

# EAC CARES Progress Narrative Report

Response ID:40 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.

Ohio

### 2. Grant Number:

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

OH20101CARES

### 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

Ohio Secretary Of State

#### Street Address

180 E. Broad St.

#### City

Columbus

#### State

OH

Zip

43215

## 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.

On March 25, 2020, the Ohio General Assembly passed H.B. 197, which Governor DeWine signed into law on March 27, 2020. The legislation includes many provisions concerning Ohio's response to Coronavirus/COVID-19, including changes to the 2020 Primary Election. In sum, the legislation does the following:

- (1) Extends absentee voting in the March 17, 2020 Primary Election until 7:30 p.m. on April 28, 2020;
- (2) Allows an elector who has not already cast a ballot in the election, and who was registered to vote by the February 18, 2020 deadline, to cast an absentee ballot;
- (3) Requires the board of elections to prepay the return postage on the envelopes for absentee ballots for the remainder of this election;
- (4) Requires boards to have a secure receptacle outside the office for the return of ballots;
- (5) Requires the Secretary of State to send a postcard to all registered electors in the state for the 2020 Primary Election, regardless of whether they have voted in the 2020 Primary Election already or not, advising the voters on how to request an absentee ballot from their board of elections;
- (6) Permits the boards of elections to mail provisional ballots in certain circumstances; and
- (7) Limits in-person voting to April 28 and makes it available only for individuals with a qualifying disability or who cannot receive mail.

H.B. 197 included a state appropriation of \$7 million dollars to support the efforts listed above, which will serve as the state match for the CARES funding. Of this amount, the Ohio Secretary of State's Office has budgeted at least \$4.5 million in grants to local county boards of elections to implement the requirements of H.B. 197. Eligible costs for reimbursement included but are not limited to: vote by mail printing, postage, and equipment; secure receptacles for the return of ballots; temporary elections staffing; cleaning supplies; and protective masks and equipment.

To date, \$10,000 has been disbursed to each of Ohio's 88 counties to assist with up-front costs, totaling \$880,000. The remainder of the grant funding will be disbursed over the coming weeks as counties report actual costs. Additionally, the Secretary of State's Office used approximately \$2 million to notify registered voters in Ohio of changes to the election and how to request an absentee ballot, of which \$1.7 million is claimed as a match against this grant.

Our office continues to work with the state legislature to seek full appropriation authority for the federal portion of this CARES grant. We will also continue to work with county Boards of Elections to develop plans for the November 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	\$0.00	\$0.00
Staffing: Additional poll workers, election office staff diverted to pandemic response, temporary staff	\$0.00	\$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	\$0.00
Communications: Notifying public of changes in registration, ballot request options, precautions or voting procedures)	\$0.00	\$1,705,040.20
Supplies: Additional laptops, mobile IT equipment, cleaning supplies, masks	\$0.00	\$0.00
Local Grants	\$0.00	\$880,000.00
N/A 2	\$0.00	\$0.00
N/A 3	\$0.00	\$0.00
N/A 4	\$0.00	\$0.00

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

Dex

**Last Name**

Stanger

**Title**

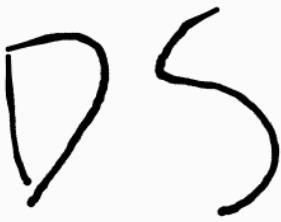
Chief Financial Officer

**Phone Number**

6149955999

**Email Address**

DStanger@OhioSOS.gov

**2. Signature of Certifying Official:**A handwritten signature consisting of the letters 'D' and 'S' in a cursive, black ink style.

Signature of: Dex Stanger

**5. Report Submitted to EAC**

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**CARES Funding Progress Narrative Submission**

May 18, 2020 09:51:34 Success: Email Sent to: DStanger@OhioSOS.gov