GOVERNOR BILL RITTER JR.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

What it means for Colorado

Updated: August 17, 2009

www.colorado.gov/recovery

The American Recovery and Reinvestment 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 $5.48 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.**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In the six months since President Obama signed the Recovery Act into law in Denver, the historic law has been creating short-term and long-term benefits in communities across Colorado. The Act has helped Colorado preserve a host of public services. Local and state school districts, government agencies and colleges and universities have been able to preserve services with $760 million in state budget stabilization funds. This increased aid has helped Colorado avoid deep spending cuts, especially at higher education institutions that are accessing $150 million in Recovery Act funds. Without Recovery Act funds, the state would have been forced to shut down its Children's Health Plan Plus program that serves 65,000 pregnant women and children. Colorado also has avoided program cuts for Medicaid patients. The state has already spent almost $200 million to cover increased demand for Medicaid programs, and will receive more funding in coming months. And $70 million has been used to maintain Department of Corrections work.

Colorado residents have also seen a host of direct benefits. Roughly 1.8 million families are saving $900 million through the Making Work Pay tax cut. More than 500,000 Coloradans received an extra $250 check from the Social Security Administration to help make ends meet. About 52,000 low-income college students will receive up to $500 more in tuition assistance for the coming school year. Thousands of laid-off workers are paying hundreds of dollars less per month for health care coverage through COBRA. More than 150,000 laid-off Coloradans have been receiving an extra $25 a week in unemployment checks since February. More than 240,000 people have received job search assistance and about 3,000 youths, ages 15-24, are getting summer jobs thanks to the Recovery Act funds.

At the same time, large-scale construction and infrastructure projects are under way. As of July 31, 31 roadway projects using $170.7 million from the Recovery Act have begun construction. CDOT reports that almost 1,700 people have gotten jobs because of these projects. Construction projects worth $36.7 million are under way at seven airports. In late summer, $60 million will be spent on about 30 drinking water and wastewater projects.

Energy efficiency, clean energy, community development and research projects also are gearing up. This summer, contractors will begin retrofitting 250 public school buses in Weld County to reduce emissions. Contractors have begun weatherization work in low income homes across the state. Researchers at universities across Colorado have submitted more than 800 grant applications. So far, almost 60 researchers at universities across the state have been awarded grants worth more than $20 million.

STATUS OF RECOVERY ACT FUNDS IN COLORADO

*This information is based on the latest information given to the state, and may not be comprehensive

Dollars Spent

Social Security one-time payment $250 each	$125,000,000
Medicaid payments	$197,200,000
Increased Unemployment Benefits	$50,884,225
Additional or extended Unemployment Benefits	$199,865,966
Job training and job search assistance	$1,137,638
Weatherization management and equipment purchases	$997,873
Justice Assistance Grants – program support	$13,700
Public Housing Capital Fund – Formula Grants	$200,751
IDEA and Title I funds for K-12 schools	$4,222,029
Colorado Department of Transportation	$2,140,000
State Fiscal Stabilization Funds – Higher Ed.	$150,000,000
State Fiscal Stabilization Funds – Department of Corrections	$70,000,000
Food Stamps Administration	$157,600
Child Support Enforcement	$3,500,000
Child Welfare	$3,039,000
Child Care Development	$10,569,000
Emergency food	$385,223
Total	**$**819,313,005

Dollars under contract

CDOT Transit Construction Projects	$139,600,000
Ft. Carson School Renovation	$1,000,000
Airport projects	$36,683,904
Total	**$177,283,904**

Dollars moving to state or local agencies in next three months

State Fiscal Stabilization Funds - K-12	$169,800,000
Race to the Top Preparation	$10,000,000
Title I Education Funds, First Allocation	$55,500,000
Title X McKinney-Vento Education Funds	$924,850
National School Lunch Program	$1,000,000
Food Stamp Processing	$842,400
Emergency Food	$914,777
Senior Meals	$1,200,000
Census Administration	$350,000
Community Services Block Grants	$8,600,000
Transit Capital Investment Grants	$51,000,000
Airport Projects	$36,683,904
Weld County School Bus Pollution Retrofit	$1,200,000
Clean Diesel Technologies in Denver	$2,800,000
Clean Water Projects	$31,000,000
Drinking Water Projects	$34,000,000
Homelessness Prevention	$8,000,000
Violence Against Women Act	$4,400,000
Victims of Crime Act	$2,600,000
Research Grants to universities	$20,000,000
Department of Defense Facility Upgrades	$23,000,000
Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block grants	$42,700,000
Justice Assistance Grants	$18,300,000
Public Housing Capital Fund Formula Grants	$16,949,529
Community Development Block Grants	$2,800,000
Total	**$ 544,565,460**

People benefiting from tax credits or direct grants

Social Security one-time $250 payment	500,000
Pell Grant Increase	52,000
Food Stamp Increase	326,000
Increased Unemployment Benefits	150,000
Youth in summer employment program	3,000
People receiving job training	1,798
People receiving job search assistance	242,569
Making Work Pay tax credit	1,800,000 families
Total	**3,075,405 plus**

Colorado ARRA jobs created

CDOT:	1,685 (as of July 31, 2009)
Census:	33 (part-time and full-time)
Food Stamps:	40 (half are full-time and half are part-time)
Youth summer jobs:	2,862 (temporary)
AmeriCorps	612 (part-time) or 203 FTE
TOTAL:	**5,232 full-time, part-time and temporary**

Jobs to be created in next couple months

Drinking and wastewater projects: 600

Police office hiring (COPS) 23 full-time

FACES OF THE RECOVERY ACT

When President Obama signed the Recovery Act into law in February, **ALEX JOHNSON**, of Silverthorne, had been out of work for a month. The 26-year-old plumbing assistant had been laid off from his job at a construction company that primarily built new homes and saw business dry up because of the recession.

Johnson had been working in construction in Colorado for about two years when he got laid off. He was born and raised in Burleson, Tx, and has a bachelors degree. After he got laid off, Johnson applied for more than 200 jobs with no luck. In May, he applied for a job as an installer with the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments, an agency that is administering the expanded low-income weatherization program funded through the Recovery Act. About 75 people applied for the $14/hour job and Johnson was hired. He started work June 4 and will soon be insulating homes and replacing aging furnaces.

“I was hoping that I would get some of that stimulus money and here I am.”

The Northwest Colorado Council of Governments is preparing to do weatherization work in about 450 homes across 13 counties over the next year with Recovery Act funds. The organization plans to hire about five full-time workers and contract with several companies to do the work. Steve Getz, the agency’s weatherization coordinator, said there is already a high level of interest from homeowners and renters for the services. His agency has already approved about 50 applications for the work, which will begin in early July.

Statewide, up to 10,000 homes will receive energy upgrades, including insulation, new appliances and/or windows and heating systems. The Governor’s Energy Office is coordinating the program.

FACES OF THE RECOVERY ACT

Every weekday, **JEAN ECHEVERRIA** packs food into boxes at the Weld Food Bank for families and individuals who are in desperate straits. In recent months, the customer service representative has been seeing more families who have never requested food aid before. Their emergency food requests have risen 30 percent compared to the year before.

"The economy has hurt a lot of people. I'm getting affected myself. I have family members and friends who come through."

In a few weeks, the Greeley-based food bank expects to receive a major shipment of food paid for by the Recovery Act. They will get 137 cases of canned pork and 221 cases of cheese. That's enough to give for almost 3,000 individuals and families. The food bank also expects to receive major shipments of eggs, sliced turkey and whole chickens. Echeverria said she's never seen such high quality protein products like those since she began working at the food bank last year.

"Nutritionally, it's going to be great," she said. "It's very important that we get our hands on this stuff. The cost in the stores for this food is just beyond their reach. When we had this food to people, they are so appreciative."

Once the food shipments reach their building, "it's going to be gone quick."

FACES OF THE RECOVERY ACT

JULIA KIRKLEN is 18 years old and is spending the summer at the first full-time job of her young career. She's working for the Denver Youth Workforce Office, which is involved with the Summer Youth Employment Program. The Recovery Act is paying for hundreds of Denver youths, up to age 24, to get summer jobs.

"I'm a job coach for about 30 youths," said the Denver native and graduate of East High School. "I'm a person they can come to if there's something going on in the job that's making them uncomfortable. They bring me their time cards. They're working at recreation centers, libraries, even at fast food restaurants. Their ages range from 14 to 17."

Before getting this job, the teen had spent summers teaching tennis at a Denver camp. This fall, she plans to start college at Agnes Scott College in Georgia.

She said the job is giving her good experience. "I also like that I get to work with youth and have an impact on their lives."

"It does add to the resume, but I also want to do something that gives back to the community and helps underprivileged youth. This helps me see how things work."

Kirklen plans to save the money she is making in the job to pay for traveling home from college and other expenses at college. She said she is thankful for the Recovery Act.

"This is the reason why I have a job, and why a lot of other youth have jobs in Colorado."

FACES OF THE RECOVERY ACT

Dr. **MARC MOSS** sees life or death situations every day in his job. He is a pulmonary critical care doctor, which means that he treats critically ill patients with lung problems in the intensive care unit at the University of Colorado Hospital in Aurora. On June 1, 2009, the 47-year-old lung specialist was awarded a $3 million grant paid for with Recovery Act funds for a 5-year clinical study. The grant pays for the first two years of the study and was awarded by the National Institute of Nursing Research and will be used to study a condition called polyneuromyopathy – a dysfunction of the nerves and/or muscles that often is a consequence of being on mechanical life-support for seven days or more.

Moss, 47, will work with more than a dozen researchers to find a less invasive way to diagnose the condition and then to see if intensive physical therapy will improve patient outcomes. They plan to start the study on July 1, 2009, and will follow 400 patients.

Moss said the Recovery Act allowed him and his colleagues get funding for the research quicker than would have been possible otherwise.

“It will allow us to take better care of patients at an earlier time.”

Doctors and researchers across Colorado have already submitted more than 900 grant applications for Recovery Act funds, and more requests will come in coming months.

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): (Updated June 15, 2009)

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 Budget (OSPB), working closely with the Joint Budget Committee, submitted an application that will optimize the flexibility of the funds while meeting the requirements of the Recovery Act. Colorado has allocated $150.6 million per year for the next three years for higher education institutions, totaling about $452 million by the end of 2011. The remaining education stabilization money will go to K-12 education, with $152 million allocated for FY 2009-10 and $17.8 million for FY 2010-11. Just over half of the Government Services Funds, or $70 million, are being used for budget balancing purposes. About $10 million will be used to prepare for "Race to the Top" competitive programs to enhance Colorado's position relative to this significant opportunity. The remaining $58.3 million is being reserved for future budget balancing if needed, ARRA administrative costs and targeted investments or efficiencies depending on the amount available.

The chart below provides the expected breakout of ARRA funds by institution:

State Fiscal Stabilization Funding for Colorado Public Institutions of Higher Education			
	FY 2008-2009	FY2009-2010	FY2010-2011
Institutions of Higher Education	State Fiscal Stabilization Funds	State Fiscal Stabilization Funds	State Fiscal Stabilization Funds
Adams State College	$ 2,459,127	$ 2,459,127	$ 2,459,127
Mesa State College	$ 4,117,215	$ 4,117,215	$ 4,117,215
Metropolitan State College of Denver	$ 9,934,844	$ 9,934,844	$ 9,934,844
Western State College	$ 2,280,870	$ 2,280,870	$ 2,280,870
Colorado State University System	$ 33,271,484	$ 33,271,484	$ 33,271,484
Fort Lewis College	$ 3,978,508	$ 3,978,508	$ 3,978,508
University of Colorado System	$ 49,995,467	$ 49,995,467	$ 49,995,467
Colorado School of Mines	$ 4,443,761	$ 4,443,761	$ 4,443,761
University of Northern Colorado	$ 8,909,433	$ 8,909,433	$ 8,909,433
Community College System	$ 25,300,005	$ 25,300,005	$ 25,300,005
Local District Junior Colleges	$ 3,288,323	$ 3,288,323	$ 3,288,323
Area Vocational Schools	$ 2,697,018	$ 2,697,018	$ 2,697,018
Fiscal Year Total	$ 150,676,055	$ 150,676,055	$ 150,676,055

Source: Governor's Office of State Planning and Budget

Race to the Top: (Updated July 21, 2009)
Two competitive grants worth a total of $5 billion will 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. A draft of the request for proposals is expected in June 2009 and final RFP's are expected in August 2009, with the application due October 1, 2009. The office of Lieutenant Governor Barbara O'Brien is coordinating the application. The Lieutenant Governor has created four public committees, each one focused upon one of four key areas. Each committee has two co-chairs, one from the Colorado Department of Education and the other from the private sector, whose names will be announced in July 2009. Hundreds of Coloradans have signed up to participate and committees will begin meeting in early August. ***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 (Elementary and Secondary Education Act): (Updated July 22, 2009)
Colorado received $55.6 million for Title I Part A initiatives in April 2009, approximately half of its expected $111 million allocation for this program. The remaining half will be distributed between July 1 and October 1. Title I funds are disbursed by the Colorado Department of Education according to school district applications for reimbursement, though total available allocations for each district are determined by existing federal formulae. As of June 29, 2009, Colorado had reimbursed districts a total

of $278,962, and most Colorado school districts are preparing applications. 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. The state also expects to $33.8 million for low-performing schools that need corrective action and restructuring through the Title I School Improvement program. *Contact: Patrick Chapman, Colorado Dept. of Education, 303-866-6780, chapman_p@cde.state.co.us*

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act: (Updated July 21, 2009)
Colorado has received $80.5 million through the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act for students and children with disabilities. This represents half of Colorado's total allocation of $161 million for IDEA parts B and C, the other half of which is expected by September 30, 2009 after Colorado submits a report to the Department of Education on how it will meet reporting and accountability requirements. These funds are available through three programs:

- Part B (section 611) formula grants, expected to be $148.7 million in Colorado, will be given to state education authorities and then to local schools to improve services for children and youth with disabilities by making short-term investments that can have long-term benefits. The state has announced allocations to school districts around Colorado. Ten Colorado school districts will soon receive a total of $4.4 million for the current school year, while the majority of the IDEA funding will be for FY 2009-10. All Part B, section 611 funds must be obligated by the state by September 20, 2011.
- Another Part B formula grant program (section 619), expected to be $5.2 million in Colorado, will help schools expand the availability and range of placement options for preschoolers (ages three to five) with disabilities by developing the capacity of public and private preschool programs to serve them. All Part B, section 619 funds must be obligated by the state by September 20, 2011

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;*

- The IDEA part C program for infants and toddlers with disabilities is expected to distribute $7 million to Colorado. These grants will help fund early intervention services for birth through two-year old children being served by the 20 Community Centered Boards and increase funding for statewide initiatives to improve services for infants and toddlers with developmental delays or disabilities.

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: (Updated June 15, 2009)
The state received $924,815 in Title X McKinney-Vento formula funds from the federal government on April 10, 2009. Grant applications are due to the state by July 1, 2009, and the state will notify school districts of awards by Aug. 1, 2009. The state must distribute these funds to local school districts by Aug. 8, 2009 and all funds through this program must be obligated by Sept. 30, 2011. The funds are designed to help homeless children enroll in, attend and succeed in school.
Contact*: Dana Scott, Colorado Dept. of Education, 303-866-6930, scott_d@cde.state.co.us*

Enhancing Education Through Technology (Title IID): (updated June 10, 2009)
Colorado expects to receive $7 million to help school districts improve the use of technology in curricula and to help all students become technologically literate by the end of 8th grade. 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. The U.S. Department of Education has indicated that applications are expected to be available in July 2009. ***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: (Updated June 15, 2009)
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 help more than 52,000 students in Colorado.
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: (Updated June 15, 2009)
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**.** The funds are used for equipment that will improve the quality of meals, safety of food served, energy efficiency of food service operations and expansion of the meal program. Grants were awarded in early June to more than 30 school districts. Recipients will be required to finish procurement and expenditure activities within three months of the grant award.
Contact*: Herminia Vigil, Colorado Dept. of Education, 303-866-6934, vigil_h@cde.state.co.us*

Impact Aid Construction: (Updated June 15, 2009)
Colorado has received $1 million in formula grants for emergency renovations and modernization projects. The Fountain-Fort Carson School District #8 in El Paso County has awarded $1 million in contracts for five projects (roof repair at the middle school, classroom construction, library renovation and two heating and air conditioning system projects). Work has already begun and is expected to be completed by Sept. 30, 2009. These funds allowed the district to spend more on building a new school. More funds will be available through a competitive grant process in coming months. ***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:

Social Security benefits: (Updated July 21, 2009)
More than 500,000 Colorado residents who are receiving Social Security and SSI benefits also received a one-time payment of $250. The checks went out starting May 7, 2009. This benefit, totaling more than $125 million in Colorado, was distributed throughout May and early June. For more information, visit www.socialsecurity.gov/payment/

Medicaid: (Updated July 21, 2009)
State and local agencies will receive an estimated $797 million of increased Medicaid funds retroactive to October 1, 2008 through December 31, 2010. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, the state will receive approximately $240,776,583 as a result of the Recovery Act. As of June 29, 2009, Colorado has drawn down approximately 82 percent of its 2009 allotment, or about $197 million. These extra dollars reduced the burden on the state General Fund and other funds that would have been tapped to cover the Medicaid costs. The anticipated federal relief enabled the Department to avoid making provider rate cuts in FY 2008-09 or reducing optional services to additional children and low-income adults. Colorado has experienced a significant increase in Medicaid recipients in the last year; with the same eligibility requirements in place, more Coloradans are qualifying for Medicaid. ***Contact:*** *Joanne Lindsay, Colorado Department of Healthcare Policy and Financing, 303-866-3144; Joanne.lindsay@state.co.us*

Disproportionate Share Hospital Assistance: (updated May 21, 2009)
Colorado hospitals that handle high numbers of Medicaid patients expect to receive $2.2 million in additional Medicaid funds from the federal government. These funds will be distributed through a formula.

Food and Nutrition Assistance: (Updated June 15, 2009)
Colorado agencies and residents are receiving additional food assistance through a variety of programs, including:

- The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as food stamps, increased an estimated 13.6 percent. Starting April 1, 2009, Colorado families began receiving an average monthly increase of $40, amounting to almost $180 million in additional funding to the state. More than 140,000 households – consisting of more than 326,000 people – have been receiving

increased food benefits. The food stamp caseload has increased 33 percent compared to October 2007 and continues to increase by at least two percent a month.

- The 10 largest counties, which handle more than 80 percent of the statewide caseload of food stamps, have received almost $1 million to hire more workers or pay overtime to existing staff 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. *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. Colorado submitted an application for $444,066 to the Department of Agriculture on May 29, 2009. *Contact: Jillian Jacobellis, Division Director, Prevention Services Division, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, 303-692-2504, jillian.jacobellis@state.co.us*
- Food banks and assistance agencies across Colorado are receiving huge shipments of commodity food items paid for with $1.3 million in formula grants through the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) 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. The USDA is using their bid process to purchase food. More than 560,000 cases of food are being distributed to 50 county agencies and food banks and 43 soup kitchens across Colorado. Thousands of families and individuals will receive high-quality food including whole chickens, cheese, eggs and sliced turkey. Those products will be added to food boxes given to needy families and individuals. The Food Bank of the Rockies, for example, is expecting to receive more than a half million pounds (nearly 19,000 cases) of food, which it will distribute to 150 pantries/agencies in 23 Colorado counties. (Updated June 15, 2009)

Health Insurance Benefits for the Unemployed: (Updated June 15, 2009)
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. The recovery act adds a premium subsidy to the existing COBRA program, so 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. State officials estimate that thousands of people are getting this benefit, although exact figures are not available at this time.
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: (Updated June 15, 2009)
The state has distributed $1.2 million in additional funds to 16 Area Agencies on Aging across Colorado. The funds will be available for use July 1, 2009. The local agencies were given $847,851 for group meals and $417,403 for home delivered meals for seniors age 60 years and older. The funds will provide 138,673 additional meals for 4,070 unduplicated seniors in a group setting and 65,367 meals delivered to homes of 2,944 unduplicated seniors. 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: (Updated July 21, 2009)
County human service agencies are receiving $10.5 million for the current fiscal year, and another $10.5 million for FY 2009-10 for child care services to low-income families. These funds come as discretionary block grants to supplement state funding for to improve access to quality child care. Colorado has spent $10,569,228 of these funds as of July 16, 2009. 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: (Updated July 21, 2009)
In total, Colorado expects to receive $6.4 million to increase child support enforcement. As of July 16, 2009, Colorado has spent $3,498,378 of these funds. The funds will be distributed to the counties based on their performance. 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*

Child welfare services: (Updated July 21, 2009)
Colorado is receiving an increased level of federal funding for foster care, adoption, kinship guardianship and child welfare services. Colorado has spent $3,039,000 in Recovery Act funds as of July 16, 2009.
***Contact**: Sharen Ford, Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Child Welfare, 303-866-3197 sharen.ford@state.co.us*

Census administration: (Updated June 15, 2009)
The U.S. Department of Commerce is distributing $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. The local Census office has been allocated $770,000 for FY 2009-2010 to facilitate the administration of the 2010 Census in the 10-state region. About $350,000 of those funds were used to hire employees based out of the Lakewood office.
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.

Community Services Block Grants: **(updated June 15, 2009)**
Colorado expects to receive $8.6 million for community services. The funds can be used to help Colorado citizens become more self-sufficient by providing services related to employment, education, nutrition, housing, health, emergency services such as rental and mortgage assistance, financial education (income maintenance). 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. County governments can partner with non-profits to provide the services. Proposals were due to the state June 15, 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*

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: **(updated July 21, 2009)**
The Health Resources and Services Administration of the U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services will distribute $2.5 billion nationally in competitive grants through four programs designed to support services at federally qualified community health centers.

- $1.5 billion through a program called Community Health Center Infrastructure grants to modernize facilities and equipment and to obtain health information technology systems.
- $500 million through a program called Community Health Center Services grants to support new sites and service areas, to increase services at existing sites, and to provide supplemental payments for spikes in uninsured populations.
- $200 million through a program called Health Care Workforce grants to train health care professionals in a variety of disciplines.

- $300 million through a program called National Health Service Corps for training to primary care doctors and health care professionals that agree to work in underserved areas.

Colorado's 15 federally qualified community health centers have so far received $16.8 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds to improve care for Colorado residents and upgrade technology and infrastructure. On July 1st, 2009, the Department of Health and Human Services announced one-time grants to fund construction, repair, renovation, equipment purchases, and health information technology upgrades through its Capital Improvement Program.

Healthcare professional recruitment: (Updated June 15, 2009)
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. These funds are available because of the passage of a new bill (HB 09-1111) known as Health Resources for Underserved Areas. The recovery act will 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.

Construction of Research Facilities: (updated May 21, 2009)
The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) will distribute $360 million for construction of new facilities and laboratories. Half of that will go to NIST facilities or projects, including $68.5 million to complete funding for a precision measurement laboratory at a NIST site in Boulder. The other $180 million will be distributed through a competitive process to build research science buildings.

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: (Updated July 21, 2009)
The federal government approved extensions of benefits prior to the passage of the Recovery Act, and then further extended them through the Recovery Act. This means that people who have been involuntarily laid off can receive up to 59 weeks of benefits, including the 26 weeks provided by state law. The Recovery Act extends benefits an additional 20 weeks (for a total of 79 weeks). As of early June, more than 35,000 people were receiving extended benefits beyond the 26 weeks provided by state law. The General Assembly passed SB 247, signed into law by Gov. Ritter on June 2, 2009, to fully optimize the criteria set by the Recovery Act. This will allow the additional 20 weeks of benefits to be distributed and includes other provisions to help with obtaining Recovery Act funds. It won't be known until next year how many people will receive this additional money. All told, Colorado workers could receive roughly $342 million for these benefits.

Increased Unemployment Benefits: (Updated July 21, 2009)
People receiving unemployment checks of any type are receiving $25 more a week, which adds up to an estimated $87 million in extra federal dollars through the recovery act. As of June 30, 2009, 150,269 individuals have received the additional $25 amount for a total of $40,997,750 in Federal Additional Compensation payments. 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.

As of June 9, 2009, roughly 400 adults have received services across the state, and that number will rise significantly in the coming months.
For persons interested in providing job training service, contact: (303) 318-8035

Youth training and support: (Updated June 15, 2009)
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.

Approximately 3,000 young people are expected to be served through this program this summer across Colorado.
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: (Updated June 15, 2009)
The recovery act provides a series of funds to states for modernizing the unemployment insurance programs. The General Assembly passed SB 247, signed into law by Gov. Ritter on June 2, 2009, that modifies Colorado's unemployment insurance provisions to comply with federal guidelines, among other provisions. The law allows the state to qualify for up to $127 million for modernization of the unemployment benefits system. ***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: (Updated July 21, 2009)
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 in competitive grants is dedicated to programs to prepare workers for jobs in renewable energy and energy efficiency as established in the Green Jobs Act of 2007. On June 24, 2009, the DOL issued a solicitation for grant applications for this program, detailing five different categories of grant funding. The Colorado Department of Labor and Employment is preparing to submit grant applications in all five categories and is optimistic that the state will receive funds in at least three of the five categories.

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: (Updated June 15, 2009)
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. Loan fees are also removed or reduced. Small Business Administration officials report distribution of 82 loans through the 7 (a) Loan Guarantee Program valued at $27 million statewide between Feb. 17 and June 1. These funds will stay available until Sept. 30, 2012. (Updated June 15, 2009)
- 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.
- ARC loans: viable small businesses can borrow up to $35,000 to make payments of principal and interest, on one or more existing, qualifying small business loans for up to 6 months. This includes credit card obligations, capital leases, bills to vendors/suppliers. This is designed to help businesses facing immediate financial hardship. The program was announced May 18, 2009 and funds became available June 15, 2009. (updated June 15, 2009)

Contact: *Lynette Newman, U.S. Small Business Administration, 303-844-2607 ext. 223; Bob Martin, 303-844-2607 ext. 212.*

Surety Bond Guarantees: (updated May 21, 2009)
The Small Business Administration is now offering higher surety bonds for businesses to compete for construction and service contracts. Now, businesses can qualify for U.S. Small Business Administration-backed surety bonds of up to $5 million, which is more than double the previous $2 million maximum surety bond guaranteed by SBA. SBA guarantees bid, payment and performance bonds. Surety bonds protect the project owner against financial loss if contractors default or fail to perform.
Contact*: Lynette Newman, U.S. Small Business Administration, 303-844-2607 ext. 223; Bob Martin, 303-844-2607 ext. 212.*

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: **(updated Aug. 17, 2009)**
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. On Aug. 13, 2009, the state saved an estimated $45 million during a bond sale that will pay for the construction of 4 schools in the San Luis Valley and create hundreds of jobs. ***Contact:*** *Mary Wickersham, Colorado State Treasurer's Office, 303-866-2442, Mary.wickersham@state.co.us*

Build America Bonds: **(Updated July 21, 2009)**
Build America Bonds lower costs to public entities on financing because the federal government subsidizes 35% of the interest paid on the project. On July 15, 2009, Colorado announced one of the biggest Build America Bond sales yet, saving the state $77 million to build the new state History Museum and Justice Complex. The Build America Bonds program is one of several financing programs created by the Recovery Act to help government agencies move capital construction projects forward while saving hundreds of millions of dollars. ***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: **(Updated July 16, 2009)**
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 has received $314,100 for awarding small grants, with a maximum of $10,000 per award. All Recovery funds grants are non-matching. . As of the grant application deadline on July 16, 2009, CCA had received 57 applications and expects to fund 30 grants by the end of August. 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: (updated May 21, 2009)
The National Institute of Standards and Technology is distributing $220 million nationwide in grants for investment in research, equipment and supplies. The agency plans to distribute the funds according to the following breakdown: $119 nationwide for high-value research and measurement equipment purchased through a competitive award process; $35 million for competitive research grants for measurement science in NIST priority areas; $22 million to expand NIST Postdoctoral Fellowship Program; $20 million for a grant to one or more organizations to provide additional scientist and engineer fellowships; $5 million in competitive contracts for small businesses under the Small Business Innovation Research program; $5 million in competitive contracts to assist in activities related to smart grid devices and systems; $5 million in competitive research contracts for specific areas of cybersecurity; $9 million in contracts to improve NIST information technology infrastructure for improving measurements and research. For more about these programs, visit www.nist.gov/recovery.

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: (Updated Aug. 17, 2009)
Colorado will receive over $500 million for transportation projects statewide. Part of that money is expected to 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

Work began May 19, 2009, on the first Recovery Act-funded roadway project in Littleton. Approximately 51 projects will be funded through the Recovery Act. All have been advertised. Of those, 34 projects are under contract and of those, 31 projects using $170.7 million from the Recovery Act have begun or are about to start construction.
CDOT Recovery Act website; ***Contact:*** *Herman Stockinger, CDOT, 303-757-9077; Stacey Stegman, CDOT, 303-757-9362, Stacey.stegman@state.co.us;*

Transit: (updated June 15, 2009)
There are several grant programs to help with transit needs. Colorado also has been allocated $103 million in Capital Investment Grants 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.

- Regional Transportation District – applied for all of the $72.1 million in April and May.
- City of Colorado Springs – allocated approximately $8.8 million; applied for $4.5 million on June 1, 2009
- City of Fort Collins – applied May 14, 2009 for the total $3.4 million allocation
- Mesa County – has not applied for any of its $1.5 million allocation as of June 4, 2009
- City of Greeley – has not applied for any of the $2 million allocation as of June 4, 2009
- City of Pueblo – applied April 9, 2009, for the total $2.4 million allocation

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. This fund is called the Transit Capital Investment Grants for new starts. A third grant program focuses on clean energy initiatives. The FTA will distribute $100 million nationwide through a competitive process to public transit agencies for projects that reduce energy consumption or greenhouse gas emissions. ***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: (updated July 21, 2009)
Construction work at seven Colorado airports has begun with $36 million in Recovery Act funds aimed at improving capacity, safety and security. Priority for funding was given to projects that could be completed within two years. The Federal Aviation Administration selected the grant recipients.

- Denver International Airport awarded $7 million in contracts for runway rehabilitation. Another $4.4 million contract for apron improvements was awarded in June.
- Centennial Airport awarded a $3.1 million contract for taxiway rehabilitation in June.
- Aspen-Pitkin County Airport awarded a $3.5 million contract for apron improvements on May 19, 2009.
- Colorado Springs Airport awarded a $6.7 million contract for taxiway rehabilitation in June.
- Grand Junction Airport awarded a $9.3 million contract for apron improvements on May 25, 2009.
- Durango Airport awarded a $1.9 million contract to CWS Construction and work has begun on resurfacing of the General Aviation ramp.
- Fort Collins Airport awarded a $556,797 contract for taxiway improvements in June.

***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, CDOT, 303-757-9077; Stacey Stegman, CDOT, 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: (Updated July 21, 2009)
Colorado's State Energy Program plan has been approved by the Department of Energy, and the state has received the first $20 million of its total 49.2 million for energy efficiency and conservation projects. The Governor's Energy Office submitted a plan in May 2009 to the U.S. Department of Energy about how the agency wants to distribute these funds to create jobs, develop clean energy sources, reduce energy costs for residents and cut emissions of greenhouse gases while injecting the state's economy with critical investments. The state plan divides the funds into seven categories: $19.2 million for finance and capital investment grants and revolving loans, $5.6 million for residential programs, $9.7 million for renewable energy development and expansion, $4.9 million for energy efficiency work on commercial buildings, $4.7 million for public information and consumer outreach, $723,348 for reducing the environmental impact of state government operations and $1.28 million for increasing energy efficiency among utility customers and electric utilities. The Governor's Energy Office will begin energy projects in the fall. Funds must be obligated by Sept. 30, 2010, and must be spent by March 2012.
***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: (Updated June 15, 2009)
Colorado expects to receive $42.7 million for projects that reduce energy use and fossil fuel emissions, and improve energy efficiency. The Governor's Energy Office and various cities and counties are applying to the federal government. 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 expects approval of its application by August 1st, 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.

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

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants – competitive: (updated May 21, 2009)
The U.S. Department of Energy is distribution $400 million in competitive grants to local and state government agencies for projects that reduce energy use and fossil fuel emissions and improve energy efficiency. ***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: (Updated Aug. 17, 2009)
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. More than 10,000 homes are expected to receive improvements through this program. The program includes funds to train contractors for the work. All funds must be spent by March 31, 2012.

Weatherization services will be provided by 11 partner agencies across the state. Work began in certain areas in July. The state received $23 million for this work on Aug. 13, 2009.

In addition, the state issued a Request for Applications in June 2009 to identify weatherization service providers that can administer a $2,501,242 statewide multi-family program that will serve approximately 625 homes through June 30, 2010. The GEO and its current weatherization partners have been authorized to expend up to 10% of ARRA funds or $7,953,121 on ramp-up activities, such as hiring and training of new staff and purchasing equipment and materials. The GEO is expecting to receive approval of its State Plan in summer 2009, at which time it will receive an additional 40% of ARRA funds.
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: **(Updated July 21, 2009)**
This program, funded at $4.5 billion nationally, funds research and development in pilot projects for modernizing the electricity grid. The City of Fort Collins will receive $4,841,647 in Recovery Act funds from the U.S. Department of Energy for a smart-grid demonstration project that aims to reduce peak load electricity demand by at least 15 percent at distribution feeders and allow for expanded use of

energy from renewable sources. The grant is part of $47 million in Recovery Act Funding announced by Energy Secretary Steven Chu in July for eight projects to advance smart grid demonstration projects in 7 states, including Colorado.

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.

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: (Updated June 15, 2009)
The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment expects to receive about $31 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.

More than a dozen top-priority water projects will begin construction before Sept. 30, 2009, with more than $31 million in Recovery Act funds. The state approved a list of 43 projects that can obtain funding through this program, but there isn't enough money for most of those projects to go forward. None of these projects would go into construction this year without the Recovery Act dollars. Applicants must submit engineering plans by the end of June to get final approval to begin work. More than 300 jobs are expected to be created through these projects. ***Contact:*** *Steve Gunderson, Division Director, Water Quality Control Division, 303-692-3509; steve.gunderson@state.co.us*

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund: (Updated June 15, 2009)
The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment will distribute approximately $34 million from the EPA to build and upgrade drinking water systems through the Safe Drinking Water Act. The Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority are 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. This money does not require a state match of funds.

More than a dozen top-priority projects will begin construction before Sept. 30, 2009. The state approved a list of 44 projects that can be funded through this program, but most will not go forward because of lack of available dollars. None of these projects would have gone into construction this year without the Recovery Act dollars. More than 300 jobs are expected to be created through these projects. ***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: (Updated July 31, 2009)
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. Approximately $1.2 million has been allocated to retrofit about 250 Weld County public school buses with diesel oxidation catalysts, closed crankcase filtration systems and engine pre-heaters. The project will reduce emissions of hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, particulate matter and nitrogen oxides to the atmosphere, as well as reduce children's in-cabin exposure to these pollutants and numerous air toxics. Furthermore, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has awarded $2.8 million in grants to the Denver Regional Air Quality Council, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the City and County of Denver to install clean diesel technologies on hundreds of trucks, buses and vehicles throughout the state. These clean diesel projects will create jobs while protecting Colorado's air quality. 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: **(Updated June 15, 2009)**
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 $17 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 opened bidding for this work May 29, 2009, and will close the bidding process on July 20, 2009. Work is expected to begin in the fall. The project is being coordinated with the Environmental Protection Agency. Colorado is also in the process of administering more than $2 million for work at the Clear Creek Superfund site. All funds received by the state must be obligated within 12 months and 70 percent must be spent within two years of the EPA regional office receiving the funds. About 15 to 20 newly-hired construction workers are expected to be employed for

three construction seasons. ***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: (updated June 10, 2009)
The State Department of Agriculture will receive $46,421 to distribute to fish farm facilities to help with feed costs in Colorado, and the funds are expected in coming months. ***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*

Wood to Energy Program: (updated July 20, 2009)
Four Colorado projects designed to convert wood waste to energy and energy feedstocks each received grants of $250,000 through the Department of Agriculture in early June. The projects, located in Grand, Fremont, El Paso and Boulder counties, are each designed to convert wood collected during wildfire mitigation projects into energy - including wood derived from pine-beetle infested regions.

HOUSING AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

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 and Tax Credit Exchange Program: (Updated July 31, 2009)
Colorado will receive $45.1 million in competitive funds through the recovery act for help with local housing needs.

The Tax Credit Assistance Program (TCAP) 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*

The Tax Credit Exchange Program (TCEP) allows state housing credit agencies the option of exchanging eligible portions of the state's housing credit ceiling for cash grants. The Colorado Housing and Finance Authority (CHFA) applied to HUD in May 2009 for these funds. 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.*

Homelessness Prevention: (Updated July 21, 2009)
In July 2009, the federal government approved the state's plan to administer $8.2 million in competitive grants to address and prevent homelessness. These grants will be administered by the state Department of Local Affairs and must be obligated by Sept. 30, 2009. 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**.** The grants will go to state and local agencies for short and medium-term rental assistance, housing relocation and stabilization services. Projects are scheduled to be contracted out by September 2009. Five percent of the funds have been designated for administration. Colorado also expects to receive $7.4 million allocated directly to larger urban areas from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. All funds must be spent by Sept. 30, 2011. ***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: **(Updated July 21, 2009)**
Local government agencies and partner organizations are applying for $10.3 million through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for community development work in low and moderate income areas. The funds are intended to help local governments implement projects in public facilities, economic development and housing. 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.). HUD is distributing $7.5 million directly to entitlement communities, which are usually cities of more than 50,000 people, which they can use through partnerships and sub-contracting with non-profits and businesses. The Colorado Department of Local Affairs submitted a plan to HUD on June 22, 2009 to distribute $2.8 million to three small, rural governments for public facilities upgrades. The money must be spent by September 30, 2012. ***Contact:*** *Becky Murray, 303-866-2818; becky.murray@state.co.us*

Public Housing Capital Fund: **(Updated July 20, 2009)**
Colorado's 43 public housing agencies received $16,949,529 from the Public Housing Capital Fund formula grant awards. These funds can be used for developing, financing, or modernizing public housing or for improving management or the physical condition of housing units. 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: (Updated July 21, 2009)
As of June 26, 2009, Colorado had received its full award of $18.3 million to be used over the next four years to improve the administration of justice, crime prevention and other public safety programs. 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. The state has completed reviewing applications for these grants and will announce projects in August. Colorado counties and municipalities have also received $11.5 million directly from the Department of Justice based on pre-existing formulas. ***Contact**: Meg Williams, Colorado Division of Criminal Justice, (303) 239-5717, meg.williams@cdps.state.co.us*

Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS): (Updated July 31, 2009)
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. Colorado will receive more than $5 million in grants to fund the hiring and rehiring of 23 law enforcement officers in Englewood, Grand Junction, Ault, Commerce City, Florence, Telluride, Colorado Springs, Steamboat Springs, Alamosa, Ignacio, Idaho Springs, Vail and Black Hawk. 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: (Updated July 21, 2009)
The Colorado Department of Public Safety announced grant awards in July 2009 for the $2.075 million available in this program. The recovery act designates $225 million nationwide for state, local and tribal governments and courts for programs that prevent and combat violence against women. The recently-awarded competitive grants will be dedicated for transitional housing assistance grants program for victims of domestic violence, stalking or sexual assault. The state received 51 applications for a total of $4,454,460. ***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: (Updated July 21, 2009)
The Colorado Department of Public Safety announced grant awards in July 2009 for the $768,650 available in this program. The recovery act provides $100 million nationwide to support state compensation and assistance programs for victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence, child

abuse, impaired driving and other crimes. The state received 49 applications requesting $2,602,045 and more than 20 new positions and a smaller number of jobs restored or retained. Grants are scheduled to begin September 1. ***Contact**: Nancy Feldman, 303-239-4437, nancy.feldman@cdps.state.co.us*

Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force: (Updated July 22, 2009)
These funds are distributed by the US Department of Justice to states and local law enforcement agencies to enhance investigation of child sexual exploitation over the Internet. The City of Colorado Springs received a $675,991 grant in May 2009. The Colorado Springs Police Department ICAC Task Force plans to use Recovery Act grant funds to create a new ICAC Coordinator position. The ICAC Program Coordinator will coordinate and oversee the operations and activities of the Colorado ICAC Task Force under the direction of the Colorado ICAC Task Force Commander. This position will ensure program compliance with applicable federal, state and local rules and ICAC standards, including programmatic and financial tracking and reporting. ***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 (known by the acronym SAFER) 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

Broadband (Updated Aug. 17, 2009)
The recovery act provides a total of $7.2 billion nationwide for expanding access to broadband. These funds come through two programs, one administered by the Department of Commerce and the other by the Department of Agriculture.

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) in the Department of Commerce will distribute $4.7 billion 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. These funds will come in three phases: the first round was announced in July 2009, the second will be announced in December 2009, and the third in April 2010.

The application period opened July 14, 2009, and applications were originally due to NTIA by August 14, 2009. The deadline was extended for qualified applicants until Aug. 20, 2009. Under its grant program, NTIA will consult with states on the identification of unserved or underserved areas and the allocation of projects affecting each state. Colorado has prepared a framework of how it will evaluate projects to recommend to NTIA. The Governor's Office of Information Technology is coordinating the state broadband effort, and has held meetings with private and public providers to communicate requirements and solicit input.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture also is awarding $2.5 billion in grants through the Rural Utilities Service. This program is designed to expand broadband access in rural areas by laying new cables and upgrading facilities or equipment. Seventy-five percent of these competitive grants are to be allocated to rural areas, and rural projects must be submitted to this program before submission to NTIA. This program follows a similar multi-phase funding schedule.

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.

SCIENCE AND RESEARCH FUNDING

National Institute of Health: **(Updated June 15, 2009)**
NIH received about $8.2 billion for additional scientific research grants. About $200 million of this funds the Challenge Grant program, which funds the total cost of research in priority areas up to $500,000 for up to two years. Challenge Grants will be awarded starting September 30, 2009. The University of Colorado at Boulder has received about $1.7 million in grant awards from the NIH, and has submitted many applications for Challenge Grants.

National Science Foundation: **(Updated June 15, 2009)**
The NSF is using most of its $3 billion from the recovery act to support pre-submitted projects that it could not previously fund. The NSF is reviewing proposals submitted before the recovery act and expects to award them by September, 2009. The University of Colorado at Boulder has been awarded about $6.7 billion in NSF research grants from ARRA funding, though several of these projects were submitted before the recovery act was signed.

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.

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.

DIRECT FEDERAL FUNDING

General Services Administration—Public Buildings Service
The General Services Administration is planning to spend $55.6 million in Colorado to carry out high-performance green building updates to federal buildings in Colorado. **Contact:** Public Buildings Service, Rocky Mountain Region, 1-888-999-4777.

Department of Energy
The National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, CO will receive $120m for research, maintenance and upgrades grants to NREL for construction of new buildings. NREL is also eligible for an additional $83 million in grants from the Department of Energy.

Fish and Wildlife Service
The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service allocated funds totaling $9.2 million to wildlife refuges across the state. The FWS projects include new construction projects, maintenance projects and habitat restoration projects.

Bureau of Land Management:
The BLM has already identified 104 projects within the state totaling $15.6 million. They include:

- $1.1 million for 25 trail maintenance and construction projects;
- $1.1 million for 16 Abandoned Mine projects
- Almost $3 million for 27 Habitat Restoration Projects
- $4.4 million for 19 Deferred Maintenance projects
- Almost $6 million for 17 Capital Improvement projects

National Parks Service:
The U.S. National Parks Services has allocated almost $20.5 million to Colorado. There are currently 10 projects already allocated across the state geographically and include projects such as site preservations, building repairs, trail, road and boating improvements and a photovoltaic system.

Forest Service:
The US forest service has so far identified 10 projects across the state totaling $26.8 million. These projects include road improvements, wild land fire management, and capital improvements.

US Army Corps of Engineers: (Updated July 21, 2009)
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. Four reservoirs around Colorado have been selected for Recovery Act funding, totaling $4.58 million.

Department of Defense
The Department of Defense has allocated $130 million to Colorado, mostly for Fort Carson and Buckley and Peterson air force bases. There are 196 restoration and modernization projects plus 3 construction projects. The construction projects include work at the Fort Carson Child Development Center, and $11.2 million contract for Peterson Air Force Base Child Development Center.

NEW STATE LEGISLATION

Governor Ritter signed the following bills in the last month to help Colorado maximize its eligibility for Recovery Act funding and ensure that Recovery dollars are used as effectively as possible.

House Bill 1346: **The Colorado Recovery and Reinvestment Finance Act**
This law allows Colorado agencies to take full advantage of federal bond subsidies and benefit from a lower cost of borrowing on Recovery Act projects. The Recovery Act includes federal funds to subsidize the interest payments on bonds issued by public entities for certain projects. This law clarifies how Colorado agencies may qualify for these interest subsidies and authorizes the use of other bonds.

House Bill 1349: Extending Health Care Benefits
This law helps workers who lost their jobs between September 1, 2008 and February 16, 2009 maintain their health care coverage. The Recovery Act provides a premium subsidy and an extended period for laid off workers to enroll in Federal COBRA health coverage. This law applies a similar extension to Colorado's equivalent healthcare extension program and specifies notification requirements.

Senate Bill 247: The Unemployment Insurance Modernization Act
This law qualifies Colorado for more than $120 million in federal aid by modifying Colorado's unemployment insurance provisions to comply with federal guidelines. The law extends unemployment benefits by 20 weeks and allows certain ineligible unemployed workers to become eligible for benefits through an alternate means of calculating eligibility. The law also qualifies Colorado for an additional $15 million for job training benefits over the next three years. By unlocking these federal funds, this law helps Colorado's unemployment insurance program remain solvent and expands the number of Coloradans who will receive benefits during their unemployment.

Senate Bill 297: Contract Flexibility for ARRA Projects
This law allows Colorado agencies to waive standard contract or procurement requirements to comply with Recovery Act deadlines. It is intended to be used only in extreme cases when the state is in jeopardy of losing Recovery Act funds because of federal deadlines. The state would have to get written approval from the Attorney General and other officials to use this process.