absentee and advance voting requests. The only email set from the source was used in these choices, delaying the process by debugging to identify each submission.

In short, project managers presented the current need to amend the manual processes that mostly require physical effort and replace it with an automated system that streamlines the voting process from application to the counting of the votes. It should be noted that the electoral knowledge to carry out these tasks requires a degree of specialty that could be difficult for some voters and polling officials. To this effect, project managers presented an interest in better pay for these tasks.

Also, despite all the factors against (time and restrictions on acquiring equipment), we recognize that limitations such as the grant's usefulness period about the COVID_19 conditions have limited us to respond more effectively. Indeed, under normal circumstances, we would have acquired tools and equipment for a more significant impact and operation that improved the electoral process and its administration. We understand that the extension of the expense period and the grants permissibility could be beneficial to acquire tools that, in scenarios like this, help us respond more efficiently.

21. Upcoming Activities:

Provide a timeline and description of upcoming activities.

The upcoming activities under the state match are the ones described in the Match answer box.

22. Current Period Amount Expended and Unliquidated Obligations

CARES COST CATEGORIES

	Federal	Match
Voting Processes:	\$327,655.00	\$288,977.48
Staffing:	\$997,357.55	\$0.00
Security and Training:	\$151,280.00	\$0.00
Communications:	\$220,000.00	\$0.00
Supplies:	\$686,481.80	\$88,444.06
Total	\$2,382,774.35	\$447,696.54
Additional Electoral Expenses (Ink increase for the printing of applications for Absentee Vote and Absentee Voting envelopes)		\$70,275.00

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 3265-0020

6. Certification

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

First Name

Francisco

Last Name

Rosado Colomer

Title

Chairman

Phone Number

Email Address

Signature of Certifying Official:

A handwritten signature mark consisting of two intersecting diagonal lines forming an 'X' shape.

Signature of: Francisco Rosado Colomer

7. Report Submitted to EAC



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