

**STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Steven S. Sandvoss**

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April 10, 2020

Mona Harrington, Acting Executive Director
U.S. Election Assistance Commission
1335 East-West Highway, Suite 4300
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Ms. Harrington:

The purpose of this letter is to certify that the state of Illinois will use the funds provided under the Notice of Grant Award, Agreement #IL20101CARES, for activities consistent with the laws described in Section 906 of HAVA and will not use the funds in a manner that is inconsistent with the requirements of Title III of HAVA.

We further certify that we have reviewed and accept the terms of the award as specified in the Notice of Grant Award. Our UEI number is 807648548 and the signed Certifications are enclosed.

We are requesting \$13,966,097.00 at this time. We will use the funds to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, for the 2020 Federal election cycle. To address the effects of the coronavirus on the election we intend to make funds available to the local election officials ("election authorities") who actually conduct the elections in Illinois. Based on feedback we have received so far, their needs appear to include additional tabulating equipment to handle an expected increase in Vote by Mail balloting (VBM), particularly central count tabulators, increased staffing to handle the sending out and receiving of the applications/ballots, a greater number of supplies such as applications, ballots, envelopes, etc. increased postage costs related to the expansion of VBM, additional costs related to establishing vote centers to replace polling places that would likely be unavailable (eg: nursing home facilities, assisted care facilities, etc.), increased pay to attract more election judges, as persons who have traditionally served as such may not be inclined to serve in future elections out of fear of infection. Election authorities have also requested supplies to keep the polling places and election equipment germ free such as hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes and PPEs such as gloves, masks, etc. The State Board of Elections may use some of the funds to cover the costs of a PR campaign to encourage vote by mail, costs related to additional testing of the anticipated influx of new voting systems, and any additional expenses needed to protect the SBE offices and staff from infection.

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Amy Kelly, HAVA Coordinator at 217-782-1536 or akelly@elections.il.gov or Jeremy Kirk, CFO at 217-524-7907.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven S. Sandvoss". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steven" and last name "Sandvoss" clearly distinguishable.

Steven S. Sandvoss
Executive Director
Illinois State Board of Elections

Cc.
Kinza Ghaznavi, Grants Manager