



Purpose of Bill

Creates a \$60 million program to pay monthly grants to employees performing essential work that exposes them to an increased risk of contracting COVID-19 for a two month period- March 13-May 15th.

Status of Bill

[Passed Senate](#) and now moves to House.

Bill Summary

Eligibility: Health care facilities, physician's offices, home health agencies, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, residential care homes, and therapeutic community residences. For complete list, go [here](#).

- Employees who have worked at least 34 hours per month (teleworking does not count)
- Employees who receive \$25/hour or less
 - Exception: nursing home and home health agency employees—they have no cap on hourly wage—meaning all their employees are eligible
- Does not include
 - Employee eligible for a federal COVID-19 hazard pay program
 - Independent contractors
 - Individual who has received unemployment insurance

Amount paid out: State will need to determine whether there is enough funding to pay the second month, State will adjust funds for the first month to ensure second month can be paid. Right now, amounts are:

- Employees working 34-107 hours/month: \$600
- Employees working 108+ hours/month: \$1,000
 - Note: Hours taken as sick leave due employee contracting COVID-19 or quarantine due to exposure count. Do not count other sick leave or hours for telework.
- Subject to income taxes and withholding

Employer Applications: employers must apply for employees to receive funds.

- Submit a notice of enrollment in a form specified by the State (not yet available)
- Provide information that employer is a health care facility, etc.
- Employers must agree to the following:
 - Make records related to work performed by eligible employees available
 - Not require employees to pay administrative fee
 - Not reduce compensation
 - Does not apply if receive reimbursement through AHS/DVHA/DAIL
- Employer shall submit a request for grant payments in a form specified by the State for each month

Program ends: after a date established by the State or funds are exhausted, whichever is sooner

Workers making more than \$25/hr: Legislature encourages employers to develop a plan to provide increased compensation to employees who are at risk of being exposed but make more than \$25/hr.