



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

The American Rescue Plan Act is a **\$1.9 trillion** economic stimulus bill signed by President Biden on March 11, 2021. This landmark bill includes a number of provisions that directly benefit individuals and families. Our goal with this document is to ensure our partners and communities are aware of these benefits, the eligibility requirements, how to access them, and where to go for additional resources.



INCOME

- ✓ Extension of expanded unemployment benefits:
 - **\$300/week** supplement through September 6
 - First **\$10,200** in unemployment benefits for 2020 not taxable for households with incomes under **\$150,000**
 - ✓ **\$1,400** direct payments:
 - Begins to phase out for individuals making **\$75,000**, single parents making **\$112,500**, and households making **\$150,000**
 - Individuals making more than **\$80,000**, single parents making more than **\$120,000**, and households making more than **\$160,000** are ineligible
 - All eligible adult dependents, including college students and SSI and SSDI recipients, will receive payments
 - ✓ **15% increase** in food stamp (EBT) benefits extended through September
 - ✓ Expansion of child tax credit for 2021 tax year:
 - **\$3,000/child** up to age **17**
 - **\$3,600/child** under age **6**
 - Fully refundable; **half** can be sent out in 2021
 - ✓ Expansion of child and dependent care credit:
 - Fully refundable
 - Maximum benefit is **\$4,000/eligible individual** or **\$8,000/two or more eligible individuals**
 - Based on **50%** of value of eligible expenses
 - Income limit increased to **\$125,000** for households
 - ✓ Expansion of earned income tax credit:
 - Age limit lowered to **19**, upper age limit removed
 - Maximum benefit for adults **not** claiming a qualifying child: **\$1,502**
 - Limit raised on investment income to **\$10,000** (indexed for inflation)
 - Adults with children who do **not** qualify can claim it only for themselves
 - ✓ Any (potential) forgiven student loan debt is tax free
 - ✓ **\$4 billion** for debt forgiveness for farmers of color
 - ✓ **\$1 billion** for outreach and support for farmers of color
 - ✓ Extension of Mixed Earners Unemployment Compensation (MEUC) provides an additional **\$100/week** to any worker who:
 - Receives a state benefit with a W-2 income
 - Has more than **\$5,000** in self-employed income
 - Has independent contractor income in the previous year
- Income Resources:**
- [HOW YOU CAN ACCESS DIRECT RELIEF](#) (nationally)
 - [HOW YOU CAN ACCESS DIRECT RELIEF](#) (Colorado-specific)
 - [Colorado PEAK](#) - apply for LEAP, EBT, Health First Colorado (Medicaid), and more

HOUSING

- ✓ **\$21.6 billion** for rental assistance & utility fee programs (administered through states and local governments)
- ✓ **\$10 billion** for Homeowner Assistance Fund (administered through states and local governments)
- ✓ **\$5 billion** for Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program; **must** go to people experiencing homelessness and other at-risk individuals
- ✓ \$5 billion to state and local programs supporting people experiencing homelessness and other at-risk individuals
- ✓ **\$4.5 billion** for Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LEAP)
- ✓ **\$750 million** for housing assistance for tribes and Native Hawaiians
- ✓ **\$500 million** in grants for low-income homes to help with water service
- ✓ **\$139 million** for rural housing assistance programs
- ✓ **\$120 million** for housing counseling services

Housing Resources:

- [COLORADO EMERGENCY RENTAL & MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE](#)
 - [Portal to Log In](#)
- [COLORADO COVID-19 HOUSING RESOURCES](#)
- [Colorado PEAK](#) - apply for LEAP, EBT, and more

HEALTHCARE

- ✓ **100%** of premiums for COBRA recipients subsidized
- ✓ **Temporary** changes to the Affordable Care Act:
 - Removal of income limit on premium subsidies; anyone is eligible if the cost of their premiums is more than **8.5%** of their income
 - Increasing subsidies for low-income households
 - Anyone who qualifies for unemployment automatically qualifies for **maximum** amount of subsidies
 - Protection for **any** ACA subsidy recipient from "clawbacks" (benefits that you have to return) due to income changes in 2020
- ✓ Medicaid and CHIP changes:
 - Requires coverage of COVID-19 vaccines and treatment
 - Allows states to give 12 months of postpartum coverage for new birthing parents
 - New incentives for states to expand Medicaid coverage
- ✓ **\$500 million** for Emergency Rural Development Grants for Rural Healthcare (administered through USDA)

Healthcare Resources:

- [COLORADO FOOD FINDER](#)
- [COVID-19 VACCINE RESOURCES](#)
- [Colorado PEAK](#) - apply for Health First Colorado (Medicaid) and more
- [CONNECT FOR HEALTH](#) - check subsidies eligibility





EDUCATION

- ✓ **\$130 billion** for K-12 schools to safely reopen within 100 days:
 - Can be used to improve ventilation, reduce class sizes for social distancing, hire support staff, and buy personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - **20% must** be directed toward programs that counteract COVID-19 learning loss
- ✓ **\$40 billion** for colleges and universities:
 - **7.5% (\$3 billion)** designated for historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs)
 - **At least half** must go directly to emergency grants to students (administered through qualifying institutions' financial aid offices)



MORE INFO

Community Resource Center

789 Sherman Street
Suite 210
Denver, CO 80203

www.crcamerica.org

Phone: 303.623.1540

Toll Free: 800.516.6284

Fax: 303.623.1567

Email: info@crcamerica.org

 [CommunityResourceCenter](https://www.facebook.com/CommunityResourceCenter)

 [@crc_colorado](https://www.instagram.com/crc_colorado)

 [@crc_colorado](https://www.twitter.com/crc_colorado)

