

ROY COOPER • Governor

MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH · Secretary

 $\ensuremath{\text{SUSAN OSBORNE}}$ \bullet Assistant Secretary for County Operations for Human Services

October 6, 2020

Dear County Directors of Social Services:

- Attention: Food and Nutrition Services, Work First Family Assistance, and Energy Programs Managers and Supervisors
- **Subject:** North Carolina Extra Credit Grants
- Priority: Information and Action

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

On September 4, Governor Roy Cooper signed into law the <u>Coronavirus Relief Act 3.0</u>, which was passed by the North Carolina General Assembly. The law includes the Extra Credit Grant program to be administered by the North Carolina Department of Revenue (NCDOR).

According to the law, the purpose of the program is to "use funds from the Coronavirus Relief Fund to help families with qualifying children in North Carolina by providing economic support to assist with virtual schooling and child-care costs during the COVID-19 pandemic."

The grant amount is \$335.00 total for each eligible individual, even if the individual has two or more qualifying children.

- NCDOR will award a grant to eligible individuals who report at least one qualifying child (age 16 or younger) on their 2019 state individual income tax return; spouses who file a joint state return count as one individual.
- Eligible individuals who have filed their state return and reported at least one qualifying child do not need to take any action to receive the grant.
- An individual who did not file a 2019 state tax return solely because the individual's gross income for the 2019 taxable year did not exceed the <u>state filing requirements</u> for the individual's filing status may <u>apply for a grant.</u>
- An applicant must meet all requirements referenced in the law, including having at least one qualifying child age 16 or younger for the 2019 calendar year, to <u>apply for the grant</u> by October 15, 2020.

NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES • ECONOMIC AND FAMILY SERVICES

LOCATION: 820 S. Boylan Avenue, McBryde Building, Raleigh, NC 27603 MAILING ADDRESS: 2420 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-2420 www.ncdhhs.gov • TEL: 919-527-6300 • FAX: 919-334-1265

II. POLICY PROCEDURES

The NC Extra Credit Grant is a one-time lump sum payment and is not countable income for the Food and Nutrition Services Program, Work First Family Assistance, and Energy Programs. Follow policy in <u>Integrated Eligibility Manual</u> 4040 Non-countable Income.

Submit any questions regarding this information to the DHHS Operational Support Team (OST) at <u>DSS.Policy.Questions@dhhs.nc.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

David Locklear, Deputy Director Economic and Family Services

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