

CHILD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING IN THE CARES ACT

On March 27, 2020, Congress passed the \$2 trillion Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act in order to provide relief to individuals, businesses, and specific government divisions impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The following is a summary of specific provisions that provide relief related to child health and well-being.



CARES Act, Division A, Title III, Subtitle A, Part II, Subpart C

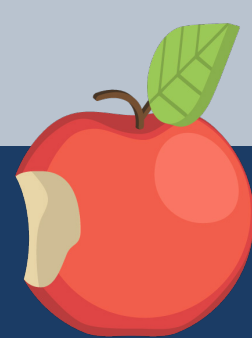
Title III supports the American health care system in the fight against the coronavirus, while Part II addresses access to health care for COVID-19 patients, and Subpart C makes miscellaneous provisions.

Sec. 3225

Reauthorizes Healthy Start

\$125.5 million annually for five years

Section 3225 reauthorizes Healthy Start, a program focused on reducing infant mortality rates and improving perinatal outcomes, for \$125.5 million per year for five years.



CARES Act, Division B, Title I

Division B provides emergency appropriations for coronavirus health response and agency operations, while Title I provides appropriations for the Department of Agriculture.

Title I

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Services

\$25.06 billion

Division B, Title I emergency appropriations to the Department of Agriculture include \$25.06 billion for domestic food programs and food and nutrition services. Specific provisions include:

- \$8.8 billion for child nutrition programs to help schools provide meals to students through Sept. 30, 2021, with increased flexibility
- \$15.8 billion for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs through Sept. 30, 2021.



CARES Act, Division B, Title VIII

Division B, Title VIII provides emergency appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health, and Human Services, Education, and related agencies.

Title VIII

Department of Education, Elementary and Secondary Education

\$13.5 billion through Sept. 30, 2021

Division B, Title VIII emergency appropriations provide \$30.9 billion to the U.S. Department of Education, of which \$13.5 billion is earmarked for elementary and secondary education. The Emergency and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund can be used for coordination of education with health agencies or other agencies, resources at individual schools, activities to address at-risk and vulnerable students (including with meals and technology), and mental health services.

Title VIII

Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

\$7.3 billion

Within the Title VIII appropriations of \$98.778 billion for the Department of Health and Human Services are funds for the Administration for Children and Families. These include:

- \$3.5 billion for Childcare and Development Block Grant Act funds for child care assistance for low-income families until Sept. 30, 2021
- \$750 million for the Head Start Program
- \$45 million for the Family Violence Prevention and Services Program, with removal of matching requirements
- \$25 million for runaway and homeless youth, including street outreach, emergency shelters, and transitional living and maternity
- \$45 million for child welfare services established in the Social Security Act, with removal of matching requirements



CARES Act, Division B, Title XII

Title XII

Department of Housing and Urban Development, Public Housing Operating Fund

\$685 million through Sept. 30, 2021

Division B, Title XII provides emergency appropriations of \$685 million to the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Public Housing Operating Fund with additional flexibility. These additional funds are intended for public housing agencies to maintain normal operations and take other necessary actions during the pandemic, such as supporting the health and safety of assisted individuals and families, supporting education and child care for impacted families, and increasing sanitation and decontamination activities.

Title XII

Department of Housing and Urban Development, Homeless Assistance Grants

\$4 billion through Sept. 30, 2022

Division B, Title XII provides emergency appropriations of \$4 billion to the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Homeless Assistance Grants to aid individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance.

Next Steps

The Georgia Health Policy Center has a track record of convening and leading a multidisciplinary team composed of faculty and staff from Georgia State University's Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, the J. Mack Robinson College of Business, the School of Public Health, and the College of Law in order to track in real time developments related to national health policy laws and financing. The group translates and disseminates relevant information to stakeholders through policy briefs, presentations, panel discussions, and webinars.

GHPC and its affiliated faculty will continue to monitor developments related to new federal spending and regulations related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please reach out to us if you have any research or policy analysis needs.



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