

2021 State Stimulus Funding Bills

As of June 17, 2021

Information provided by the Colorado Sun- <https://coloradosun.com/2021/04/14/colorado-state-coronavirus-stimulus-package-bills/>

In many cases, funding in the below mentioned bills must be spent in a short, expedited fashion

*highlighted bills are bills CCI has been tracking

Education

| Bill | Amount | Purpose of Funds |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SB21-202 Public School Air Quality Improvement Grants | \$10 Million | Funds grants for public school air quality improvement projects. The public school capital construction assistance board would distribute the money and prioritize projects based on matching funds. |
| SB21-232 Displaced Workers Grant | \$15 Million | Supports an existing Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative grant program for workers impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, including scholarships, career advising services, and workforce transition support at participating higher education institutions. |
| SB21-236 Increase Capacity Early Childhood Care & Education | \$13 Million | Establishes four new grant programs to support child care businesses and improve recruitment, retention and compensation for early childhood educators. Of the \$13 million allocated by the bill, \$8.8 million would be from state funds and \$4.2 million would be federal funds. |
| HB21-1104 Professione Educator Licensure Renewal Period | No Appropriation | Extends the licensing period for professional educators from five to seven years. |

Total amount for Education: \$38 Million

Environment

| <u>Bill</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Purpose of Funds</u> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SB21-230 Transfer to Colorado Energy Office Energy Fund | \$40 Million | Sets aside funding for the Colorado Energy Office, including \$30 million that would be sent to the nonprofit Colorado Clean Energy Fund, \$5 million for the Charge Ahead Colorado Program centered around electric vehicles and \$3 million for the Colorado New Energy Improvement District, which deals with financing clean energy projects. (Signed into law on June 14, 2021.) |
| SB21-231 Energy Office Weatherization Assistance Grants | \$3 Million | Sets aside money for the Colorado Weatherization Assistance program, which provides low-income households with money for insulation, furnace repair and replacement, and other home upgrades to maximize energy efficiency. (Signed into law on June 14, 2021.) |
| SB21-240 Watershed Restoration Grant Program Stimulus | \$15 Million | Boosts an existing Colorado Water Conservation Board grant program to protect watersheds from the impacts of wildfires. It also would set aside funding for a statewide watershed analysis of wildfire impacts. |
| SB21-258 Wildfire Risk Mitigation | \$30 Million | Sets aside money for wildfire mitigation on federal lands with an emphasis on workforce development and cross-boundary coordination efforts. |
| HB21-1149 Energy Sector Career Pathway in Higher Education | \$1.7 Million | Requires the creation of an energy sector career pathway by the 2022-23 academic year. The Workforce Development Council, Office of Economic Development and International Trade, departments of Higher Education, Education, Natural Resources, and Labor and Employment, and the community college system would all be a part of the effort. |
| HB21-1253 Renewable and Clean Energy Project Grants | \$5 Million | Sets aside money for the Department of Local Affairs for grants for renewable and clean energy infrastructure projects. Communities currently lacking in clean energy infrastructure would be prioritized for the dollars. (Signed into law on June 14, 2021.) |
| HB21-1260 General Fund Transfer Implement State Water Plan | \$20 Million | Allocates money toward the Colorado Water Conservation Board for the state's water plan. Of the funds, \$15 million would be transferred to the water plan implementation cash fund and \$5 million would be transferred to the water supply reserve fund. |

Total amount for Environment: \$114.7 million

Employment and Business

| <u>Bill</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Purpose of Funds</u> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SB21-203 Funding for Colorado Proud | \$2.5 Million | Provides money to the Colorado Department of Agriculture for its Colorado Proud program, which aims to educate consumers on how to shop, find, and purchase Colorado agricultural products. |
| SB21-204 Rural Economic Development Initiative Grant Program Funding | \$5 Million | Sets aside money for an existing state grant program, called Rural Economic Development Initiative, to help create new jobs in rural communities. |
| SB21-229 Rural Jump-start Zone Grant Program | \$3 Million | Sets aside money for the rural jump-start zone grant program. Under the program, new businesses can receive up to \$20,000 to establish operations in a rural community and up to \$2,500 for each hire they make. Those grants double if the new business opens in a coal-transition community. |
| SB21-234 General Fund Transfer Agriculture and Drought Resiliency | \$3 Million | Sets aside money to help Colorado’s agricultural sector “anticipate, prepare for, mitigate, adapt to or respond to” drought. |
| SB21-235 Stimulus Funding Department of Agriculture Efficiency Programs | \$5 Million | Sets aside \$3 million for Colorado’s agricultural-sector focused renewable energy and energy efficiency program. It also spends another \$2 million on soil-health programs. |
| SB21-241 Small Business Accelerated Growth Program | \$1.65 Million | Creates a small business growth program through the Colorado Office of Economic Development to provide business-development support to small businesses with 19 or fewer employees. (Signed into law on June 14, 2021.) |
| SB21-252 Community Revitalization Grant Program | \$65 Million | Allocates grant money to finance the revitalization or creation of mixed-use commerce centers across Colorado. Eligible projects could include flexible live-work or vendor spaces for entrepreneurs, performance spaces, child care centers and meeting spaces for community events. |
| HB21-1262 Money Support Agricultural Events Organization | \$9 Million | Provides \$3.5 million to the National Western Stock Show — a staple for the state’s agricultural economy — as well as \$3.5 million for the Colorado State Fair. Both events were hard hit by the pandemic. The legislation also sets aside \$2 million for other agricultural events organizations across the state. |

Employment and Business (cont.)

| <u>Bill</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Purpose of Funds</u> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HB21-1264 Funds Workforce Development Increase Worker Skills | \$25 Million | Spends \$25 million to try and drive down the state's unemployment rate by creating an initiative within the Colorado Workforce Development Council to reskill, upskill, and "next-skill" workers. |
| HB21-1265 Qualified Retailer Retain Sales Tax for Assistance | No appropriation | Allows restaurants, bars, caterers and food service contractors to retain up to \$70,000 in monthly sales taxes they collect in each June, July and August this year. It's not clear how much tax revenue would be lost by the state under the proposal. (Signed into law on June 14, 2021.) |
| HB21-1263 Meeting and Events Incentive Program | \$10 Million | Would create a new meeting and events incentive program in the Colorado Tourism Office to boost the events industry's recovery from the coronavirus pandemic. The program would provide rebates of up to 10% of "hard costs" of holding an event, from weddings and large family reunions to conferences and festivals. Rebates of up to 25% are available for costs related to complying with coronavirus restrictions. (Signed into law on June 14, 2021.) |
| HB21-1270 Appropriation to Department of Human Services for Supplemental Assistance Nutrition Program | \$3 Million | Appropriates money to the Department of Human Services to seek a 50% match from the federal government for the Colorado Employment First Program within the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also known as SNAP. The money would be prioritized for employment support, job retention services and work-based learning opportunities. |

Total amount for business and employment: \$132.15 Million

Housing and Human Services

| <u>Bill</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Purpose of Funds</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>SB21-239 2-1-1 Statewide Human Services Referral System</u> | \$1 Million | Allocates money to expand Colorado's 2-1-1 hotline where people can get referred to a wide array of services, including behavioral health assistance |
| <u>SB21-242 Housing Development Grants Hotels Tenancy Support Program</u> | \$15 Million | Boosts support programs to help people experiencing homelessness. |
| <u>HB21-1215 Expansion of Justice Crime Prevention Initiative</u> | \$532,288 | Expands the Justice Reinvestment Crime Prevention Initiative in the Department of Local Affairs into a statewide program and add a small business grant program for formerly incarcerated persons to the initiative. The program, established by 2017 legislation, funnels state savings from parole reform into community education grants and small business loans. |
| <u>HB21-1271 Department of Local Affairs Innovative Affordable Housing Strategies</u> | \$13 Million | Creates three programs in the Department of Local Affairs to offer grants and other assistance to local governments for the purpose of promoting affordable housing innovations. That includes \$9.3 million to incentivize local governments to adopt affordable housing policies or regulatory tools; \$2.1 million in grants for local governments to evaluate or revise policies, programs, land use codes, etc; and \$1.6 million in competitive grant funding to municipalities for land use policy proposals. |
| <u>HB21-1258 Rapid Mental Health Response for Colorado Youth</u> | \$9 Million | Provides any Coloradan 18 years old or younger with a free mental health screening and up to three, free subsequent visits with a therapist. It aims to help kids prepare to return to in-person learning after the pandemic upended two academic years. |

Total amount for housing and human services: \$38.5 M

Total state stimulus dollars: \$323.35M