



New York State  
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES  
FEDERATION, AFL-CIO

## FACT SHEET—American Rescue Plan Act Impacts on New Yorkers

After a year-long, non-partisan **advocacy** effort by PEF to secure meaningful federal support, President Joe Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act into law on March 11, 2021. This law not only provides significant support to states like New York to help meet the unexpected costs and reduced revenues caused by the pandemic, it provides real, targeted relief to middle- and lower-income Americans.

Below are some of the benefits that New Yorkers / **PEF Members** will see from this very important piece of legislation, which will help the U.S. recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic downturn.

- **State and Local Fiscal Relief**—New York State will receive \$12.569 billion in aid. **This will go a long way to help prevent layoffs, furloughs, service cuts, consolidations and closures.** Larger cities will receive a combined \$6.14 billion (including NYC \$4.33 billion; Albany \$85 million; Buffalo \$350 million; Rochester \$207 million; Syracuse \$126 million; Yonkers \$89 million). Counties will receive \$3.9 billion. Small cities, towns and villages will receive \$825 million. In addition, there is \$358 million for broadband in this law. State and local funding can be used for costs associated with COVID-19 responses, including assistance to households, small businesses and not-for-profits. These funds can also be used to offset revenue losses from COVID-19 or to fund infrastructure projects. **Total Relief is \$23.8 billion.**

**Please Note: These funds can also be used to provide hazard pay for essential workers. PEF is fighting to compensate the heroes of this pandemic!**

- **Direct Economic Impact Payments**—Individuals earning up to \$75,000 will receive \$1,400 and couples earning up to \$150,000 will receive \$2,800. An additional \$1,400 payment will be received for each child or adult dependent living in the residence. Total of **\$22 billion.**
- **Child Tax Credit Increase**—The law will increase the existing child tax credit from \$2,000 per child to \$3,000 for children age 6 to 17 and \$3,600 for children under age 6. A portion of the credit will be paid monthly by the government starting around July.
- **Public K-12 Education**—**\$9 billion** for assisting schools with safely reopening,

addressing learning loss, and summer enrichment and afterschool programs.

- Colleges and Universities—**\$2.6 billion** for COVID-19 financial hardship awards, reopening and revenue losses.
- Private K-12 Schools—**\$257 million** for public health assistance and services at private schools.
- Enhanced Unemployment Insurance Benefits—The bill provides an additional \$300 per week of benefits. It also excludes up to \$10,200 of unemployment benefits from 2020 income tax. Total of **\$21.7 billion**.
- COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing—The bill provides about **\$4 billion** to New York to expand vaccines, testing and other health care.
- Enhanced Access to Mental Health Services – **Total \$4 billion** in enhanced funding for mental health services, including: \$100 million behavioral health workforce training; \$80 million for pediatric mental health services; and \$420 million grants for certified community-based behavioral clinics
- Broadband Connectivity—**\$632 million** to help close the “homework gap” by providing better internet access to students and educators.
- Transit Support—Approximately **\$7 billion** in aid, including **\$6.5 billion** for the **MTA** and **\$12 million** for the statewide **Dept. of Transportation**.
- Other Programs—Medicaid FMAP Increase (**\$2.7 billion**); airport funding (**\$418 million**); Amtrak relief (**\$1.7 billion**); Airline Payroll Support Program enhancement (**\$15 billion**); child-care and help for families (**\$5.3 billion**); small business, restaurant and live venue relief (**\$57.8 billion**)