GOVERNOR BILL RITTER, JR.

The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act

What it means for Colorado

Updated May 8, 2009

www.colorado.gov/recovery

The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act

In February 2009, President Barack Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 in Colorado. The landmark law will pump $787 billion into the economy to create jobs, support those in need and invest in infrastructure and new industries. The state of Colorado expects to receive more than $7 billion in the next three years from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The funds include tax relief for working families and a variety of grants that are coming to the state through many different channels. Some will go directly to local organizations and others will be allocated through state agencies. These funds are coming to Colorado through more than 140 different programs.

In addition to the funds described above, Colorado also will be competing for a wide range of competitive grants available through the recovery act, mainly in education, broadband, health information technology and renewable energy.

Gov. Bill Ritter has created an oversight panel called the Colorado Economic Recovery and Accountability Board that is charged with ensuring that recovery act dollars are spent wisely and with full transparency. Gov. Ritter has directed his staff and state agencies to work diligently to maximize the impact of the funds to create jobs, improve infrastructure, support families in need, and boost the New Energy Economy.

This report offers an overview of the money Colorado expects to receive. **This is a working draft that will change and get updated as more information is released by the federal government and groups involved with the funds.**

Report prepared by the Governor's Economy Recovery Team
Mark Cavanaugh, director, mark.cavanaugh@state.co.us
Kyle Miller, deputy director, kyle.miller@state.co.us
Myung Oak Kim, communications manager, Myung.kim@state.co.us
www.colorado.gov/recovery

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	**4**
Education	**5-7**
Health Care and Human Services	**8-12**
Employment and Workforce Training	**13-15**
Business and Economic Development	**16-18**
Transportation	**19-20**
Energy Efficiency and Conservation	**21-23**
Environment and Natural Resources	**24-26**
Housing	**27-29**
Public Safety	**30-31**
Telecommunications	**32**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 is designed to energize the economy by creating jobs and investing in infrastructure projects and growth industries. At the same time, the act designates significant dollars to support services for schools, health care, job training and unemployment benefits, and housing. In other words, the goal is to support the vulnerable and stabilize communities while pushing the economy forward. The funds are divided into many different categories, including direct allocations to local agencies and states and competitive grants and loans. They fall into the following categories:

Education: Funds for stabilizing school district budgets and operations while encouraging reform and innovation and advances in the use of technology in the classroom. The bill also provides extra support for poor school districts and additional aid for college students.
Health care: Funds to help pay for the increased enrollment and costs in Medicaid; more coverage of medical insurance for laid-off workers; incentives for healthcare professionals to work in underserved communities; support for immunizations and community health clinics; and significant grants for the creation of electronic medical records.
Human services: Funds to enhance a range of services, including food assistance, cash assistance, child care and child support enforcement, and support for the elderly.
Employment and workforce training: Funds to extend and increase unemployment benefits and workforce training and job placement; support for programs that train and employ young and elderly workers; and money to modernize the unemployment benefits systems.
Business and economic development: Funds to enhance a wide variety of loans and programs to help small businesses; a variety of bonds and financing plans for school construction, construction projects that reduce energy consumption and stabilize economically hard-hit neighborhoods, and general construction work for local governments.
Transportation: Funds for a large number of roadway, bridge and transit projects across the state, with priority placed on projects that can be finished in the next couple years; funds to make improvements to airports.
Energy efficiency and conservation: Funds for a wide range of programs to promote the use of alternative energy, increase energy efficiency, encourage homeowners to make energy-saving changes to their homes; help low-income residents improve the energy-efficiency in their homes, and funding for many research and development projects in the renewable energy field.
Environment and natural resources: Funds for improving water quality, reducing diesel emissions with public vehicles, cleaning up hazardous waste sites; conducting wildfire mitigation and maintenance of forest lands; supporting farmers and flood prevention programs.
Housing: Funds to encourage the building and renovation of affordable and low-income housing, including in rural areas; supporting efforts to stabilize communities with high foreclosure rates and to prevent homelessness; block grants to communities for housing, economic development and infrastructure work.
Public safety: Funds to support crime prevention, drug enforcement and treatment task forces, domestic violence programs, retaining police officer staffing and enhance work to prevent violence against women and Internet-based stalking of children; funds for crime prevention in rural communities and supporting victims of crimes.
Telecommunications: Funds for the expansion of broadband networks in places where Internet access is limited.

EDUCATION

The recovery act allocates $53.6 billion for the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, including $39.5 billion for elementary, secondary and post-secondary education and $8.8 billion in flexible funds for states to use at their discretion for public safety, education and vital services. The bill also provides $13 billion for Title I schools, $12.2 billion through IDEA for special education, $1.1 billion for Early Head Start and $1 billion for Head Start, and a raise in the maximum Pell Grant by $500.

What this means for Colorado:

All of the funds below will help the state and local school districts fill some of budget shortfall from declining revenues and meet increasing demand for services in schools. The funding will be distributed over the next three school years.

State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF):
Colorado will receive approximately $760 million through the recovery act which is designated for maintaining funding levels for education in the face of dwindling state and local revenues. More than $621 million must be spent on K-12, post-secondary or early childhood education. Awarded by formula to governors, in exchange for each state's commitment to advance essential education reforms: (1) making improvements in teacher effectiveness and ensuring that all schools have highly qualified teachers, (2) making progress toward college and career-ready standards and rigorous assessments that will improve both teaching and learning, (3) improving achievement in low-performing schools, by providing intensive support and effective interventions in schools that need them most, and (4) gathering information to improve student learning, teacher performance, and college and career readiness through enhanced data systems that track progress. The remaining $138 million is allocated for budget stabilization and discretionary spending (*i.e.,* public safety, education, other government services). The Governor's Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB) is working with the General Assembly to put together a plan for allocating these funds.

Race to the Top:
There are two competitive grants worth a total of $5 billion that are expected to be divided among about 12 states who demonstrate significant reforms in K-12 education. One grant is worth $4.3 billion and the other, called the Innovation Fund, is worth $650 million. Colorado could receive $300 to $500 million and officials are confident that the state is well-positioned to receive funds. The application is due in October 2009 and a public input process is expected to begin in late Spring 2009. The office of Lieutenant Governor Barbara O'Brien is coordinating the application. ***Contact:*** *Ellen Dumm, 303-866-6361, Ellen.dumm@state.co.us; Nina Lopez, Colorado Department of Education, lopez_n@cde.state.co.us*

Lt. Governor's Race to the Top website

Title I:
Colorado expects to receive $111 million, plus $33.8 million for low-performing schools that need corrective action and restructuring. Approximately 50% of the funds distributed April 1.
Remaining 50% will be distributed between July 1 and October 1. These funds go directly through formulas to schools from the federal government. Eighty-five percent of the state's total Title I, Part A funds (including regular FY 2009 Title I, Part A funds) must be obligated at the state and local level by

Sept. 30, 2010. Any remaining Title I, Part A funds will be available for obligation at the state and local level until Sept. 30, 2011. *Contact: Pat Chapman, Colorado Dept. of Education, 303-866-6780, chapman_p@cde.state.co.us*

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act:
Colorado is expected to receive funds through the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for students and children with disabilities. These funds, which go directly to local school districts from the federal government, are available through three programs:

- Part B formula grants, expected to be $148.7 million in Colorado.
- Another Part B formula grant program, expected to be $5 million in Colorado.

Contact: *Ed Steinberg, Colorado Dept. of Education, 303-866-6059, steinberg_e@cde.state.co.us; Charm Paulmeno, 303-866-6689, paulmeno_c@cde.state.co.us;*

- Part C program for infants and toddlers and youth up to age 21 which is expected to distribute $7 million to Colorado. These grants are to be used in part to help disabled youth obtain work and increase the number of service providers. Half of the funds were made available in April 2009 and the other half is expected to be disbursed in September 2009. All funds must be obligated by September 30, 2010.

Contact*: Ardith Ferguson, Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities and Early Intervention, 303-866-7657, ardith.ferguson@state.co.us;*

Education for Homeless Children and Youth Grants:
Colorado schools are expected to receive approximately $924,000 to support information gathering and to help homeless children get equal access to a services and public education. These are given by formulas to school districts. ***Contact****: Dana Scott, Colorado Dept. of Education, 303-866-6930, scott_d@cde.state.co.us*

Enhancing Education Through Technology:
Colorado expects to receive $7 million to help school districts improve the use of technology in curricula. Half of the money will be distributed by formula related to Title I criteria. The rest will be given out through a competitive process developed by the state. ***Contact:*** *Dan Morris, Colorado Department of Education; Morris_d@cde.state.co.us, 303-229-8301*

Early Head Start/Head Start:
Colorado expects to receive almost $8 million to expand capacity at pre-schools, improve services and establish advisory councils for early childhood programs. This program will be administered by the Colorado Department of Human Services.

Pell Grants:
Colorado students are expected to receive $18 million in additional grants. The maximum Pell Grant award will increase by $500 to $5,350 and will affect every student eligible for Pell grants.
There also are tax credits for college tuition. The credit will be increased from $1800 to $2500 for families earning up to $180,000. All Colorado families who qualify for this tax credit will benefit from this increase. ***Contact****: Inta Morris, Colorado Department of Higher Education, 303-866-4031; inta.morris@dhe@state.co.us*

Work Study:
Colorado students are expected to receive an estimated $2.7 million in federal work study grants through a competitive process through the Department of Higher Education. ***Contact:*** *Inta Morris, Colorado Department of Higher Education, 303-866-4031; inta.morris@dhe@state.co.us*

National School Lunch Program:
The U.S. Department of Education is distributing $100 million nationwide, including up to $1 million in Colorado, in competitive grants to public and non-profit private schools and residential child care institutions, with priority given to schools that have at least 50 percent of students who are eligible for free or reduced lunch**.** ***Contact****: Herminia Vigil, Colorado Dept. of Education, 303-866-6934, vigil_h@cde.state.co.us*

Impact Aid Construction:
Colorado expects to receive $1 million in formula grants for emergency renovations and modernization projects. The funds are expected to go to school construction projects in Pueblo. ***Contact:*** *David Lyon, Colorado Dept. of Education, 303-866-6836, lyon_d@cde@state.co.us*

Teacher Incentive Fund:
The U.S. Department of Education will distribute $200 million in competitive grants for programs that develop performance-based incentives for teachers and principals in high-need schools. This goes straight from the federal government to local school districts and non-profit groups.

Vocational Rehabilitation Grants:
The U.S. Department of Education is distributing $540 million nationwide, including an estimated $7.3 million in Colorado, in vocational rehabilitation grants through a formula to pay for job training and services for the disabled. These funds will be handled by the Colorado Department of Education. ***Contact:*** *Nancy Smith, Co. Department of Human Services, 303-866-4886, nancy.smith@state.co.us*

Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems Grant:
The U.S. Department of Education is distributing $250 million nationwide in competitive grants to state education agencies for improving data systems to manage individual student data, including college readiness test scores and teacher identification data. Contact: Richard Wenning, Colorado Department of Education, 303-866-6764, *wenning_r@cde.state.co.us*

Other resources:

Colorado Dept. of Education website

Colorado Dept. of Higher Education website

US Dept. of Education website

HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN SERVICES

The recovery act provides $87 billion over the next two years to help states maintain their Medicaid programs that provide health care and services to low-income residents of Colorado. The bill also provides a 65% subsidy for COBRA premiums for unemployed workers up to nine months to help families continue their health care insurance; $2 billion for the Child Care Development Block Grant to help low-income working families; increases food stamp benefits by over 13%; $100 million in formula grants to states for elderly nutrition services, including Meals on Wheels; and $150 million for the Emergency Food Assistance Program to purchase commodities for food banks to refill emptying shelves. There is also a $5 billion Emergency Contingency Fund for State Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Programs; $680 million for Rehabilitation Services and Disability Research; and $120 million for the Community Service Employment for Older Americans.

In Colorado this means:

Medicaid:
State and local agencies will receive an estimated $797 million of increased Medicaid funds retroactive to October 1, 2008 through December 31, 2010. Eligibility requirements have not changed. Colorado has experienced a significant increase in Medicaid recipients in the last year. ***Contact:*** *Joanne Lindsay, Colorado Department of Healthcare Policy and Financing, 303-866-3144; Joanne.lindsay@state.co.us*

Food and Nutrition Assistance:
Colorado agencies and residents are expected to receive additional food assistance through a variety of programs, including:

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps, will increase an estimated 13.6 percent. That's almost $180 million in additional funding to the state. The increase in benefits is required to be implemented effective April 1, 2009.
- Colorado will also receive $1.2 million to hire more workers to process the increased number of food assistance requests in a timely manner. That money must be spent by Sept. 30, 2009 and another grant is expected the following year. Most of those funds will go to the 10 largest counties that handle 82 percent of the caseload. *Contact: Sue McGinn, Colorado Department of Human Services, Food and Nutrition Division, 303-866-3391, susan.mcginn@state.co.us; Pauline Burton, Colorado Department of Human Services; Pauline.burton@state.co.us, 303.866.5050*
- Supplementary Nutrition for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) funding will increase by $500 million nationwide for a contingency fund to handle caseload growth and $100 million to support state MIS projects. The funds will come through the USDA. It is unclear how much, if anything, Colorado will receive from this fund. *Contact: Jillian Jacobellis, Division Director, Prevention Services Division, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, 303-692-2504, jillian.jacobellis@state.co.us*
- The USDA will distribute $100-150 million nationwide in discretionary grants to state and local government agencies and non-profit groups, and even individuals for food assistance through the Commodity Assistance Program (TEFAP).

- Colorado is expected to receive $1.3 million in formula grants for an Emergency Food Assistance Program targeting people below the poverty line. The grants are distributed through food commodities, not dollars, distributed to local governments and non-profit groups who provide direct food aid, like food banks and soup kitchens.

Health Insurance Benefits for the Unemployed:
Colorado residents who involuntarily lost jobs between September 1, 2008 and December 31, 2009 and worked for businesses that offered health insurance are eligible for help with paying for health insurance. To be eligible for the increase in benefit, residents must meet certain income requirements. The benefit is part of the program known as COBRA, and the exact level of funds going to Colorado residents is unclear at this point. Under this version of COBRA, the employee pays 35% of the health insurance premium and the employer pays 65% for up to nine months. For the state health insurance continuation program the ratios are the same, but the coverage lasts for six months. Employers are reimbursed by the federal government in the form of credits against their payroll taxes or as refunds.
Contact: *For Employers: http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=204708,00.html*
For General Info*: http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=204505,00.html*

Aging Nutrition Services:
The state expects to receive $847,851 for group meals and $417,403 for home delivered meals for seniors age 60 years and older. This is through two grants that both require a 15 % match from the state. The funds must be obligated by Sept. 30, 2010. ***Contact****: Susan Hunt, Colorado Department of Human Services;, 303.866.2727; susan.hunt@state.co.us; Jeanette Hensley, Director of Aging and Adult Services at DHS, 303-866-2636, jeanette.hensley@state.co.us*

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) programs:
Colorado is expected to receive $68 million to boost benefits in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, formerly known as welfare. This program provides cash assistance to low-income families with children, as well as help with finding employment, housing, child care, and addressing domestic violence and other threats to family stability. *Contact: Pauline Burton, Colorado Department of Human Services; Pauline.Burton@state.co.us 303.866.5050; Kevin Richards, Director of Colorado Works Program at DHS, 303-866-2054, kevin.richards@state.co.us*

Child Care Assistance:
Colorado is expected to receive $24.3 million in discretionary block grants to supplement state funding for child care assistance to low-income families and to improve access to quality child care. Funds must be obligated by Sept. 30, 2010. ***Contact****: George Kennedy, Colorado Department of Human Services, George.kennedy@state.co.us. 303.866.4479; Rosemarie Allen, Colorado Department of Human Services, 303-866-5943; rosemarie.allen@state.co.us*

Child support enforcement:
County human service agencies in Colorado are expected to receive $$6 million over two years to increase child support enforcement. The intent of the funds is to restore financial incentives based on performance of the county agencies and retain jobs and current levels of services. ***Contact:*** *Pauline Burton, Colorado Department of Human Services, Pauline.Burton@state.co.us 303.866.5050; John Bernhart, Director of Child Support Enforcement, 303-866-3985, john.bernhart@state.co.us*

Adoption and foster care programs:

Colorado is expected to receive approximately $2.2 million in formula grants for adoption and foster care programs. This is part of the reimbursement system that includes Medicaid known as FMAP.

Child welfare services:
Colorado will receive $2.2 million to maintain the current level of child welfare services across the state. ***Contact****: Sharen Ford, Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Child Welfare, 303-866-3197 sharen.ford@state.co.us*

Census administration:
The U.S. Department of Commerce will distribute $1 billion to augment the administration of the 2010 Census. The money will be used to hire additional personnel, increase media purchases and improve management and outreach to minority and hard-to-reach populations. It is unclear how the federal government will distribute these dollars and how much, if anything, Colorado will receive. *Contact: Cathy Illian, U.S. Census Bureau, 303-264-0202, cathy.lacy.illian@census.gov; Elizabeth Garner, State Demographer, Department of Local Affairs, 303-866-2818.*

Prevention and Wellness Fund:
The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is distributing $1 billion in discretionary funds across the country. The federal guidelines have not been released yet.

Health Information Technology Systems:
The recovery act designates a variety of competitive grants for the development of electronic medical records and other forms of healthcare-related information technology. These funds include:

- $1.5 billion for the construction and development of health information technology systems for community health centers
- $2 billion for health information technology for state government, hospitals, universities and clinics.
- $17 billion for health care professionals who are showing meaningful use of electronic health records, with incentive payments.

Governor Ritter has designated the Colorado Regional Health Information Organization (CORHIO) as the state-level entity to receive health information technology (HIT) funds. Colorado plans to use HITECH funds to establish a loan and grant program for providers who are interested in purchasing electronic health records, to reimburse Medicaid providers who utilize electronic health records to improve clinical outcomes, train health care professionals in practice and in training on how to usefully integrate technology into practices in ways that improve health care value. It also hopes to be named as a HIT Regional Extension Center.

CORHIO (www.corhio.org) is a nonprofit organization that works to facilitate the electronic health information exchange to improve the health of all Coloradans. As a state level organization, CORHIO is a collaborative partnership, engaging the public and private sectors as well as a broad range of individuals, organizations, agencies, and policy makers to develop and support statewide health information exchange. ***Contact****: Cody Belzley, 303-866-5856, cody.belzley@state.co.us; Phyllis Albritton, Executive Director, Colorado Regional Health Information Organization, 720-858-6062.*

Community Health Centers:

Federally qualified community health centers will receive funds to modernize facilities and equipment and to expand services and training for healthcare providers. There are four competitive grant programs that offer $2.5 billion nationally. It is unclear how much will come to Colorado.

Healthcare professional recruitment:
The recovery act includes funds to enhance recruitment and retention of health professionals in medically underserved communities. This is done by paying a portion of the student loan debt of licensed health professionals who agree to a two-year contract with the state. The use of these funds is dependent on passage of a new bill (HB 09-1111) known as Health Resources for Underserved Areas. As of April 29, 2009, the bill had passed the house and was awaiting a floor vote in the senate. The recovery act would add $800,000 to the state program. ***Contact****: Jillian Jacobellis, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, 303-692-2504, jillian.jacobellis@state.co.us*

National Health Service Corps:
This program also has the goal of increasing the number of healthcare professionals working in medically underserved regions. It is similar to the healthcare professional recruitment program above but the funding system is different. The program will be administered by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and will require designating Health Professional Shortage Areas and certifying to the federal government that an employer who wishes to use the service corps program as a recruitment tool meets all program requirements. Once these administrative requirements are met, the state could receive $3.9 million over a two-year period. That money would be used to pay down part of the student loan of medical professionals who agree to work in medically underserved regions. ***Contact:*** *Jillian Jacobellis, Division Director, Prevention Services Division, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, 303-692-2504, jillian.jacobellis@state.co.us*

Chronic Disease and Risk Factor Program:
This fund enhances public health programs that prevent or combat chronic disease, related risk factors and related complications. This work will focus on communities, worksites, schools and health care systems. The recovery act dedicates $650 million nationwide, and it is not known how much the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will give to Colorado**.** ***Contact****: Jillian Jacobellis, Division Director, Prevention Services Division, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, 303-692-2504, jillian.jacobellis@state.co.us*

Compassion Capital Fund:
A competitive grant program to help faith-based and community organizations increase their effectiveness, enhance their level of services to people most in need and create partnerships with other organizations.

Immunizations:
The recovery act dedicates $300 million nationally for work to improve the immunization rate by vaccinating more adults and children. Colorado is expected to receive roughly $3 million to administer vaccines. The target date for distributing funds is August 2009. ***Contact****: Lisa Miller, Division Director, Disease Control and Environmental Epidemiology Division, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, 303-692-2663; lisa.miller@state.co.us*

Health Information Technology Fund – Immunizations:
This part of the recovery act could bring as much as $1 million to Colorado for an electronic tracking system for immunizations that can be used nationwide. The funds, if awarded, would be used to expand

the state's IT system for immunizations. ***Contact:*** *Lisa Miller, Division Director, Disease Control and Environmental Epidemiology Division, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, 303-692-2663; lisa.miller@state.co.us*

Comparative Effectiveness Health Research grants:
The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will distribute $1.1 billion in competitive grants to research institutions for work on developing two or more medical treatments for a particular medical condition. Some of these funds will be distributed by the National Institutes of Health and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. Local groups are awaiting federal guidelines on these grants.

Biomedical research grants:
The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is distributing $8.7 billion in competitive grants to biomedical research facilities for projects that can be completed within 2 years and research on public health priorities. Federal guidelines have not been established yet.

National Center for Research Resources:
The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is distributing $1.3 billion in competitive grants to non-federal research facilities to repair, renovate or construct research facilities and to acquire instrumentation and other research equipment.

National Cemetery Administration
The federal government is distributing $50 million in discretionary funds nationwide to support cemeteries that are state-owned and operated solely for eligible veterans and their dependents and/or spouses.

EMPLOYMENT – WORKFORCE TRAINING

The recovery act provides a wide range of benefits and services for people who lose jobs or need more training or support services related to re-entering the workforce. The major components of these funds are an extension of unemployment benefits - up to 33 weeks of extended benefits. The bill also raises unemployment benefits by $25 per week, and encourages states to modernize their benefits systems. The recovery act also temporarily relieves taxes imposed on certain unemployment benefits, including money to connect unemployed people to job openings through state agencies. The bill also extends Trade Adjustment Assistance benefits for at least 160,000 new workers over the next two years who lose their jobs because of a rise in imports or relocation of factories to foreign countries.

What this means for Colorado:

Extended Unemployment Benefits:
The federal government approved extensions of benefits prior to the passage of the recovery, and then extended them further through several programs. This means that people who have been involuntarily laid off are eligible for more unemployment benefits. Eligible people can receive up to 59 weeks of benefits, including the 26 weeks provided by state law. The recovery act also extends the period of time during which people can apply for these benefits. All told, Colorado will receive roughly $342 million for these benefits.

Increased Unemployment Benefits:
People receiving unemployment checks of any type will get $25 more a week, which adds up to an estimated $87 million in extra federal dollars through the recovery act. Typically unemployment benefits are taxed as income, but under the bill, the first $2,400 of benefits are deductible or tax free.

Persons interested in filing an unemployment compensation claim or with general questions about unemployment insurance can contact: www.coworkforce.com
Denver Metro: (303) 318-9000; Toll Free: (800) 388-5515; Hearing Impaired (TTD) Denver Metro: (303) 318-9016; Hearing Impaired (TTD) Toll Free: (800) 894-7730

Re-employment and Training:
Colorado will receive funds through several grants from the U.S. Department of Labor to provide job training, job placement and support services for workers who lose their jobs as well as those who are unemployed for other reasons. The programs will be administered through local workforce agencies, but will be coordinated and tracked through the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment. These funds include:

- $6.2 million to the state in formula grants called State Employment Services Grants to the state through the Wagner-Peyser Act.
- $4.8 million to the state in formula grants through the Workforce Investment Act for adult job training and support services.
- $14.4 million to the state in formula grants through the Workforce Investment Act for dislocated workers.
- Potential grants through a competitive program for High-growth industry training that was amount to $750 million nationwide.

For persons interested in providing job training service, contact: (303) 318-8035

Youth training and support:
The Colorado Department of Labor and Employment expects to receive funds through several grants to help train young people enter the workforce. They include:

- $11.8 million to Colorado to help train young people, ages 15 to 24, to enter the workforce through paid summer jobs.
- The potential for grants through a competitive program called YouthBuild, offering $50 million nationwide to help young people finish high school and learn housing construction job skills through work on low-income and affordable housing projects.
- Formula funds through the Job Corps Program, offering $250 million nationwide, to support construction and modernization of residential facilities for at-risk youth. It is unclear how much Colorado will receive.

Contact: *Gary Estenson, gary.estenson@state.co.us; Kelly Brown, Kelly.brown@state.co.us; 303-318-8035*

Community Service jobs for seniors:
Colorado will receive $240,104 to help low-income seniors who are 55 years old or older and have poor employment prospects. The program pays minimum wage to seniors who are placed in community service jobs for up to 20 hours a week. There is a 10 % percent match requirement. Services will be provided through the Senior Community Service Employment Program. ***Contact:*** *Gary Estenson, Department of Labor and Employment, gary.estenson@state.co.us; Kelly Brown, Kelly.brown@state.co.us; 303-318-8035; Audrey Krebs, Division of Aging and Adult Services at Colorado Department of Human Services, 303-866-2846, audrey.krebs@state.co.us;*

Employment support for people with disabilities:
The U.S. Department of Education is distributing funds for three programs that help disabled people gain employment and live independently. The money will be given to states according to a formula and will be handled by the Colorado Department of Human Services. All the funds must be obligated by Sept. 30, 2011. The programs include:

- $7.3 million from the Rehabilitation Services Administration to help people with disabilities obtain jobs. There is no matching fund requirement.
- $242,913 for independent living services, including peer support, advocacy and independent living skills training at the 10 Colorado Centers for Independent Living.
- $497,578 for services for visually-impaired people that focus on helping these people live independently and stay active.
- The federal government is distributing $87.5 million nationwide in competitive grants to non-profit organizations for independent living programs.

Contact: *Nancy Smith, director, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, DHS, 303-866-4886; nancy.smith@state.co.us; Sandy Pratt, chief financial officer, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, DHS, 303-866-4990 sandy.pratt@state.co.us;*

Unemployment Insurance Modernization Act:
The recovery act provides a series of funds to states for modernizing the unemployment insurance programs. Colorado could receive up to $127 million for this work as long as certain criteria and provisions are met and necessary legislation is passed during the current legislative session or next year's session. ***Contact:*** *Gary Estenson, gary.estenson@state.co.us; Kelly Brown, Kelly.brown@state.co.us; 303-318-8035*

Workforce Investment Act Assistance National Emergency Grants:
The U.S. Department of Labor has designated $200 million nationally to make emergency grant awards for areas that experience mass layoffs, plant closings and other types of worker dislocations. The funds would be used for job training and placement services. These funds would be distributed at the discretion of the head of the federal agency. ***Contact:*** *Gary Estenson, gary.estenson@state.co.us; Kelly Brown, Kelly.brown@state.co.us; 303-318-8035*

Trade Adjustment Assistance for workers:
The U.S. Department of Labor has designated $1.6 billion across the country to fund services and benefits for workers who lose their jobs due to foreign competition. This money would pay for extended unemployment benefits and job search assistance and relocation for the workers. It is unclear how much Colorado will receive. ***Contact:*** *Gary Estenson, gary.estenson@state.co.us; Kelly Brown, Kelly.brown@state.co.us; 303-318-8035*

Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training:
There is $40 million available nationwide in competitive grants to develop education and job training programs that meet the needs of workers in the community.

High Demand and Green Jobs Grants:
The U.S. Department of Labor has designated $750 million across the country for competitive grants for worker training and placement in high-growth jobs. Within that fund, $500 million is dedicated to programs to prepare workers for jobs in renewable energy and energy efficiency as established in the Green Jobs Act of 2007. The priority for the rest of the funds will be to prepare workers for jobs in health care. It is unclear how much Colorado will receive. The funds will expire on June 30, 2011. ***Contact****: Gary Estenson, gary.estenson@state.co.us; Kelly Brown, Kelly.brown@state.co.us; 303-318-8035*

BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Small business loans:
The recovery act dedicates funds to ensure access to several loans through the Small Business Administration. They are:

- 504 loans: $375 million nationwide to help small businesses access 504 loans for fixed asset projects. These loans can be used for purchasing land and improvements, including existing buildings, grading, street improvements, utilities, parking lots and landscaping; construction of new facilities or modernizing, renovating or converting existing facilities; purchasing long-term machinery and equipment. The Small Business Administration is directed to collect no fee or to reduce fees as much as possible. These are competitive grants for small businesses that will be available until Sept. 30, 2013.
- 7 (a) Loan Guarantee Program: $375 million for these loans to help business owners operate, acquire or expand an existing business. Fees are also removed or reduced. These funds will stay available until Sept. 30, 2012.
- Business Stabilization Program: $225 million nationwide in competitive loans for small businesses that are having trouble paying their existing loans. These funds will stay available until Sept. 30, 2014.
- Micro-loan Program: $6 million nationwide in small loans for start-up, newly established or growing small businesses. These loans will go through non-profit community based lenders to the borrowers. The average loan size is $13,000. Funds will remain available until Sept. 30, 2011.

Contact: *Alice Kotrlik, deputy director, Governor's Office of Economic Development and Trade, 303-892-3840; alice.kotrlik@state.co.us*

Recovery Zone Bonds:
The recovery act dedicates $25 billion nationwide for economic zones designated by a local government as having high levels of poverty, unemployment, and foreclosures. Government issuers of these bonds may receive a 45 percent credit of interest payable on the bonds. All bonds must be issued by the end of 2010. ***Contact:*** *Mary Wickersham, Colorado State Treasurer's Office, Mary.wickersham@state.co.us; 303-866-2442*

Qualified School Construction Bonds:
The recovery act dedicates $22 billion for a new category of tax credit bonds for construction, rehabilitation or repair of public school facilities or for the purchase of land on which to build a public school. ***Contact:*** *Mary Wickersham, Colorado State Treasurer's Office, 303-866-2442, Mary.wickersham@state.co.us*

Build America Bonds:
The recovery act provides aid for state and local governments to finance construction projects. There is not cap on these bonds and there is reduced cost financing with federal subsidies. ***Contact****: Mary Wickersham, 303-866-2442, Mary.wickersham@state.co.us, Colorado State Treasurer's Office*

Energy Conservation Bonds:
These bonds would be used to finance work that reduces energy consumption in public buildings, implementing green community programs or promoting rural renewable energy production. Colorado may issue $102 million with zero interest financing. The Governor's Energy Office allocates the funds to

large counties and municipalities. ***Contact**: Mary Wickersham, 303-866-2442, Mary.wickersham@state.co.us, Colorado State Treasurer's Office*

Renewable Energy Bonds:
The U.S. Department of Energy is distributing $2.4 billion through a competitive process to producers of renewable energy. Federal guidelines are pending.

National Endowment for the Arts:
The National Endowment for the Arts is distributing $50 million in competitive grants to organizations that promote arts and culture across the nation. Some of those funds will go directly from NEA to local arts organizations and non-profit groups. The Colorado Council on the Arts is distributing $300,000 in small grants, with a maximum of $10,000 per award. All Recovery funds grants are non-matching. The deadline for the applications will be in early July and the funding will be for the period August 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. ***Contact:** Elaine Mariner, Director of Colorado Council on the Arts, 303-892-3840, Elaine.mariner@state.co.us*

Rural Business Programs:
The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Business & Community Programs office is distributing loans and grants to save and create jobs in rural areas. The federal funding level is $150 million and it is unclear how much Colorado will receive. The programs include:

- Business & Industry Guaranteed Loan – provides incentives for business lending
- Rural Business Opportunity Grant – promotes sustainable economic development in unincorporated rural areas, cities and towns with populations less than 10,000.
- Market Development Grant – helps farmers and ranchers expand their customer base
- Rural Business Enterprise Grant – finances and helps the development of community economic programs to assist small and emerging private business enterprises in rural areas
- Rural Economic Development Loan and Grant – promotes specific community or business development projects to improve economic conditions in rural areas
- Intermediary Relending Program – capitalizes on locally run revolving loan programs for small businesses that can't obtain adequate bank financing. ***Contact**: www.rurdev.usda.gov*

Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms:
The U.S. Department of Commerce has designated $50 million nationwide to help companies that have been hurt by jobs going overseas to make them more competitive. These are competitive grants.

Trade Adjustment Assistance Sector Partnership Grants:
The U.S. Department of Labor has $40 million nationwide for competitive grants to facilitate partnerships between industry, state and local governments, companies, labor groups and educational institutions to boost industries in the area. These are discretionary grants. ***Contact**: Gary Estenson, Colorado Department of Labor and Employment, gary.estenson@state.co.us; Kelly Brown, Kelly.brown@state.co.us; 303-318-8035*

Scientific and Technical Research Services grants:
The National Institute of Standards and Technology is distributing $240 million nationwide in competitive grants to businesses that assist the agency in cooperative research.

Recovery Zone/Economic Development Assistance:
The U.S. Department of Commerce is distributing $150 in competitive grants to state and local governments and non-profit groups in areas that experience sudden and severe economic dislocation and job loss due to corporate restructuring.

TRANSPORTATION

The recovery act designates $27.5 billion for modernizing roads and bridges, and for improvements to public transit, rail and port projects. The funds have tight deadlines, including the requirement that states obligate at least half of the highway/bridge funding within 120 days. The act provides $1.5 billion for multimodal transportation, $8.4 billion for investments in transit, $8 billion for high speed and light rail projects, and more than $1 billion for construction work at federally-supported airports.

What this means for Colorado:

Highway and bridge construction:
Colorado will receive over $500 million for transportation projects statewide. Part of that money is expected to go to about 60 projects that will do a wide range of work, from replacing traffic signals to highway resurfacing and bridge replacement. These projects are being coordinated by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT).

The recovery act also gives additional funds directly to transit agencies and the three large metropolitan planning organizations in the state for their prioritized projects:

- $5.9 million to the Denver Regional Council of Governments. The group voted in March 2009 to fund 13 projects, including renovations to Union Station in Denver, a pedestrian bridge in Arapahoe County, and a new I-225 interchange in Aurora.
- $13.1 million to Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments
- $5.8 million to North Front Range Metropolitan Planning

CDOT has awarded contracts for eight roadway projects and are in the process of awarding five more. The other projects will begin in coming months. Those bids have been an average of 12 percent below estimates. Of the more than $400 million allocated for road and highway work, $141.4 million must be obligated within 120 days and the rest must be allocated within a year. CDOT is on course to obligate funds and launch projects far ahead of the deadlines. These projects include a "Buy America" provision that emphasizes the need to purchase U.S.-made products.

CDOT Recovery Act website

Contact: *Herman Stockinger, Colorado Department of Transportation, 303-757-9077; Stacey Stegman, Colorado Department of Transportation, 303-757-9362, Stacey.stegman@state.co.us;*

Transit:
Colorado will receive $103 million for transit projects. Most of the money - $90.2 million - will go to transit agencies in urban areas for capital projects such as new transit facilities or new vehicles. The following agencies will receive funding:

- Regional Transportation District – approximately $72.1 million
- City of Colorado Springs – approximately $8.8 million
- City of Fort Collins – approximately $3.4 million
- Mesa County – approximately $1.5 million
- City of Greeley – approximately $2 million

- City of Pueblo – approximately $2.4 million

The remaining $12.5 million in transit funds will go to rural areas and will be managed by CDOT. About $10.3 million will be used to fund a new bus maintenance facility in Summit County. Half of the funds must be obligated by Sept. 1, 2009 and the other half by March 5, 2010. There are is a "Buy America" provision in these grants, which emphasizes the need to purchase U.S.-made goods for the projects.

The Federal Transit Administration also is distributing $750 million nationwide in discretionary funds for improving energy efficiency and reducing costs and dependence on foreign oil in transit projects.

***Contact**: Herman Stockinger, Colorado Department of Transportation, 303-757-9077; Stacey Stegman, Colorado Department of Transportation, 303-757-9362, Stacey.stegman@state.co.us;*

Aviation:
Colorado will receive $37.3 million for work at six airports in the state. Priority for funding was given to projects that could be completed within two years. The work is aimed at improving capacity, safety and security. The Federal Aviation Administration selected the grant recipients.

- Denver International Airport will get $7 million for runway rehabilitation and $5 million for apron improvements.
- Centennial Airport will get $4 million for taxiway rehabilitation.
- Aspen-Pitkin County Airport will get $4 million for apron improvements.
- Colorado Springs Airport will get $6.3 million for taxiway rehabilitation.
- Grand Junction Airport will get $8 million for apron improvement.
- Durango Airport will get $3 million for taxiway rehabilitation.

***Contact**: Travis Vallin, Division of Aeronautics at CDOT, 303-261-4418, travis.vallin@state.co.us*

Explosive Detections Equipment:
The U.S. Department of Homeland Security is distributing $1 billion in discretionary grants nationwide to airports for the purchase and use of devices that detect explosives.

Multimodal Projects:
The U.S. Department of Transportation will distribute $1.5 billion in discretionary grants to projects that are between $20 and $300 million in size and are of national or regional significance. The criteria for grant applications are due by mid May and applications are due within 180 days. Awards will be announced within one year. ***Contact**: Herman Stockinger, Colorado Department of Transportation, 303-757-9077; Stacey Stegman, Colorado Department of Transportation, 303-757-9362, Stacey.stegman@state.co.us;*

There also are other grants available through the Federal Transit Administration for public transit projects that improve energy efficiency, reduce dependence on oil, and promote alternative forms of travel. These funds total $2.3 billion and are either competitive or discretionary through the US DOT.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY – CONSERVATION

The recovery act designates more than $42 billion for energy programs, mostly for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. These funds are spread across multiple federal and state agencies. ARRA also provides more than $20 billion in energy tax incentives for individuals and businesses, again mostly for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

What this means for Colorado:

State Energy Program:
Colorado will receive $49.2 million for energy efficiency and conservation projects. The Governor's Energy Office is overseeing and tracking the use of the discretionary funds, which must be obligated by Sept. 30, 2010, and must be spent by March 2012. The goals are to work with utility companies to increase energy efficiency to reduce energy costs and consumption for consumers, businesses and government; reduce reliance on imported energy; improve the reliability of electricity and fuel supply and delivery of energy services; reduce the impact of energy production and use on the environment. The state is developing a wide range of services, including training solar installers and insulation contractors, assisting with loans for projects and establishing web-based information and incentive programs. ***Contact****: Todd Hartman, Governor's Energy Office, 303-866-2262, todd.hartman@state.co.us; Barbara Alderson, U.S. Department of Energy, 303-275-4816, Barbara.alderson@go.doe.gov.*

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program:
Colorado expects to receive $42.7 million for projects that reduce energy use and fossil fuel emissions, and improve energy efficiency. The goal is to reduce statewide energy used by 25 percent compared to 1990 use and to develop programs that will remain viable after the recovery act funds are spent. The Governor's Energy Office must submit a strategy to the federal government by June 17, 2009. The money must be spent by Sept. 15, 2012 and is allocated mostly through formulas in the following way:

- $24.7 million to the following cities from the U.S. Department of Energy: Arvada, Aurora, Boulder, Broomfield, Castle Rock, Centennial, Colorado Springs, Commerce City, Denver, Fort Collins, Grand Junction, Greeley, Lakewood, Littleton, Longmont, Loveland, Parker, Pueblo, Thornton, Westminster
- $8.2 million to the following counties from the U.S. Department of Energy: Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Douglas, El Paso, Garfield, Jefferson, Larimer, Mesa, Weld
- $146,900 to the Southern Ute and Mountain Ute tribes from the U.S. Department of Energy
- $9.5 million to the Governor's Energy Office from the U.S. Department of Energy for statewide distribution. At least 60 percent of that money must go to cities and counties that did not receive a direct allocation of EECBG funding. The GEO expects to submit its plan to the feds by May 26th 2009 and then get approval in August 2009.

Contact: *Ms. Angie Fyfe, 303-866-2059, angie.fyfe@state.co.us, Governor's Energy Office*

Energy Saving Tax Incentives for Homeowners:
Colorado homeowners will have access to incentives to make their homes more energy efficient. The bill continues and expands federal tax credits for purchases of new furnaces, energy-efficient windows and doors, or insulation. The bill also provides a tax credit of up to $7,500 for families that purchase plug-in hybrid vehicles to promote the move to zero-emission vehicles.
For more information: http://www.energy.gov/recovery/taxbreaks.htm

Low-Income Weatherization Program:
The Governor's Energy office is coordinating the dispersal of $79.5 million over three years for low-income residents to improve the energy efficiency of homes by replacing energy consuming appliances, weather stripping and insulation. To be eligible, a person's income must be up to 200 percent of the poverty level. Priority is given to the elderly, persons with disabilities, families with children, high energy users, and households with high-energy burdens. The grant is up to $6,500 per home. About 20,000 homes are expected to receive improvements through this grant. The program includes funds to train contractors for the work. All funds must be spent by March 31, 2012. ***Contact:*** *Brittany Purdum, Governor's Energy Office, 303-866-2401; Seth Portner, Governor's Energy Office, 303-866-2100 seth.portner@state.co.us*

Energy Saving Tax Incentives and Grants for Businesses:
The bill includes a three-year extension of the popular federal production tax credit (PTC) for electricity derived from wind (through 2012) and for electricity derived from biomass, geothermal, hydropower, landfill gas, waste-to-energy, and marine facilities (through 2013). Many renewable energy companies in Colorado use this tax credit to build renewable energy production facilities. There also is a new federal manufacturing tax credit for investment in advanced energy facilities, such as facilities that manufacture components for the production of renewable energy, advanced battery technology, and other innovative next-generation green technologies.
For more information: http://www.energy.gov/recovery/index.htm

Energy Efficiency Tax Incentives for Homeowners:
The recovery act provides additional tax credits for homeowners who install energy efficient windows, roofing, insulation, water heaters and biomass stoves and heating and air conditioning systems. Eligible homeowners can get up to $1,500 in tax credits for certain projects, like installing energy star-rated windows. They can get higher tax credits for 30 percent of the cost of purchasing and installing geothermal heat pumps, solar panels, solar water heaters, small wind energy systems and fuel cells. The program is run through the Energy Star program, a joint venture of the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency. The IRS handles the tax credit. Homeowners must apply for the tax credit when they file income taxes.
For more information, go to www.energystar.gov

Alternative Fuel Vehicles Pilot Program:
Competitive grants from the Department of Energy through the Clean Cities Program to help state and local agencies purchase alternative fueled vehicles or ultra-low sulphur diesel vehicles and the infrastructure and maintenance needed for these fleets. About $300 million is available nationally for the program.

Electric Transportation
The U.S. Department of Energy is distributing $400 million in competitive grants for electric transportation projects. The grants are targeted to end-users and manufacturers and federal guidance is pending.

Geothermal Technologies Program:
The U.S. Dept. of Energy is distributing $400 million nationwide in competitive grants to state and local governments for research and development that emphasizes advancement of geothermal systems.

Fossil Energy Research:

This is a competitive grant program through the Department of Energy for fossil energy research and development programs. This includes carbon capture and energy efficiency improvement projects, clean coal initiatives, and geologic sequestration training and research grants. A total of $3.4 billion is available nationwide. The Governor's Energy Office is coordinating applications for these grants. ***Contact**: David Abercrombie, David.Abercrombie@hq.doe.gov;*
http://www.fossil.energy.gov/aboutus/budget/stimulus.html

Biomass Technology Grants:
Competitive grants distributed by the Department of Energy for research, development and deployment of biomass technologies, including feedstock development, biofuels and bio-based products. These grants are directed at government agencies and applications are due in June 2009 and awards are expected to be announced in September 2009. The Governor's Energy Office is coordinating applications for these grants. A total of $800 million is available nationally.
For more information: http://www.eere.energy.gov/recovery/

Energy Technologies Research:
Grants distributed by the Department of Energy to develop and deploy advanced energy technologies through advances in fundamental sciences. This program is modeled after the Defense Research Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). The recipients are research foundations, private businesses and institutions of higher education. Approximately $400 million is available nationally.

Smart Grid Investment Program:
$4.5 billion nationally. Funds research and development in pilot projects for modernizing the electricity grid.

Science Program:
$1.6 billion nationally for research in basic energy sciences, biological and environmental sciences and computational sciences through the Department of Energy Office of Science.

Advanced Battery Manufacturing Grants:
$2 billion available nationally in competitive grants for the manufacturing of advanced batteries and components for vehicles, including advanced lithium ion batteries and hybrid electric systems. Applications are due May 19.

Research facilities:
The National Institute of Standards and Technology will award $360 million in grants for construction of science research facilities through higher education institutions and non-profit organizations. These are competitive grants.

Resources:

The U.S. Department of Energy is handling many of the grants listed above. Their website is www.energy.gov/recovery

There also is a toll-free number for the DOE Recovery Act Clearinghouse: 1-888-DOE-RCVY (1-888-363-7289). Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The recovery act provides over $13 billion in Environment and Natural Resources funding, including $6 billion to help communities with water quality, wastewater and drinking water infrastructure needs; $300 million for grants and loans to help with projects that reduce diesel emissions; $200 million for cleanup of petroleum leaks from underground storage tanks; $100 million for competitive grants to evaluate and clean up brownfields; $600 million for the cleanup of hazardous "Superfund" sites; $126 million for water reclamation and reuse projects; $290 million for watershed and flood prevention operations; $295 million for habitat restoration work; and $250 million for Wildland Fire Management.

What this means for Colorado:

Clean Water State Revolving Fund:
The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment expects to receive about $30 million through the Water Pollution Control Act administered through the EPA. The program provides low-cost loans to communities for water quality and wastewater infrastructure projects. The recovery act requires that no less than 20% of the grant be used for work that implements green infrastructure, water or energy efficiency improvements or other environmentally innovative activities. Four percent of these funds can be used for administration. ***Contact:*** *Steve Gunderson, Division Director, Water Quality Control Division, 303-692-3509; steve.gunderson@state.co.us*

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund:
The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment will distribute approximately $32 million from the EPA to build and upgrade drinking water systems through the Safe Drinking Water Act. This money does not require a state match of funds. The Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority will be involved in administering the program. This program also requires that no less than 20 percent of the grants go to projects that improve energy efficiency, green infrastructure and other ways to benefit the environment. All of the funds must be obligated by Feb. 17, 2010. Four percent of these funds can be used for administration. ***Contact****: Steve Gunderson, Division Director, Water Quality Control Division, 303-692-3509; steve.gunderson@state.co.us*

Water Resources:
The U.S. Dept. of Interior Bureau of Reclamation is distributing $1 billion in competitive grants to state and local water districts. Further guidance is pending.

Diesel Emissions Reduction:
The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment expects to receive up to $4.7 million for improving air quality through reducing toxic vehicle emissions, beginning in Weld County. Most of those funds are competitive. The state plans to use the money to retrofit school buses and other public fleet vehicles that use diesel engines to reduce emissions. The funds could also be used to replace school buses with hybrids and to retrofit tractor trailers. There is no required state match for funding. The state must obligate all funds by Sept. 30, 2010. ***Contact****: Paul Tourangeau, Division Director, Air Pollution Control Division, 303-692-3114; paul.tourangeau@state.co.us*

Leaking Underground Storage Cleanups:
Colorado expects to receive $2.5 million to clean petroleum leaks from underground storage tank sites. The highest priority will be give to sites that pose the greatest threat to human health and the

environment and lack an owner who can undertake the cleanup. ***Contact***: *Gary Estenson, Gary.estenson@state.co.us, 303-318-8035*

Brownfield Cleanups:
The recovery act allocates $100 million nationally to supplement the Brownfield Redevelopment Program. These competitive grants will be distributed by the Environmental Protection Agency to applicants to evaluate and clean up former industrial and commercial sites. Twenty-five percent of the funds must be used to address petroleum contamination. The state will not be part of the decision process. The EPA will decide who gets funds. ***Contact***: *Gary Baughman, Division Director, Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division, 303-692-3338;*

Superfund Site Cleanups:
The Environmental Protection Agency has dedicated $600 million in recovery act funds to supplement cleanup at Superfund sites across the country. As of April 2009, two projects will be funded in Colorado. The EPA will dedicate between $10 and $25 million for work at the Summitville Superfund site in southwest Colorado. This mine turned into one of the worst hazardous waste disasters in the state's history. The project involves building a 1,600 gallons-per-minute water treatment plant. The plant will remove contaminants from acidic metals-contaminated mine drainage before the water leaves the site and enters the headwaters of the Alamosa River. When the plant is operational, all cleanup work at the Summitville Mine site will be complete. The state also will get up to $5 million for work at the Clear Creek Superfund project. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment will coordinate and oversee those projects. ***Contact:*** *Gary Baughman, Division Director, Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division, 303-692-3338;*

Forest Management:
The state expects to receive funds through the recovery act for wildfire mitigation and for capital improvement and maintenance on forest land. Three forests in Colorado will initially receive $5.6 million to complete tree removal projects, especially those areas hardest hit by the bark beetle infestation, as well as improvements to recreation sites. Work will be done in the Arapaho-Roosevelt, Medicine Bow-Routt, and Pike- San Isabel National Forests. About $500,000 will pay for an agreement with the Colorado Youth Conservation Corps that will employ up to four 10-person teams of young adults. These programs are called Capital Improvement and Maintenance with the Forest Service and Wildlife Fire Management, both through the federal department of agriculture. ***Contact***: *Mary Ann Chambers, Bark Beetle Incident Management Team, 970-295-6676; Barb Timrock for the Pike-San Isabel National Forests, 719-553-1415.*

Aquaculture Assistance:
These are $50 million in competitive grants for the country for state and aquaculture producers to help with feed costs. ***Contact***: *Jim Miller, Colorado Department of Agriculture, 303-239-4103.*

Disaster Assistance Transition:
These loans total $194 million nationwide and will be allocated by the US Department of Agriculture to farmers and ranchers to help operate farms. ***Contact:*** *Jim Miller, Colorado Department of Agriculture, 303-239-4103.*

Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program:
These are loans and grants that total $3.78 billion nationwide that will be awarded through a competitive process for municipalities, counties, special-purpose districts and non profit agencies. These

funds are also being distributed by the USDA. ***Contact**: Jim Miller, Colorado Department of Agriculture, 303-239-4103; Dolores Sanchez-Maes, 720-544-2927, Dolores.sanchezmaes@co.usda.gov*

US Army Corps of Engineers:
The US Army Corps of Engineers is distributing $4 billion nationwide in discretionary funds for ongoing projects for engineering and construction services for navigation, flood and storm protection, ecosystem restoration, environmental protection and other needs.

HOUSING

The recovery act provides a range of funding programs to build affordable housing, prevent neighborhood blight and help low-income families weatherize their homes.

Tax Credit Assistance Program:
Colorado expects to receive $27.3 million in competitive funds through the recovery act for help with local housing needs. The Tax Credit Assistance Program provides grant funding for capital investment in Low Income Housing Tax Credit projects. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has federal oversight responsibility for the program. These funds will provide financing for gaps caused by the collapse of the tax credit equity market, to help stalled development projects and to stimulate economic activity and job creation. Priority is given to projects that are expected to be completed by February 2012. All funds must be expended by the recipients by February 2012. ***Contact:*** *Colorado Housing Finance Authority, Tasha Weaver, Manager Tax Credit Allocation, 303-297-7429; tweaver@chfainfo.com*

Tax Credit Exchange Program:
The Tax Credit Exchange Program allows state housing credit agencies the option of exchanging eligible portions of the state's housing credit ceiling for cash grants. Grants can then be used by the agency to make sub-awards to qualified projects, including the construction or acquisition and rehabilitation of qualified low income buildings. ***Contact:*** *Colorado Housing Finance Authority, Tasha Weaver, 303-297-7429, tweaver@chfainfo.com*

Neighborhood Stabilization Program:
Colorado expects to receive up to $50 million to stabilize housing values and properties in neighborhoods heavily impacted by foreclosure. This will be done by purchasing and rehabilitating or demolishing foreclosed and vacant homes and then turn them into affordable housing. The Department of Local Affairs is coordinating these competitive grants. Applications are due in July 2009 and 50 percent of the funds must be spent within 2 years and the rest spent within 3 years. The Federal Government (HUD) will determine who will get grants. ***Contact****: Lynn Shine, Department of Local Affairs, 303-866-2046, lynn.shine@state.co.us; Martha DiBella, HUD, 303-672-5414, Martha.a.dibella@hud.gov.*

Community Services Block Grants:
Colorado expects to receive $8.6 million for community services. The funds will be used to help Colorado citizens become more self-sufficient by providing services related to employment, nutrition, housing and health. Eligible citizens for services include individuals and families at 200 percent of poverty. These income requirements range from $21,600 for a family of one to $59,060 for a family of six. The funds were allocated to counties and The Colorado Department of Local Affairs is creating an advisory group to help distribute the funds, as well as outreach and support work. Proposals are due to the state in June 2009. Approved plans will be announced July 1, 2009, and all funds must be spent by Sept. 30, 2010. ***Contact****: Lucia Smead, 303-866-3128, lucia.smead@state.co.us, Department of Local Affairs*

Homelessness Prevention:
Colorado expects to receive $15.4 million in competitive funds to address and prevent homelessness. Within this funding stream, $8 million will be distributed through the Department of Local Affairs and

the rest will go straight to larger urban areas. The grants will go to state and local agencies for short and medium-term rental assistance, housing relocation and stabilization services. Application process will be developed by June 1, and awards will be announced by July 15, 2009. Projects are scheduled to be contracted out by September 2009. Five percent of the funds have been designated for administration. All funds must be spent by Sept. 30, 2011. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is in charge of the program. The Executive Director of DOLA makes final award decisions based on recommendations of the Colorado State Housing Board (SHB). The SHB is a seven member board created in 1970 to advise the General Assembly, the Governor, and the Division of Housing on Colorado housing needs. ***Contact****: Lynn Shine, 303-866-2046, lynn.shine@state.co.us; Martha Dibella, HUD, 303-672-5414, Martha.a.dibella@hud.gov*

Community Development Block Grants:
Colorado expects to receive $10.3 million through the federal agency HUD for community development work in low and moderate income areas. The funds are intended to help local governments implement projects in economic development, housing and infrastructure. As required by the recovery act, the state will prioritize projects that can begin quickly. Eligible Applicants for competitive grants include non-entitlement towns and cities with less than 50,000 residents and counties with less than 200,000 residents. For Public Facilities Projects, at least 51 percent of the project beneficiaries must be low/moderate income. Economic Development Projects must create jobs according to community development block grant criteria, with more than 51 percent of the jobs filled by persons of low and moderate income. Housing projects must benefit households whose income is below 80 percent of Area Medium Income (A.M.I.). Colorado Department of Local Affairs will distribute $2.8 million to non-entitlement communities and $7.5 million will go to entitlement communities. The money must be spent by September 30, 2010. ***Contact:*** *Co. Dept. of Local Affairs, Becky Murray, 303-866-2818; becky.murray@state.co.us*

Public Housing Capital Fund:
Colorado expects to receive $17.6 million from the recovery act for development, financing and modernization of public housing. This money will be coordinated through the Department of Human Services and the federal government (HUD). There also is a separate competitive grant worth $1 billion nationwide for public housing agencies for the same work.

Rental Assistance:
Colorado expects to receive $35.5 million to enhance benefits through the Project Based Rental Assistance program (Section 8, 202 and 811 housing). This money would provide full-year payments to 152 existing landlords in the program so that the low-income residents can stay in those homes longer. This program is being administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). ***Contact****: Linda Cluck, HUD, 303-672-5412, linda.y.cluck@hud.gov*

Rural Housing Insurance Program:
Colorado expects to receive $81.4 million for competitive loans provided under the Rural Housing Insurance Program so that more affordable housing can be provided in rural areas.

Rural Community Facilities Program:
Colorado expects to receive grants and loan guarantees for the construction and development of essential community services in rural areas. Eligible projects include hospitals, health clinics, health and safety vehicles and equipment, public safety vehicles, child and elder care facilities in rural areas. More than $1 billion is designated nationwide for the loans and $61 million for grants. It is unclear how much

Colorado will get. The loans will go to banks and commercial lenders. The grants will go to local government, non-profit organizations and federally recognized tribes that are unable to obtain needed funding from financial institutions at reasonable rates and terms. ***Contact***: *www.rurdev.usda.gov/*

Green Projects for Federally-Assisted Housing:
The recovery act designates $250 million in competitive funds to private and non-profit groups that participate in Section 8, 202 and 811 housing programs for environmentally-friendly projects.
For more information on the above housing programs, go to www.hud.gov/recovery

PUBLIC SAFETY

The recovery act will provide millions of dollars to Colorado communities to help prevent and fight crime. The act also makes millions more available to law enforcement and other public safety entities through nationwide competitive grants. The streams of available federal public safety dollars include the following:

Byrne Justice Assistance Grants:
The recovery act designates $2 billion nationwide for the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) formula grant program. This amount is distributed among the states by a statutory formula and may be used over the next four years to improve the administration of justice, crime prevention and other public safety programs. There also are funds that will be distributed through competitive grants.

What this means for Colorado:
Colorado expects to receive approximately $29.8 million in justice assistance grants that are divided into two main areas. The first group, $11.5 million, will go directly to local jurisdictions based on pre-existing formulas. The rest will be distributed through the Colorado Department of Public Safety, Division of Criminal Justice, for a broad range of activities, including drug and gang task forces, crime prevention and domestic violence programs. Once administrative funds are used, the state will allocate $16.4 million to state and local agencies. Applications are due May 1 2009 and the projects that are funded will get money for a two-year period. ***Contact**: Meg Williams, Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, (303) 239-5717, meg.williams@cdps.state.co.us*

Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)
Administered by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing, the COPS Hiring Recovery Program (CHRP) is a competitive grant program that provides funding directly to law enforcement agencies to create and preserve jobs and to increase their community policing capacity and crime-prevention work. There is no local match requirement. COPS grants provide 100 percent funding for approved entry-level salaries and benefits for three years for newly-hired, full-time sworn officer positions (including filling existing unfunded vacancies) or for rehired officers who have been laid off, or are scheduled to be laid off on a future date, as a result of local budget cuts. At the conclusion of federal funding, grantees must retain all sworn officer positions awarded under the CHRP grant.
More information is available at http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/

Violence Against Women:
The recovery act designates $225 million for state, local and tribal governments and courts for programs that prevent and combat violence against women. Of the $225 million, $175 million will distributed to all 50 states and $50 million will be available through competitive grants. The $50 million in competitive grants will be dedicated for transitional housing assistance grants program for victims of domestic violence, stalking or sexual assault. Colorado expects to receive approximately $2.8 million, which will be available to local communities through a competitive grant process through the Colorado Department of Public Safety. ***Contact**: Nancy Feldman, Colorado Department of Public Safety, 303-239-4437, nancy.feldman@cdps.state.co.us; Ruth M. Glenn, Colorado Department of Human Services, Domestic Violence Program, 303-866-2855, ruth.glenn@state.co.us*

Victim's Assistance and Compensation:
The recovery act provides $100 million to support state compensation and assistance programs for victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence, child abuse, impaired driving and other crimes. Colorado expects to receive $827,000 in competitive grants for victim's assistance work, and $929,310 in formula funding for victim's compensation programs. ***Contact**: Nancy Feldman, 303-239-4437, nancy.feldman@cdps.state.co.us*

Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force:
Colorado expects to receive $847,000 from the recovery act to enhance work under the Internet Crimes Against Children initiatives. These dollars will be distributed by the US Department of Justice to states and local law enforcement agencies to enhance investigation of child sexual exploitation over the Internet. ***Contact:** Det. Brian Steckler, Colorado Springs Police, 719-444-7000*

Law Enforcement in Rural Communities:
The recovery act provides $125 million nationwide for drug enforcement, drug prevention and treatment, and other law enforcement work in rural areas. As with the other grants, this one focuses on job creation and retention and provides national support, including training and technical assistance programs, strategically targeted to address rural needs. Colorado state and local governments and non profit groups can compete for these grants. ***Contact**: Meg Williams, Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, (303) 239-5717, meg.williams@cdps.state.co.us*

Firefighter grants:
The U.S. Department of Homeland Security will distribute competitive grants to emergency service providers to help fire departments increase the number of trained "front-line" firefighters in their communities. The Colorado Department of Public Safety is involved in the application for these grants.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security is also distributing $210 million in competitive grants for improvements or construction of non-federal fire stations. Federal guidelines haven't been distributed yet.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The recovery act provides $4.7 billion through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) for broadband enhancements to unserved and underserved areas across the nation through competitive grants.

The program requires a 20% local match and may be applied for by a state, local government, tribe, non-profit, service provider or infrastructure provider. The funds may be used for the purchase of equipment, software, hardware, digital network technology; construction of broadband infrastructure; access to broadband service by community anchor institutions; and access to broadband by low-income, aged or otherwise vulnerable populations.

The grants must be awarded by July 1, 2010. Under the grant program, NTIA will consult with States on the identification of unserved or underserved areas and the allocation of projects affecting each state. States are expected to coordinate application efforts with stake holders and partners in assessing the community needs. The Governor's Office of Information Technology is coordinating the applications for these grants.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture also is awarding $2.5 billion in grants under the Distance Learning Telemedicine and Broadband Program. Seventy-five percent of these competitive grants are to be allocated to rural areas.

Contact: John Conley, Governor's Office of Information Technology, john.conley@state.co.us, 303-764-7707

Digital-to-Analog Converter Box Program:
The Commerce Department is distributing $650 million nationwide in discretionary grants to the general public. These are coupons mailed to homes including funds for public education on the program.