

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
 45 SOUTH FRUIT STREET
 CONCORD, NH 03301-4857



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GEORGE N. COPADIS, COMMISSIONER

RICHARD J. LAVERS, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

July 24, 2020

The Honorable Mary Jane Wallner, Chairman
 Fiscal Committee of the General Court, and

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
 And the Honorable Council
 State House
 Concord, NH 03301

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

Pursuant to RSA 21-P:43, RSA 4:45, RSA 4:47, and Executive Order 2020-04, as extended by Executive Orders 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, 2020-10, 2020-14 and 2020-15, Governor Sununu has authorized New Hampshire Employment Security (NHES) to accept and expend \$2,993,289 in federal funds from the United States Department of Labor – Employment and Training Administration (USDOL-ETA) resulting from the significant increase in unemployment claims due to COVID-19 through September 30, 2021. 100% Federal Funds.

Funding has been budgeted as follows:

02-027-027-270010-80400000 Employment Security			SFY 2021		
Class	Account	Class Description	Current Budget	Requested Action	Revised Budget
000	404625	FEDERAL FUNDS	(\$20,606,414)	(\$2,993,289)	(\$23,599,703)
001	484922	TRANSFERS FROM OTHER AGENCY	(\$895,757)		(\$895,757)
003	407549	REVOLVING FUNDS	(\$11,653,298)		(\$11,653,298)
009	402338	AGENCY INCOME	(\$598,276)		(\$598,276)
TOTAL REVENUE:			(\$33,753,745)	(\$2,993,289)	(\$36,747,034)
010	500100	PERSONAL SERVICES PERM CLAS	\$13,320,158		\$13,320,158
011	500126	PERSONAL SERVICES UNCLASSIF	\$232,480		\$232,480
012	500128	PERSONAL SERVICES UNCLASSIF	\$108,451		\$108,451
013	500131	PERSONAL SERVICES UNCLASSIF	\$346,032		\$346,032
018	500106	OVERTIME	\$25,000	\$1,053,239	\$1,078,239
019	500105	HOLIDAY PAY	\$499	\$25,000	\$25,499
020	500200	CURRENT EXPENSES	\$453,697	\$114,289	\$567,986
022	500248	RENTS-LEASES OTHER THAN STA	\$378,659		\$378,659
023	500291	HEAT ELECTRICITY WATER	\$388,681	\$20,000	\$408,681
024	500225	MAINT OTHER THAN BUILD-GRN	\$99,559	\$90,000	\$189,559
026	500251	ORGANIZATIONAL DUES	\$25,500		\$25,500
027	582703	TRANSFERS TO DOIT	\$4,713,939		\$4,713,939
028	582814	TRANSFERS TO GENERAL SERVIC	\$1		\$1

02-027-027-270010-80400000 Employment Security			SFY 2021		
Class	Account	Class Description	Current Budget	Requested Action	Revised Budget
030	500331	EQUIPMENT NEW REPLACEMENT	\$6,906	\$30,000	\$36,906
037	500174	TECHNOLOGY-HARDWARE	\$35,500	\$406,000	\$441,500
038	509038	TECHNOLOGY-SOFTWARE	\$2,508,500	\$400,000	\$2,908,500
039	500188	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$409,380		\$409,380
040	500800	INDIRECT COSTS	\$279,575	\$85,000	\$364,575
041	500801	AUDIT FUND SET ASIDE	\$18,420	\$8,000	\$26,420
042	500620	ADDITIONAL FRINGE BENEFITS	\$759,817	\$400,000	\$1,159,817
046	500460	CONSULTANTS	\$4,000		\$4,000
047	500240	OWN FORCES MAINT BUILD-GRN	\$9,210		\$9,210
048	500226	CONTRACTUAL MAINT BUILD-GRN	\$282,288		\$282,288
049	584995	TRANSFER TO OTHER STATE AGE	\$9,104		\$9,104
050	500109	PERSONAL SERVICE TEMP APPOI	\$707,078		\$707,078
057	500531	BOOKS PERIODICALS SUBSCRIPT	\$11,300		\$11,300
059	500117	TEMP FULL TIME	\$255,307	\$46,761	\$302,068
060	500601	BENEFITS	\$7,825,519	\$209,000	\$8,034,519
061	500536	UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION	\$20,000		\$20,000
062	500538	WORKERS COMPENSATION	\$125,000		\$125,000
065	500542	BOARD EXPENSES	\$15,000		\$15,000
066	500544	EMPLOYEE TRAINING	\$6,907		\$6,907
070	500700	IN STATE TRAVEL REIMBURSEME	\$84,900		\$84,900
080	500710	OUT OF STATE TRAVEL REIMB	\$37,000		\$37,000
102	500731	CONTRACTS FOR PROGRAM SERVI	\$125,000	\$50,000	\$175,000
103	500740	CONTRACTS FOR OP SERVICES	\$100,848	\$56,000	\$156,848
211	501530	CATASTROPHIC CASUALTY INS	\$3,373		\$3,373
229	500764	SHERIFF REIMBURSEMENT	\$5,500		\$5,500
230	500765	INTERPRETER SERVICE	\$15,657		\$15,657
TOTAL EXPENDITURES:			\$33,753,745	\$2,993,289	\$36,747,034

EXPLANATION

The accepted funds are from the United States Department of Labor – Employment and Training Administration (USDOL-ETA) for unemployment claims-related workloads in excess of that which was funded in our Unemployment Insurance (UI) base grant. The funds will be used to support anticipated costs associated with the increase in unemployment claim volumes resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The USDOL utilizes a resource allocation model which apportions base UI grants to states annually based prior years' claims data. The 'above-base' funding process permits states to receive additional funding for workloads above that which USDOL determined in the annual base grants.

Due to the unexpected nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, NHES was not able to forecast or budget these funds in advance.

The funds have been budgeted as follows:

Class 018 – The funds will be used to pay overtime expense incurred in response to increased workloads.

Class 019 – The funds will be used to pay expenses associated with holidays worked in response to increased workloads.

Class 020 – The funds will be used to pay increased current expenses in response to increased workloads.

Class 023 – The funds will be used to pay increased utility costs associated with longer hours of operation.

Class 024 – The funds will be used to pay increased equipment maintenance costs associated with increased workloads.

Class 030 – The funds will be used to pay for necessary office equipment/furniture.

Class 037 – The funds will be used to pay for computer hardware to accommodate necessary software updates.

Class 038 – The funds will be used to pay for necessary desktop software updates/products.

Class 040 – The funds will be used to pay increased indirect costs associated with additional federal funding.

Class 041 – The funds will be used to pay increased audit fee set aside associated with additional federal funding.

Class 042 – The funds will be used to pay increased post-retirement costs associated with the additional salary costs incurred in response to increased workloads.

Class 059 – The funds will be used to fund an existing full-time temporary fraud investigator position (#9T2604).

Class 060 – The funds will be used to pay increased benefits associated with increased salary costs.

Class 102 – The funds will be used to pay for program contracts.

Class 103 – The funds will be used to pay for operational contracts.

The following information is provided in accordance with the Comptroller's instructional memorandum dated September 21, 1981.

- 1) List of personnel involved:
 - a. Full-time temporary Fraud Investigator.
- 2) Nature, Need, and Duration:
 - a. To assist with the unprecedented volume of unemployment claims and related fraud cases during the COVID-19 crisis.
- 3) Relationship to existing agency programs:
 - a. These funds are related to our existing Unemployment Insurance program.
- 4) Has a similar program been requested of the legislature and denied?
 - a. No.
- 5) Why wasn't funding included in the agency's budget request?
 - a. NHES could not have forecasted or budgeted for the circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 crisis.
- 6) Can portions of the grant funds be utilized?

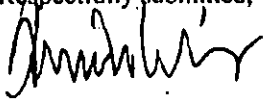
- a. Based on the volume of current claims and estimated future claims, NHES anticipates the entire grant will be necessary.

7) Estimate the funds required to continue this position(s):

- a. The increase in staffing costs will continue as long as the increased workloads resulting from COVID-19 related shutdowns continue.

There are no General Funds required with this request. In the event that these funds become no longer available, General funds will not be requested to support these expenditures.

Respectfully submitted,



George N. Copadis
Commissioner