
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

March 26, 2020



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COVID-19 — SOUTH CAROLINA — 3/23/2020

South Carolina Legislature. On March 19, 2020, Governor Henry McMaster signed legislation providing \$45.0 million to the Department of Health and Environmental Control in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The funds are to be used for the following:

- \$14.8 million for personal protective equipment for health care workers.
- \$14.5 million for additional staffing to help with disease surveillance and investigation, lab testing, and information phone lines.
- \$5.2 million for technology, lab supplies, travel, and cleaning costs.
- \$5.0 million for unanticipated costs based on the spread of COVID-19.
- \$2.5 million for an education campaign through television and radio ads and printed materials.
- \$1.7 million for quarantine and support of indigent patients.
- \$1.3 million for lab samples and distribution of items from the Strategic National Stockpile.

Related Information. In addition to the legislation, Governor McMaster has declared a [State of Emergency](#) and issued multiple [executive orders](#) related to COVID-19. The measures are similar to those in other states, including closing schools, activating an emergency operations center, urging social distancing, and allowing nonessential employees to work from home. A page dedicated to South Carolina's response to COVID-19 is available [here](#).

Cases. As of March 22, 2020, there were 195 cases of COVID-19 and 5 deaths in South Carolina.

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Doc ID 1133527