Summary of County Program Aid (CPA)  
Certified for 2021

County Program Aid for 2021 has two components:

I. County Need Aid
II. County Tax Base Equalization Aid (TBEA)

2020 Law Changes

There were no changes made to County Program Aid during the 2020 legislative session.

Previous Law Changes

The 2019 legislative session made the following change to this year’s calculation of County Program Aid:

- For County Need Aid, the appropriation was increased by $2 million to make the total $118,795,000.
- For County Tax-Base Equalization Aid, the appropriation was increased by $2 million to make the total $145,873,444.

I. County Need Aid

Following a statutory reduction to the appropriation by $500,000 to reimburse the Office of Management and Budget, and an increase by $16,927 for unused public defender funds, a total of $118,311,927 is available for county need aid for calendar year 2021. This amount will be distributed to counties based on the statutory determination of need, as follows:

- $46,124,771 distributed based on the percent share of total state households in your county that receive food stamps;
- $46,124,771 distributed based on the percent share of population age 65 and over in your county;
- $23,062,385 distributed based on the percent share of total state Part 1 crimes in your county; and
- For 2015 through 2024, $3,000,000 is distributed to Beltrami County to be used for out-of-home placement costs.
II. County Tax-Base Equalization Aid

Following a statutory reduction of $207,000 to the Office of Management and Budget and $7,000 to the Department of Education, a total of $145,659,444 is available for tax-base equalization aid (TBEA) for calendar year 2021.

Your county’s TBEA is equal to the greater of:

1) The county’s tax base equalization factor; or

2) The greater of either 0.27% of the statewide total appropriation for TBEA or 95% of your county’s TBEA from the previous year.

The county’s tax base equalization factor is the amount at which $190 plus the ratio of the most recent statewide NTC per capita divided by the 2016 statewide NTC per capita, multiplied by the county’s population, exceeds 9 percent of the county’s NTC. The factor is adjusted for population as follows:

- If the county’s population is less than 10,000, the factor is multiplied by 3;
- If the county’s population is greater than 10,000, but less than 12,500, the factor is multiplied by 2; and
- If the county’s population is greater than 500,000, the factor is multiplied by .25.

Once the tax-base equalization factor is adjusted for population, it is compared against 0.27% of the statewide total appropriation for TBEA (which is $393,280 for aids payable in 2021) and the amount that equals 95% of the TBEA your county received in the previous year. The greatest of these three is your county’s final TBEA.

CPA Payment Dates

CPA is paid to counties on July 20 and December 26 each year.