

BERKS COUNTY



Berks County has benefitted significantly from the Recovery Act. As a direct result, over 182,000 constituents received a tax cut. In addition, Berks County has received over \$202 million in funding for education, transportation, and infrastructure and other projects.

Education

The Recovery Act is providing much-needed federal funding for local school districts. School districts are using these funds for a variety of purposes, including special education, educational technology, and basic education needs. These funds have unequivocally prevented the elimination of teaching positions and have helped stabilize education budgets throughout the Commonwealth. Specific awards in Berks County include:

- \$751,045 to the Antietam School District
- \$3,124,772 to the Boyertown Area School District
- \$993,413 to the Brandywine Heights Area School District
- \$1,795,470 to the Cocalico School District
- \$1,611,070 to the Conrad Weiser Area School District
- \$1,799,000 to the Daniel Boone Area School District
- \$2,107,078 to the Exeter Township School District
- \$1,297,093 to the Fleetwood Area School District
- \$1,683,822 to the Governor Mifflin School District
- \$1,397,150 to the Hamburg Area School District
- \$948,487 to the Kutztown Area School District
- \$1,452,152 to the Muhlenberg School District
- \$900,808 to the Oley Valley School District
- \$25,352,274 to the Reading School District
- \$763,897 to the Schuylkill Valley School District
- \$961,439 to the Tulpehocken School District
- \$1,422,239 to the Twin Valley School District
- \$1,741,449 to the Upper Perkiomen School District
- \$2,264,254 to the Wilson School District
- \$617,886 to the Wyomissing Area School District

Total Education Funding: \$52,984,798

Transportation and Infrastructure

The Recovery Act is helping Pennsylvania revitalize its transportation infrastructure through highway resurfacing and bridge rehabilitation projects. It is also providing funding for key infrastructure projects designed to improve water quality. Specific awards in Berks County include:

- \$4,692,527 for the replacement of Precast Bridge Parapets on

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	<p>Interstate 78 in Lenhartsville</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ \$288,800 to install a median barrier on State Route 100 ➤ \$3,032,610 for the installation of cameras, radios and message signs on Interstate 78 and State Route 61 ➤ \$5,174,441 for bridge preservation ➤ \$2,132,562 for surface improvement on Lancaster Avenue ➤ \$3,520,382 for resurfacing of 5th Street in the City of Reading ➤ \$10,458,989 to install a median barrier on US Route 222 ➤ \$1,972,188 for the installation of curb ramps in various locations in Berks County ➤ \$4,259,633 to the Reading Area Water Authority for the construction of a new 18th Ward Booster Station ➤ \$100,000 to upgrade the existing wastewater treatment plant in Sinking Spring ➤ \$4,272,356 to the Reading, PA area, for Transit Capital Assistance
	Total T&I Funding: 44,176,844

<p>Helping Children and Families</p>	<p>The Recovery Act is helping those hit hardest by the economic downturn. Here is how Berks County residents are benefiting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 182,730 residents of Berks County have enjoyed federal tax relief as a result of the Recovery Act ➤ 20,500 jobless adults will receive a boost in unemployment compensation ➤ 18,800 unemployed persons qualify for more help purchasing health insurance ➤ 70,175 low income children and adults will continue to have access to health care through Medical Assistance ➤ 54,062 children and adults will receive more help through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamps)
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<p>Other Recovery Act funding for Berks County</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ \$1,001,240 to the Community Services Recovery & Reinvestment Project. The project will establish a one-stop community resource center to provide non-traditional and easy access to community social services systems and resources for those persons and families who have recently experienced job loss and a reduction in income with little or no knowledge of, or experience accessing, services that are available in the local community. ➤ \$791,000 to Reading, in the form of an Energy Efficiency and Conservation block grant ➤ \$2,973,200 to Berks County, in the form of an Energy Efficiency and Conservation block grant ➤ \$725,297 to Berks County, in the form of a Community Development
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	<p>Block Grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ \$828,217 to Reading, in the form of a Community Development Block Grant ➤ \$16,706 to Berks County, in the form of an Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant ➤ \$3,075,295 to the Reading Housing Authority ➤ \$342,645 to the Housing Authority of the County of Berks ➤ \$554,596 to Reading, in the form of an Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant ➤ \$14,643 to West Reading Borough, in the form of an Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant ➤ \$12,994 to Bern Township, in the form of an Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant ➤ \$12,581 to Cumru Township, in the form of an Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant ➤ \$13,818 to Exeter Township, in the form of an Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant ➤ \$15,468 to Muhlenberg Township, in the form of an Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant
	Total: \$10,377,700

Direct Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ \$122,022 to Berks County to provide food banks and homeless shelters to people experiencing homelessness ➤ \$57,366 to Albright College to provide need-based financial aid to students ➤ \$321,071 to the Berks Community Action Program, Inc. for a Head Start Program ➤ \$1,000,100 to the City of Reading to help local law enforcement agencies ➤ \$5,000,000 to the City of Reading in funds that will be used to stabilize communities that have suffered from high foreclosure rates ➤ \$1,109,659 to Berks County to provide financial assistance and services to prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless and help those experiencing homelessness ➤ \$34,745,523 to the East Penn Manufacturing, Co. ➤ \$39,226,475 to Evergreen Community Power in the form of a tax credit converted to a grant ➤ \$266,476 to Hillcrest Village for Rental assistance payments ➤ \$100,000 to the Hamburg Reserve Center ➤ \$5,000,000 to Crossley Farm ➤ \$227,690 to Kutztown University of Pennsylvania ➤ \$200,000 to the Berks County Farm Service Agency ➤ \$640,806 to Reading through JAG program funds ➤ \$4,272,356 to the Berks Area Reading Transportation Auth. (BARTA)
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ \$1,267,021 to Reading to provide financial assistance and services to prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless and help those experiencing homelessness➤ \$68,665 to Reading Area College to provide need-based financial aid to students➤ \$375,000 to the Reading Housing Authority for a Co-generation plant➤ \$174,263 to the Retired Steelworkers Housing and Health Development Corp. for rental assistance payments➤ \$1,375,000 to the Tulpehocken Creek Watershed to improve water quality and restore aquatic habitat and sustain agricultural productivity.➤ \$694,000 to Blue Marsh Lake for repairs
	Total: \$96,243,493