



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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**2020 HAVA Election Security Grant Program Narrative-State of
New Jersey**

On January 16, 2020, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (Public Law 116-93) was signed into law and included \$425 million in grants to be allocated to the states. The purpose of these funds is to improve the administration of elections for Federal office, including enhancing election technology and improving election security. These funds will be distributed by the United States Election Assistance Commission (EAC) under Title I Section 101 of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002.

On January 17, 2020, the New Jersey Secretary of State received an award packet and Notice of Grant Award for the 2020 HAVA Election Security Grant. The packet included notification that New Jersey was eligible to receive \$10,934,419 and would be required to contribute a State Match of \$2,186,884.

In addition to the State Match, the State is required to submit a program narrative and budget. New Jersey is in a unique situation in that it must conduct a federal Primary Election in July and a federal General Election in November. As a result of conducting two elections this year during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic the Secretary of State in consultation with county and state election officials have developed this program narrative and budget.

Since the specific costs to conduct elections under the current circumstances is still unknown it has been determined that the most prudent course of action at this time is to dedicate the 2020 HAVA grant funds to potential COVID-19 related costs for the 2020 Primary and General Elections. New Jersey will use all of its 2020 CARES Act grant funding first. The 2020 HAVA grant funds will be used to cover additional COVID-19 related costs once the CARES Act grant funds have been depleted.

The 2020 HAVA grant funds will be used for but not limited to the following.

- Additional Vote by Mail Printing
- Additional Vote by Mail Postage
- Additional Scanning Equipment
- Additional Staffing
- Overtime
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Polling Place Setup and Instructional Signage
- Voter Education