

2014 Public Act 34

Senate Bill 608

Economic Vitality Incentive Program (EVIP)/County Incentive Program (CIP)

Sec. 808. (1) The funds appropriated in part 1 for the economic vitality incentive program are to be used for grants to cities, villages, and townships such that, subject to fulfilling the requirements under subsection (3), (4), or (5), or any combination of those subsections, each city, village, or township that received a payment under section 950(2) of 2009 PA 128 greater than \$4,500.00 is eligible to receive a maximum of 76.18459% of its total payment received under section 950(2) of 2009 PA 128, rounded to the nearest dollar. For the purposes of this subsection, any city or village that according to the 2010 federal decennial census is determined to have population in more than 1 county will be treated as a single entity when determining the payment received under section 950(2) of 2009 PA 128.

(2) The funds appropriated in part 1 for the county incentive program are to be used for grants to counties such that each county is eligible to receive an amount equal to the amount by which the balance in its revenue sharing reserve fund under section 44a of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.44a, for the county's most recent fiscal year that ends prior to the January 1 of the state's fiscal year is less than the amount calculated under section 44a(13) of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.44a, for the county fiscal year that begins in the state's fiscal year. The amount calculated under this subsection shall be adjusted as necessary to reflect partial county fiscal years and prorated based on the total amount appropriated for distribution to all eligible counties. Payments under this subsection will be distributed to an eligible county subject to the county's fulfilling the requirements under subsection (3), (4), or (5), or any combination of those subsections. Cities, villages, townships, and counties eligible to receive a potential payment from the allocation under this subsection or subsection (1) may qualify to receive payments under 1 or more of the 3 categories described under subsections (3), (4), and (5).

(3) Category 1, accountability and transparency, requires each eligible city, village, township, or county to certify by October 1, or the first day of a payment month, that it has produced a citizen's guide of its most recent local finances, including a recognition of its unfunded liabilities; a performance dashboard; a debt service report containing a detailed listing of its debt service requirements, including, at a minimum, the issuance date, issuance amount, type of debt instrument, a listing of all revenues pledged to finance debt service by debt instrument, and a listing of the annual payment amounts; and a projected budget report, including, at a minimum, the current fiscal year and a projection for the immediately following fiscal year. The projected budget report shall include revenues and expenditures and an explanation of the assumptions used for the projections. The citizen's guide, performance dashboard, debt service report, and projected budget report shall be made available for public viewing in the city, village, township, or county clerk's office or posted on a publicly accessible Internet site. Each city, village, township, and county applying for a payment under this category shall submit a copy of the citizen's guide, a copy of the performance dashboard, a copy of the debt service report, and a copy of the projected budget report to the department of treasury.

(4) Category 2, consolidation of services, requires each eligible city, village, township, or county to certify by February 1, or the first day of a payment month for this category, that it has produced a consolidation plan. The consolidation plan shall be made readily available for public viewing in the city, village, township, or county clerk's office or posted on a publicly accessible Internet site. Each city, village, township, and county applying for a payment under this category shall submit a copy of the consolidation plan to the department of treasury. At a minimum, the consolidation plan shall include the following:

(a) For a city, village, township, or county that is submitting a consolidation plan for the first time, the plan shall include, but not be limited to, a listing of any previous service cooperations, collaborations, consolidations, innovations, or privatizations with an estimated cost savings amount for each cooperation, collaboration, consolidation, innovation, or privatization. In addition, the plan shall include, but not be limited to, 1 or more new proposals to increase its existing level of cooperation, collaboration, consolidation, innovation, or privatization either within the jurisdiction or with other jurisdictions, an estimate of the potential savings amount, and an estimated timeline for implementing the new proposal.

(b) For a city, village, township, or county that submitted a consolidation plan in the previous fiscal year, the plan shall include, but not be limited to, an update on the status of all new proposals that were in the previous years' consolidation plans, including whether or not the previously proposed plans have been fully implemented, a listing of the barriers experienced in implementing the proposals, and an estimated timeline of the steps to accomplish the proposed plans. In addition, the plan shall include, but not be limited to, 1 or more new proposals to increase its existing level of cooperation, collaboration, consolidation, innovation, or privatization either within the jurisdiction or with other jurisdictions, or a detailed explanation of why increasing its existing level of cooperation, collaboration, consolidation, innovation, or privatization is not feasible. The new proposal shall include, but not be limited to, an estimate of the potential savings amount and an estimated timeline for implementing the new proposals.

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(5) Category 3, unfunded accrued liability plan, requires each eligible city, village, township, or county to certify by June 1, or the first day of a payment month for this category, that it has complied with 1 of the following:

(a) An eligible city, village, township, or county with unfunded accrued liabilities as of its most recent audited financial report related to employee pensions or other post-employment benefits shall submit a plan to lower all unfunded accrued liabilities. The plan shall include a listing of all previous actions taken to reduce its unfunded accrued liabilities; a detailed description of how it will continue to implement and maintain previous actions taken; and a listing of additional actions it could take. If no actions have been taken to reduce its unfunded accrued liabilities, it shall provide a detailed explanation of why no actions have been taken and a listing of actions it could implement to reduce unfunded accrued liabilities. Actuarial assumption changes and issuance of debt instruments shall not qualify as a new proposal. The unfunded accrued liabilities plan shall be made available for public viewing in the city, village, township, or county clerk's office or posted on a publicly accessible Internet site. The city, village, township, or county shall certify with the department of treasury that its plan is publicly accessible.

(b) Any city, village, township, or county that does not have unfunded accrued liabilities as of its most recent audited financial report related to employee pensions or other post-employment benefits shall certify to the department of treasury by June 1, or the first day of a payment month for this category, that it does not have unfunded accrued liabilities. The certification shall include an explanation of why the city, village, township, or county does not have unfunded accrued liabilities. The department shall develop a certification process and method for cities, villages, townships, or counties to follow.

(6) Economic vitality incentive program payments and county incentive program payments are subject to the following conditions:

(a) In order for a city, village, township, or county to qualify for a category under subsection (3), (4), or (5), the city, village, township, or county shall meet every criteria for that category, including a certification to the department that it has met the required criteria for that category and submission of the required citizen's guide, performance dashboard, debt service report, and projected budget report; consolidation plan; or the unfunded accrued liability plan, as required by subsection (3), (4), or (5), respectively. A department of treasury review of the citizen's guide, dashboard, reports, or plans is not required in order for a city, village, township, or county to receive a payment under subsection (1) or (2). The department shall develop a certification process and method for cities, villages, townships, and counties to follow.

(b) Subject to subdivisions (c), (d), and (e), for each category that a city, village, township, or county qualifies for in subsections (3), (4), and (5), the city, village, township, or county shall receive 1/3 of its potential payment under this section.

(c) Payments under this section shall be issued to cities, villages, and townships as follows:

(i) Category 1, an eligible city, village, or township that certifies with the department of treasury that it has qualified for a payment under subsection (3) by October 1 shall receive 1/6 of its available distribution on the last business day of October and 1/6 of its available distribution on the last business day of December. If an eligible city, village, or township certifies with the department of treasury that it has qualified for a payment under subsection (3) after October 1, but prior to December 1, the city, village, or township shall receive 1/3 of its available distribution on the last business day of December.

(ii) Category 2, an eligible city, village, or township that certifies with the department of treasury that it has qualified for a payment under subsection (4) by February 1 shall receive 1/6 of its available distribution on the last business day of February and 1/6 of its available distribution on the last business day of April. If an eligible city, village, or township certifies with the department of treasury that it has qualified for a payment under subsection (4) after February 1, but prior to April 1, the city, village, or township shall receive 1/6 of its available distribution on the last business day of April.

(iii) Category 3, an eligible city, village, or township that certifies with the department of treasury that it has qualified for a payment under subsection (5) by June 1 shall receive 1/6 of its available distribution on the last business day of June and 1/6 of its available distribution on the last business day of August. If an eligible city, village, or township certifies with the department of treasury that it has qualified for a payment under subsection (5) after June 1, but prior to August 1, the city, village, or township shall receive 1/6 of its available distribution on the last business day of August.

(d) Payments under this section shall be issued to counties for each category described in subsections (3), (4), and (5) until the specified due date for the category. After the specified due date for the category, payments shall be made to a county only if that county has complied with subdivision (a).

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(e) If a county does not provide the required certification or fails to submit the required citizen's guide, performance dashboard, debt service report, projected budget report, consolidation plan, or unfunded accrued liability plan by the first day of a payment month, the county shall forfeit the payment in that payment month for the uncertified category in subsections (3), (4), and (5).

(f) Any city, village, township, or county that falsifies certification documents shall forfeit any future economic vitality incentive program payments or county incentive program payments and shall repay to this state all economic vitality incentive program payments or county incentive program payments it has received under this section.

(g) Economic vitality incentive program payments and county incentive program payments under this section shall be distributed on the last business day of October, December, February, April, June, and August.

(h) Payments distributed under this section may be withheld pursuant to sections 17a and 21 of the Glenn Steil state revenue sharing act of 1971, 1971 PA 140, MCL 141.917a and 141.921.

(i) The department of treasury shall develop detailed guidance for an eligible city, village, township, or county to follow to qualify for a payment under subsections (3), (4), and (5). The detailed guidance shall be posted on the department of treasury website and distributed to eligible cities, villages, townships, and counties by October 1.

(7) The unexpended funds appropriated in part 1 for the economic vitality incentive program and the county incentive program shall be available for expenditure under the competitive grant assistance program after the approval of transfers by the legislature pursuant to section 393(2) of the management and budget act, 1984 PA 431, MCL 18.1393.