

The President signed the [American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 \(H.R. 1319\)](#) into law on March 11. The relief package provides \$1.9 trillion in relief to support businesses, nonprofit organizations, states, local governments, schools, families, and individuals as they continue to deal with the current pandemic. Below is a brief summary of the major provisions. Please note that this is not an exhaustive list of the provisions. Please note that relevant federal agencies, including the U.S. Small Business Administration and the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, will issue new guidance for eligible entities concerning the law's provisions in the near future. If you have any questions, please contact Tony Shivers, OPERA America's director of government affairs, at TShivers@operaamerica.org.

<p><u>Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides an additional \$7.25 billion in funding for the PPP “second draw” loan program. • Expands PPP eligibility to include nonprofit organizations if they employ not more than 500 employees per physical location. • Adds COBRA premium assistance as an allowable expense.
<p><u>Shuttered Venue Operators Grant Program (SVOG)</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides an additional \$1.25 billion for the SVOG program, including a \$500,000 set-aside for technical assistance to help entities apply for grants. • Allows eligible entities to apply for PPP and SVOG but reduces the SVOG award by the amount received through PPP. • SVOG is expected to be operational in early-April, after the PPP March 31 application deadline.
<p><u>Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Program</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides an additional \$15 billion for the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Advance Program (provides up to \$10,000 in grants to small entities) and directs SBA to make \$5 billion of any remaining funding available for supplemental grants to “severely impacted” organizations that have suffered an economic loss of greater than 50% and have ten employees or fewer. • Exempts EIDL grants from tax. • Extends payment schedules for EIDL borrowers an additional 12 months. First payment installments will be due in 2022.
<p><u>Small Business Administration (SBA) Administrative Funding</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides \$840 million for administrative costs to prevent, prepare, and respond to the COVID19 pandemic, including expenses related to PPP and SVOG. • Provides \$460 million for the <u>Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) Program</u>, of which \$70 million is for the cost of direct loans and \$390 million is for administrative costs.
<p>Community Navigator Pilot Program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides \$100 million for community navigator grants, and \$75 million for

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	<p>outreach and education designed to help small businesses in underserved communities to access various pandemic relief resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows for grants to, or contracts or cooperative agreements with, private nonprofit organizations, SBA resource partners, states, tribes, and units of local government to ensure the delivery of free community navigator services to improve access to assistance programs and resources made available because of the pandemic. The funds are available until September 30, 2022.
<p>Tax Incentives for Entities</p>	<p><u>Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERTC)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increases the availability and value of credit to those employers who "severely financially distressed" (i.e., those who experienced a severe decline in gross receipts) by allowing such employers to take all wages into account, not just those that are paid for employees not providing services. • Extends the Employee Retention Tax Credit (ERTC) through December 31, 2021. <p><u>Credits for Paid Sick and Family Leave</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extends the paid sick time and paid family leave credits created by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act from March 31, 2021 through September 30, 2021. • Increases the amount of wages for which an employer may claim the paid family credit in a year from \$10,000 to \$12,000 per employee and increases the number of days for which self-employed individuals can claim the credit from 50 to 60. • Expands eligible leave to include time taken to receive or recover from a COVID-19 vaccine. <p><u>Self-Insured Organizations for Unemployment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extends the subsidy for costs incurred by employers who provide unemployment

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	<p>benefits on a reimbursable basis, rather than via tax contributions through September 6, 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increases the subsidy from 50% to 75% for weeks beginning after March 31.
<p>Tax Incentives for Families and Individuals</p>	<p><u>Federal Stimulus Payments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides payment of \$1,400 for a single taxpayer (\$2,800 for joint filers), in addition to \$1,400 per dependent. The credit phases out between \$75,000 and \$80,000 of adjusted gross income (\$112,500 and \$120,000 for head of household filers and \$150,000 and \$160,000 for joint filers). A dependent includes both children and non-child dependents. Mixed-status households may receive payments for each individual with a valid identification number. Here is a direct stimulus calculator by Kiplinger to determine your stimulus payment based on your latest tax return.
<p>Federal Unemployment Assistance</p>	<p><u>Extension of Pandemic Unemployment Programs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extends both the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) program at \$300 per week and Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) through September 6, 2021. Extends Pandemic Unemployment Assistance to self-employed, gig workers, freelancers, and others who would otherwise not regularly qualify for unemployment benefits. Increases the number of weeks of benefits an individual worker may receive in the PEUC program from 24 to 53. <p><u>Tax Deductibility of Unemployment Insurance Benefits</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For the purposes of 2020 taxes, excludes the first \$10,200 of unemployment insurance benefits from an individual's gross income under \$150,000.

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<p>State and Local Assistance</p>	<p>Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About \$350 billion for fiscal relief for state and local governments, 57 percent is allocated to states and 35 percent to local governments. Check out the estimated funding your state/county is expected to receive by National Assn of Counties. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ States and District of Columbia: \$195.3 billion - \$25.5 billion is equally divided with state minimum of \$500 million. ○ Local Governments: \$130.2 billion divided evenly between non-county municipalities and counties. ○ U.S. Territories: \$4.5 billion ○ Federally recognized tribal governments: \$20 billion ○ Allowable Uses of Funds: Funds may be used to respond to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19 or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality. ○ State and local governments can transfer to private nonprofit organizations.
<p>Education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About \$122 billion for the K-12 General Stabilization Fund. • Provides \$40 billion to colleges and universities through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) through September 30, 2023. • Provides \$3 billion for Historical Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), and other Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) • Provides \$198 million for institutions with the greatest pandemic-related needs.

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<p>Public Health – U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and U.S. Health and Human Services</p>	<p><u>COVID19 Vaccine Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides \$7.5 billion to the CDC for activities to plan, distribute, and track COVID19 vaccines. These funds can go to state, local, tribal, and territorial public health departments for support for vaccine distribution and administration. • Provides \$1 billion to the CDC for public education efforts concerning approved vaccines. <p><u>COVID19 Testing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides HHS with \$47.8 billion to fund activities to mitigate the spread of COVID19. <p><u>Mental Health Services</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides \$1.5 billion to HHS through FY2025 for grants to states for providing community mental health services.
<p>Broadband</p>	<p><u>Funding for E-Rate Program Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About \$7.2 billion to create an Emergency Connectivity Fund to reimburse schools and libraries for internet access and connected devices for students and teachers learning remotely due to the pandemic. • \$10 billion for states, territories, and tribal governments to carry out capital projects focused on broadband investment.
<p>Pension Relief</p>	<p><u>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PGBC) Fund</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creates fund for the PGBC to assist certain struggling multiemployer plans to cover benefits due through plan years ending in 2051.