

**Coronavirus Relief / Health Care Response / COVID-19 Minnesota Funds Request Form**

Please complete this form in accordance with the process instructions.

**Agency/Point of Contact:** Minnesota Department of Health/Margaret Kelly, Deputy Commissioner

**Title of Request:** Redeployment of state employees for COVID response

**Date:** 11/25/2020 **Request Amount:** \$ 4,200,000

**Expenditure Time Period:** 11/1/2020 to 6/30/2021

**Request Funding Source:**

- Coronavirus Relief Fund (if selected complete page 2)
- Health Care Response Fund
- COVID-19 Minnesota Fund

**Brief Summary of Request:** (Summary must be complete on this page with supporting information attached)

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has reassigned over 900 staff to work part-time or full-time on COVID response. Over 200 MDH staff and state agency staff are supporting the work of the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC). New COVID-19 positive cases and the demand for testing continue to increase week over week and at levels that are overwhelming our current response staffing capacity. MDH has previously requested CRF funding to support case investigation work--one of our more labor intensive efforts in the response. While we accurately projected the growth in the state's testing capacity, we did not anticipate the growth we are currently experiencing in test positivity. Test positivity has increased from 5% to 15.4% in just six weeks. We are not able to meet the staffing needs to respond to the level of case growth we are seeing.

The Governor's Office recently asked agency commissioners to assist the SEOC with finding additional staff to support the response both at the SEOC and MDH. Many staff who will be redeployed are currently being paid from dedicated funding sources, like the Trunk Highway Fund or Environmental Funds. This request will allow redeployments to occur without concern for funding streams.

Staff made available through this redeployment will support work both at the SEOC (including assistance in managing and staffing testing events, providing data and other support across all work groups) and at MDH (including assistance with case intake, data analysis, and case investigation).

**Margaret Kelly**  
Digitally signed by Margaret Kelly  
Date: 2020.11.25 10:30:17 -06'00'  
Department Head Signature

11/25/2020  
Date