



Transit Division Members:

COVID-19
UPDATES

What the CARES Act Means for Transit and School Bus Workers

The **Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES)** Act provides significant support for transit workers and school bus drivers.

Here are the most important provisions of the bill:

Grant Funding

- ❖ Provides **\$25 billion** in grants to *public transit agencies*
 - The federal share of the grant money is 100%, which means the agencies/states do not contribute matching funds.
 - The majority of funds will be allocated based on the fiscal year 2020 funding formula, with almost \$14 billion going to large, urban systems; an additional \$7.6 billion will be distributed in State of Good Repair grants.
 - Funds must be used to cover operating costs accrued since January 20, 2020, including cleaning costs, the purchase of personal protective equipment and administrative leave for operations personnel due to service reductions.
 - The grant money also will help cover lost fare revenues related to drastic reductions in ridership.
 - Grant funds must be disbursed within 7 days of the passage of the Act.
- ❖ Provides an additional **\$31 billion** for *school districts* that can be used to pay school bus drivers at each district's discretion

Worker Protections

- ❖ 13(c) and other important labor protections remain in place
- ❖ Department of Education funds must prioritize workers' pay checks over other expenses

For more information: Contact your TWU local union leadership.