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**Subject:** Expanded DHHS CARES Act Funding Approved  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 17, 2021 10:26:50 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[Revised DHHS Guidance Coronavirus Relief Fund - Vaccine Transportation 08-16-21.docx](#)  
[Expanded Reimbursement Form -1571 Template DHHS 08-12-21.xls](#)  
[DHHS CARES Act Claim Cover Sheet 08-16-21.xlsx](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Good morning. This e-mail is to notify our rural transit partners that the DHHS has approved our request to expand the use of the DHHS CARES Act funding to increase trip purpose eligibility and extend the end-date for using the funds until September 30, 2021. Vaccine trips remain the priority use of the DHHS CARES Act funding, however, use of remaining funds is expanded to include rural transit trips to support individuals and families directly impacted by COVID-19. The trips are now categorized in 3 tiers:

- o Tier 1 – trips to/from vaccine appointments;
- o Tier 2 - Transportation for the purposes of taking a COVID-19 test, quarantining or isolating due to COVID-19, meeting with a health care professional regarding COVID-19, or providing logistical support to a friend or family member who is quarantining or isolating due to COVID-19; and
- o Tier 3 – rural transit trips.

The expanded trips now allowed in tiers 2 and 3 are retroactive to December 30, 2020.

Refer to the revised DHHS CARES Act Vaccine Funds guidance for additional information. The SmartSheet survey has been revised to match the expanded use of the funding and to capture the trips and claims by category. The SmartSheet link is still valid for reporting. The DHHS reimbursement form has been revised to specify lines for expenses in each of the trip tier categories. **Expenses now will only be entered on lines 25, 26, and 27 depending on the trip tier(s).** The reimbursement form will calculate the total of the reimbursement at the bottom of the form. The IMD claim cover sheet has also been revised to reflect the DHHS CARES Act Vaccine claim and the signature at the bottom of the form is to certify trip expenses have not been paid with any other funding, particularly retroactive trips being claimed.

Revised documents attached:

- Revised DHHS CARES Act Vaccine guidance
- Revised DHHS Reimbursement form
- Revised IMD claim cover sheet

**NOTE: This e-mail list contains urban transit partners and this may not pertain to your system.**

If you have questions regarding the expanded use of the DHHS CARES Act funding please contact me via e-mail at [cmfreitag@ncdot.gov](mailto:cmfreitag@ncdot.gov), or your Regional Grant Specialist.

Thank you.  
Carolyn

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