

Family COVID Assistance Grant

Important Status Update –January 12, 2021

On December 15, 2020, the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors authorized \$5 million for the Family COVID-19 Assistance Grant program. This program provides grants of up to \$5,000 for families who have been financially harmed by the COVID pandemic and have incomes below the area median.

The program launched on December 28, 2020. Grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis for as long as funding is available.

As of January 11, 2021, the County has received an estimated 2,040 applications. The total cost of funding all applications received to date would be approximately \$10.2 million, which is double the available funding. Once the original \$5 million has been granted to those who qualify on a first come, first served basis, the County will hold the remaining applications pending additional funding.

San Joaquin County has learned it will be receiving approximately \$13.2 million in new federal funds dedicated to rental assistance.

San Joaquin County plans to use this allocation, to the extent allowed by federal law, to supplement the Family COVID-19 Assistance Grant program. To date, the United States Treasury Department has not provided complete guidance on how the County should administer these funds. When the County receives that guidance, it will make all pertinent information available on www.sjgov.org. The County anticipates rolling out this new program in February.

Please note: due to the overwhelming number of applications received, it takes County staff up to 10 business days to contact individual applicants regarding their application.

Applicants who receive the automated email response should be assured the County is in receipt of their application, and they can expect to be contacted within 10 business days after submission. We appreciate your patience and understanding while we are processing thousands of applications for these critical funds for County residents.