

U.S. TRAVEL

ASSOCIATION®

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

Travel-Related Highlights

TESTING AND VACCINE SUPPORT

Provides \$62 billion to improve testing, contact tracing, and vaccine distribution capabilities. *US Travel advocated for improved access to vaccines and testing supplies.*

- \$50 billion for coronavirus testing and contact tracing.
- \$12 billion to support vaccine distribution and supply chains.

CORONAVIRUS FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS

Provides \$350 billion to States and local governments to address the fiscal effects of the pandemic through 2024, including revenue loss. *US Travel helped secure language in the bill that specifies funds can be used to aid the travel and tourism industry.*

- A \$220 billion fund for States, tribal governments, and U.S. territories.
 - \$25 billion will be distributed equally among the states with the remaining \$195 billion distributed based on the proportion of unemployed Americans in each state, but no less than what was awarded under the Coronavirus Relief Fund.
 - Funds can't be used to offset tax cuts.
- A \$130 billion fund for local governments.
 - Funds will be distributed based on population, issued in two tranches, 12 months apart.
- Funds can be transferred to certain nonprofits or any special-purpose unit of a State or local government.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (EDA) GRANTS

Provides \$3 billion to EDA for Economic Adjustment Assistance grants, with 25% (750 million) set aside for communities and States that have suffered economic injury due to job losses in the travel, tourism, or outdoor recreation sectors. *US Travel pushed Congressional leaders to ensure a significant amount of EDA funds were reserved for travel promotion activities and the House and Senate reports for the bill direct EDA to consider projects that advance tourism marketing and promotion activities.*

EMPLOYEE RETENTION TAX CREDIT

Extends and expands the ERTC through the end of 2021, *which US Travel aggressively pushed for.*

- Expands the credit to startups and allows employers of any size to use the credit to cover non-furloughed employees if they experience at least a 90% decline in revenue.
- Allows employers to calculate eligibility using losses experienced in the preceding calendar quarter, rather than just the current calendar quarter.

PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM (PPP)

Adds \$7.25 billion to PPP. *US Travel continues to advocate for an extension of the March 31st application deadline and an allowance for a 3rd Draw.*

- Extends eligibility to large nonprofit organizations if they have no more than 500 employees (or 300 employees in the case of 501(c)(4) and (c)(6) organizations) at each physical location.

SHUTTERED VENUE OPERATORS GRANT PROGRAM (SVOG)

Allows businesses to access both SVOG and PPP since PPP closes on March 31 and SVOG is not expected to come online until shortly before then. *US Travel is leading an effort to expand eligibility to more travel businesses.*

AIRLINE PAYROLL SUPPORT

Provides an additional \$15 billion in payroll support for airlines and airline contractors until September 30, 2021.

AIRPORT RELIEF

Provides \$8 billion in grants to airports to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19. *US Travel worked with key members of Congress to secure relief for both airports and airport concessionaires.*

- An additional \$800 million is provided to give relief to concessionaires.

RESTAURANT REVITALIZATION FUND

Provides \$28 billion in grants to restaurants, bars, tasting rooms and other food service businesses to cover operational expenses between February 15, 2020 and December 31, 2021—with SBA given the authority to extend the covered period into 2023. *US Travel long advocated for grants to travel-dependent businesses and continues to work on both sides of the aisle to increase access to grants.*

- Grants will be awarded on a first-come first-serve basis, with the amount based on any loss in revenue between 2020 and 2019, up to \$10 million.
 - Alternative formulas apply for new businesses.
- Prohibits grants to publicly traded companies or any business that owned or operated more than 20 locations on March 13, 2020.