

Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act

If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and experience symptoms, such as cough or difficulty breathing, call your healthcare provider for medical advice.

The Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act, signed into law on April 24, 2020, included \$25 billion to expand capacity for COVID-19 tests and for the research, development, validation, manufacturing, and administration of the tests.

Specifically funding is provided for:

- \$11 billion for states and local governments to develop, purchase, administer, process, and analyze COVID-19 tests, scale-up laboratory capacity, trace contacts of persons who test positive, and support employer testing.
 - \$2 billion provided to States consistent with the Public Health Emergency Preparedness grant formula, ensuring every state receives funding;
 - \$4.25 billion provided to areas based on relative number of COVID-19 cases;
- \$1 billion provided to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for surveillance, epidemiology, laboratory capacity expansion, contact tracing, public health data surveillance and analytics infrastructure modernization.
- \$1.8 billion provided to the National Institutes of Health to develop, validate, improve, and implement testing, to accelerate research, development, and implementation of point-of-care and other rapid testing; and for partnerships with governmental and non-governmental entities to research, develop, and implement testing and treatment.
- \$1 billion for the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority for advanced research, development, manufacturing, production, and purchase of diagnostic, serologic, or other COVID-19 tests or related supplies.
- \$22 million for the Food and Drug Administration to support activities associated with diagnostic, serological, antigen, and other tests, and related administrative activities;
- \$825 million for Community Health Centers and rural health clinics;
- Up to \$1 billion may be used to cover costs of testing for the uninsured.

State and local governments will also be required to develop a plan for testing and easing COVID-19 community mitigation policies. The plan needs to highlight goals for the remainder of calendar year 2020:

- The number of tests needed, month-by-month, to include diagnostic, serological, and other tests, as appropriate.
- Month-by-month estimates of laboratory and testing capacity, including related to workforce, equipment and supplies, and available tests.
- A description as to how the State will use its resources for testing, including community mitigation policies.
- This plan must be submitted to the Department of Health and Human Services no later than 30 days after April 24, 2020.