

From [Senator Menendez's website](#):

Help for NJ Workers

- **Direct payments to 80% of New Jersey Families.** Over 92% of single tax filers and eight-in-ten joint-filers in New Jersey will receive payments up to \$1,200 for individuals earning less than \$75,000 and \$2,400 for couples earning less than \$150,000, plus \$500 per child.
- **Expanded Unemployment Insurance.** Increases the maximum unemployment benefit amount by \$600 per week above one's base unemployment compensation benefit through July and ensures that workers who are laid-off or out of work will receive, on average, close to their full pay for four months. It ensures that workers are protected whether they work for businesses small, medium or large, along with the self-employed independent contractors and workers in the gig economy.
- **Fee Waiver for Withdrawal of Retirement Funds.** Waives the additional 10% tax on early distributions from IRAs and defined contribution plans (such as 401(k) plans) in the case of coronavirus-eligible distributions up to \$100,000, and may be re-contributed to the plan or IRA. Additionally, defined contribution plans are permitted to allow plan loans up to \$100,000 and repayment of plan loans is extended for employees who are affected by the coronavirus.

Help for NJ Small Businesses

- **Up to \$10 million per business available** to small businesses with less than 500 employees under the new Paycheck Protection Program. Loans are forgivable for payroll costs, mortgage interest payments, rent and utilities to keep struggling business afloat and workers employed. Loan payments would be deferred for six months.
- **Up to \$10,000 in SBA Emergency Grants** for small businesses through the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program
- **Worker Retention Tax Credit.** For employers, including non-profits, whose operations have been fully or partially suspended, the bill provides a refundable payroll tax credit for a percentage of wages and compensation paid to eligible employees during the COVID-19 crisis
- **\$1.25 million** in funding from the Manufacturing Extension Program (MEP) to provide small and medium-sized manufacturers in New Jersey with resources to grow, reduce costs, improve efficiencies, develop their workforce, create new products, find new markets, etc.
- **Temporary Suspension of Alcohol Taxes in the Emergency Production of Hand Sanitizer.** Under present law, distilled spirits are generally subject to an excise tax of between \$2.70 and \$13.50 per proof gallon. This provision would exempt the tax on spirits removed during 2020 and used for the production of hand sanitizer in compliance with all FDA guidance.

Help for NJ's Health System

- **\$100 billion in grants available** for local hospitals, public entities, not-for-profit entities, and Medicare and Medicaid enrolled suppliers and institutional providers to cover unreimbursed health care related expenses or lost revenues attributable to the public health emergency resulting from the coronavirus.
- **At least \$15.4 million** – Funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Public Health Emergency Preparedness fund to support New Jersey's health system preparation for and response to the coronavirus. This can be used to fund personal protective equipment, laboratory testing to detect positive cases, infection control and mitigation at the local level to prevent the spread of the virus, and other public health preparedness and response activities. The state is still eligible to apply for additional funding from a separate \$750 million fund.
- **In addition to the \$1.8 million recently distributed** to New Jersey Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) from a previous coronavirus relief package, millions of additional dollars are on the way for New Jersey's health centers as the CARES Act includes an additional \$1.32 billion for FQHCs.

Support for NJ and Local Communities

- **\$3.44 billion** – Funding from the COVID state fund to help New Jersey and local communities continue essential services as resources are being diverted to address the economic slowdown and COVID-19 response.
- **\$1.76 billion** – Funding for NJ Transit from the \$25 billion appropriated to help the nation's transit systems.
- **\$53.5 million** – Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) to help communities fund infrastructure, economic development projects, public facilities installation, community centers, housing rehabilitation, public services, clearance/acquisition, microenterprise assistance, code enforcement, homeowner assistance, etc.
- **\$10.2 million** – Funding to help New Jersey prepare for the 2020 election cycle, including to increase the ability to vote by mail, expand early voting and online registration, and increase the safety of voting in-person by providing additional voting facilities and more poll workers.
- **Major Disaster Declaration allows New Jersey to apply for additional funding** from the \$45 billion FEMA Disaster Relief Fund to provide for the immediate needs of state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, as well as private non-profits performing critical and essential services, to protect citizens and help them recover from the overwhelming effects of COVID-19.
- **\$18.3 million** – Byrne-JAG grant funding for New Jersey to help state and local law enforcement and jails meet local needs, including the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE) and other needed medical items.

- **\$70 million** – Added funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to ensure everyone, including seniors and children, in New Jersey receive the food they need.

Support for Affordable Housing

- **\$53 million** – Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) to help New Jerseyans experiencing homelessness.
- **\$12.363 million** – Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funding to help low-income families and seniors offset home heating, cooling, and other energy costs.
- **\$1.7 million** – Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) to benefit low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS.
- **Up to one-year forbearance** on all federally-backed mortgages.
- **60-day foreclosure and eviction moratorium** on all federally-backed mortgages.
- **90-day forbearance on federally-backed loans for owners of multifamily rental properties**, during which period they may not evict or charge late fees or other penalties to tenants for nonpayment of rent.
- **120-day eviction protection for tenants.** Owners of federally-subsidized properties or properties with a federally-backed mortgage loan may not evict or charge penalties or fees to a tenant who cannot pay rent for 120 days following this act.

Help for Local Schools/Higher Ed

- **\$310 million** – Funding to support New Jersey’s K-12 education that can be used to help educators and students transition on online and remote learning.
- **\$69 million** – Funding for a Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund that Governor Murphy can use to provide support to school districts and institutions of higher education hardest hit by COVID-19.
- **\$1.15 million** – Funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.
- **\$62.6 million** – Child Care and Development Block Grants (CCDBG) to help provide access to high-quality child care for frontline workers like healthcare sector employees, emergency responders, sanitation workers, and others deemed essential during the response to the coronavirus, and to provide continued payments to child care facilities that face closure or decreased enrollment due to COVID-19.