



### How were investment priorities determined?



- Gov. Kelly creates the Strengthening People & Revitalizing Kansas (**SPARK**) taskforce.
- Taskforce is composed of **20 business, legislative and community leaders** from across Kansas.
- Over **15 meetings** were held from June to September 2020 to seek input and craft **3 rounds of funding recommendations**.
- Kansas is one of five states that created a statewide taskforce to administer the Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) of the federal CARES ACT to ensure **greater input and accountability**.
- **The State Finance Council reviewed and approved** SPARK recommendations for each funding round.



Office of Recovery oversees and monitors all 3 rounds for compliance

**Questions?**  
Contact the Office of Recovery at (785) 368-8507 or [Recovery@ks.gov](mailto:Recovery@ks.gov)

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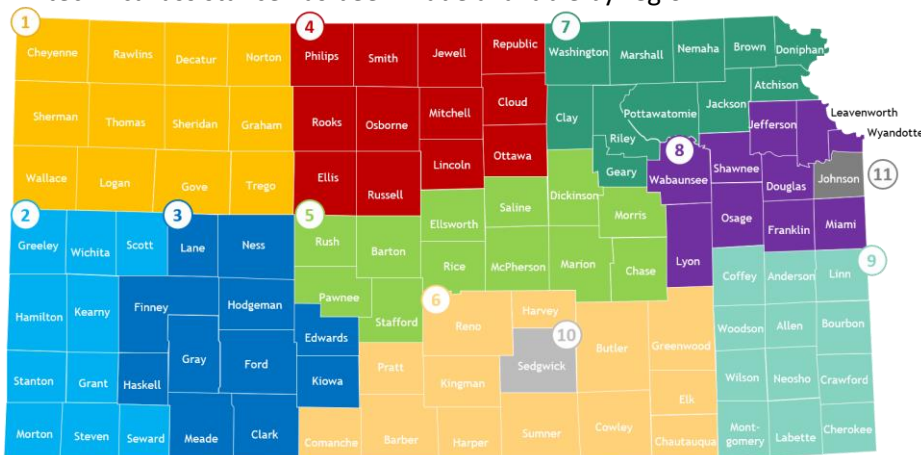
SPARK Taskforce & State Finance Council Investment Priorities		
Priority	Amount	Responsible for Administering
<b>ROUND 1: Local needs</b> including support for schools, city and county governments.	<b>\$400 M</b>	Kansas County Govts.
<b>ROUND 2: Statewide investments in:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Public health</b> response</li> <li>• <b>Economic Develop.</b> for small business grants, food security and workforce training</li> <li>• <b>Connectivity</b> for broadband access for telemedicine &amp; telework</li> <li>• <b>Education</b> for Higher Edu. support</li> </ul>	<b>\$314 M</b>	State Agencies
<b>ROUND 3: Statewide investments in:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Public Health</b> to increase COVID-19 testing</li> <li>• <b>Essential Needs &amp; Services</b> for rental/landlord assistance and support for state agencies</li> <li>• <b>Business Resiliency &amp; Workforce Support</b> to provide child supervision at remote learning centers to allow parents to keep working.</li> </ul>	<b>\$290 M</b>	State Agencies & Nonprofits

## How will you ensure funds are utilized in time?

- Our top priority is to **keep these dollars in Kansas**. Our needs greatly exceed the dollars available so we must do all we can to keep these funds by ensuring all expenses are compliant and spent by the December 30 deadline. This tight deadline has created challenges both in setting priorities that are achievable/compliant and in being able to administer and distribute funds to Kansans in a few months time.
- To ensure this, all those responsible for distributing funds to Kansans including county governments, state agencies and nonprofit organizations are required to submit **monthly spending reports** to the Office of Recovery (RO).
- RO monitors usage of funds and offers technical assistance to those who may need additional help getting their funds distributed on time. Entities unable to spend their funds on time will be encourage to report that to RO so funds can be redistributed to other previously approved programs to ensure the funds are used in Kansas.
- Our goal is to **make sure funds remain in the county or program** where they were originally distributed – recoupment/redistribution of funds will only occur as a last resort to avoid losing funds.

## Support for Kansas counties

Doug Gerber, Office of Recovery, is the statewide County Director overseeing the \$400 million administered to counties. In addition, technical assistance has been made available by region.



## Are any grants still available?

Yes. Kansans and businesses can view all grant programs still taking applications to see if they are eligible by visiting: [covid.ks.gov/grant-applications/](https://covid.ks.gov/grant-applications/) This page will be updated continuously as new grant programs become available and others close.

## What is the deadline to utilize funds?

The U.S. Treasury requires that funds be expended by December 30, 2020.

## Are there limitations on how the funds can be used?

Yes. The latest federal guidance can be viewed here: [covid.ks.gov/spark-county-resources/](https://covid.ks.gov/spark-county-resources/)

## Will more funding be made available to Kansans?

All funds have been allocated, though a reserve of \$75M is available to be redistributed to existing programs. The Office of Recovery will continuously monitor the demand and spend rates of the approved programs and if funding is not used it will be redistributed to other previously approved programs where demand is higher.