

EAC CARES Progress Narrative Report

Response ID:242 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.

Indiana

2. Grant Number:

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

IN20101CARES

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

Office Of The Indiana Secretary Of State

Street Address

200 W. Washington Street, Room 201

City

Indianapolis

State

IN

Zip

46204

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.

November 23, 2020

U.S. Election Assistance Commission
1335 East-West Highway, Suite 4300
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Re: Indiana Post-Election CARES Report

To whom this may concern,

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Indiana was awarded \$8,013,610 in CARES funds. Consistent with the grant's spirit, it was Indiana's goal to address potential coronavirus threats by minimizing direct contact among Hoosier voters and election staff, educating poll workers on sanitation best practices, ensuring polling locations were supplied with the necessary personal protective equipment (PPE), and ensuring counties were reimbursed for unforeseen expenses associated with the Primary and General Election, all while maintaining the highest standard of election security and integrity.

As of the date of this report, over \$6,798,000 in CARES dollars has been spent in this calendar year. Since our last report, an additional \$1,059,778 has gone towards securing PPE for Indiana's 92 counties to use in the General Election. With assistance from the Indiana National Guard, PPE was distributed to all counties before in-person early voting began and was stocked at every polling location throughout the state. Indiana purchased 10,000 gallons of hand sanitizer with 1,700 refillable dispenser bottles, 2,602,000 pairs of disposable gloves, 1,108,000 ear loop facemasks for staff, 1,800 sneeze guards, 102,000 microfiber disinfectant cloths, and 10,000 spray bottles for voting machine sanitation. Additionally, over 50,000 CDC guideline posters and 20,000 social distance markers were distributed to each county in order to keep staff mindful and vigilant.

With several changes to Indiana's routine election procedures and various election modifications highlighted across the country, it was imperative to maintain voter confidence and ensure Hoosiers had pertinent election information. Indiana supplemented our existing outreach with \$1,000,000 in CARES funds for poll worker recruitment, "get out and vote" announcements, and to ensure voters were aware of the changes surrounding the General Election, including new protective procedures.

We are proud to say that despite the unprecedented circumstances, Indiana conducted a successful General Election. In a time of unknowns and anxiety, it was our goal to conduct a routine, traditional General Election and strive to promote a sense of normalcy for Hoosier voters. In doing so, we were presented with a unique set of obstacles as we navigated through the COVID-19 landscape to carry out a "normal" election in abnormal conditions.

Of the many obstacles we faced, one of the most significant was securing the necessary PPE. In order to carry out a traditional

election with 28 days of in-person voting, the amount of PPE required for the General Election was much more significant than that required for the Primary Election. Indiana had to procure enough PPE to protect all polling places and central count locations, while ensuring the disinfectant solutions were safe to use on current voting equipment. The rapid, widespread development of COVID-19 and the needs of critical health care workers severely limited the availability of PPE through customary distribution channels. Furthermore, there were no individual manufacturers or distributors that could provide all the various types of PPE and quantities. In response, Indiana developed new and alternative supply channels that did not disrupt supply chains for critical health care and essential workers. Additionally, Indiana had to calculate the required amounts of PPE counties needed for the General Election and evaluate how much PPE was remaining after the Primary Election. We were forced to refine our original PPE calculations in order to provide initial and supplemental PPE to all counties.

While securing PPE was a top priority and a significant budget item for our CARES funding, poll worker training was equally critical. It was imperative to ensure the PPE provided was used properly and effectively to protect all poll workers, election staff, and voters. With more voting locations, a longer in-person voting period, and longer times required to count all the votes, Indiana had many more individuals and volunteers to train and supply with PPE. Our office was in constant communication with the county election officials to ensure proper use of the PPE.

In an effort to accommodate unexpected expenses incurred in response to COVID-19, CARES funds have been made available to Indiana counties through two reimbursement grants. The first grant reimbursed counties for costs associated with the Primary Election. These funds were awarded to counties on September 15, 2020. The second grant will reimburse counties for costs associated with the General Election. Applications for this grant are due December 1, 2020. Indiana plans to exhaust the remaining balance of our CARES funds through reimbursements awarded under the General Election reimbursement grant. County reimbursement data will be included on Indiana's final financial report to the EAC. Additionally, we have already begun working towards our 20% state match requirement and are happy to provide a state match summary upon request.

Sincerely,
Connie Lawson
Indiana Secretary of State

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	\$1,270,930.05	
Staffing: Additional poll workers, election office staff diverted to pandemic response, temporary staff	\$0.00	
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	\$0.00	
Communications: Notifying public of changes in registration, ballot request options, precautions or voting procedures)	\$2,643,597.54	
Supplies: Additional laptops, mobile IT equipment, cleaning supplies, masks	\$2,852,682.44	
PPE Calculator	\$19,485.00	
PPE Distribution	\$11,856.39	

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

Mackenzie

Last Name

Nicol

Title

Executive Assistant

Phone Number

3172348354

Email Address

mnicol@sos.in.gov

2. Signature of Certifying Official:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mackenzie Nicol". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mackenzie" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Nicol".

Signature of: Mackenzie Nicol

5. Report Submitted to EAC

CARES Funding Progress Narrative Submission

Nov 23, 2020 12:31:51 Success: Email Sent to: mnicol@sos.in.gov