
RCPA Policy Budget Requests

Over the past few days, RCPA's Director of Government Affairs Jack Phillips has spoken with state legislators and staff regarding the 2020/21 state budget. The rumor is the General Assembly may put together a short-term budget by the end of May, which will run through October 31. The legislators hope that by end of October, we will be back to running as "normal." They can then pass the second half of the budget, which will run from November 1 through June 30.

We will get some state dollars in an interim budget, but it is not going to be enough to satisfy the needs of hospitals, nursing homes, residential, behavioral/mental health, IDD, etc. With the lack of tax revenue coming into the state, the General Assembly will likely borrow or take a line of credit through the PA Treasury Department. Depending on how the Governor opens the economy (i.e. slowly, quickly, or somewhere in between), the Commonwealth may not see sufficient state revenues until the fourth quarter of this year or the first quarter of 2021.

The Commonwealth may receive additional revenue if the Federal government passes another COVID-19 stimulus. However, it is uncertain how much more of an appetite the Federal government will have to keep pumping money into the system if the economy does not open.

To help in its budget request to the Governor and the General Assembly, RCPA is asking members to [document their COVID-19 expenses](#). **COVID-19 expenses should be forwarded to RCPA by close of business on Friday, May 8 (this is currently scheduled as the last day for the Governor's stay at home order)**. After May 8, RCPA may ask members to share additional COVID-19 expenses; please continue to keep track of coronavirus expenses. Please email your COVID-19 expenses to [Jack Phillips](#).

Additionally, RCPA is also asking members to keep track of the losses they incurred from their 2019 to 2020 budgets. **This data will be collected at a later time by RCPA**. As always, RCPA appreciates your cooperation.

Questions, contact [Jack Phillips](#).