

EAC CARES Progress Narrative Report

Response ID:186 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:

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

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.

Of the \$12,925,201.00 the Ohio Secretary of State's Office was awarded in CARES grant funding:

- \$9.5 million was distributed in grants to county boards of elections to use for CARES-eligible costs made necessary by the COVID-19 pandemic in preparation for the 2020 general election, including the hiring of additional staff, acquisition of necessary equipment, and the purchase of personal protective equipment for their staff, poll workers, and voters.
 - About \$1.4 million was also distributed to county boards of elections to reimburse similar CARES-eligible costs that were needed by county boards to prepare for the 2020 Presidential primary election and to implement changes to that election that were made necessary by the COVID-19 pandemic. All other such costs for the primary election were reimbursed through a \$7 million state appropriation provided in H.B. 197, a portion of which will be used toward meeting our state match.
 - About \$1.3 was expended to mail an absentee ballot request to every registered voter in the state in order to make voting by mail more accessible during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - About \$130,000 was used on other various expenses made necessary by the COVID-19 pandemic, including PPE purchases on behalf of county boards of elections and for use by the Secretary of State's Office, equipment needed for staff to work remotely, and additional training and staffing costs for COVID-19 guidance and CARES sub-grant administration.
- Additionally, the Secretary of State's Office used approximately \$2.6 million in state appropriations to notify registered voters in Ohio of changes to the primary election and how to request an absentee ballot, of which \$1.7 million is claimed as a match against this grant.

The Secretary of State's Office is still finalizing and processing payments and anticipates that all CARES funding will be expended or obligated on eligible costs by December 31, 2020.

In preparing for the 2020 general election, Ohio elections officials faced many challenges, but were able to successfully carry out a safe, healthy, and secure election cycle, largely due to targeted use of CARES funding. These challenges included increased needs for: poll workers and COVID-19 related poll worker training, ballot quantities and processing equipment, additional staffing, acquiring PPE and cleaning supplies, and public communications regarding health guidance.

FINAL PROGRESS NARRATIVE REPORT

PROGRESS DURING REPORTING PERIOD

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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		
Staffing: Additional poll workers, election office staff diverted to pandemic response, temporary staff	\$18,500.00	
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	\$353.87	
Communications: Notifying public of changes in registration, ballot request options, precautions or voting procedures)	\$1,387,002.49	\$1,705,040.20
Supplies: Additional laptops, mobile IT equipment, cleaning supplies, masks	\$68,546.73	
Local Grants	\$10,879,756.96	\$880,000.00

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

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 3265-0020

4. Certification

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

First Name

Scott

Last Name

Geib

Title

Budget Coordinator

Phone Number

614-466-1309

Email Address

sgeib@ohiosos.gov

2. Signature of Certifying Official:



Signature of: Scott Geib

5. Report Submitted to EAC



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

CARES Funding Progress Narrative Submission

Nov 19, 2020 10:44:26 Success: Email Sent to: sgeib@ohiosos.gov