State of Arkansas

Recovery Plan

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

2021 Report

State of Arkansas

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

With the issuance of Executive Order 21-08, Governor Asa Hutchinson established the Arkansas American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Steering Committee. The members have the duties to study and analyze the relief available to the State of Arkansas, it's citizens, and businesses under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021; identify and prioritize the needs of the State of Arkansas, its citizens, and business for the application of available relief; identify the most efficient practices and procedures to obtain and apply available relief; and make recommendations to the Governor on best uses of the American Rescue Plan Act funding.

The Steering Committee met three (3) times before July 31, 2021 and awarded funds for broadband infrastructure projects and reimbursement to state agencies for the purchase of personal protective equipment. Other identified projects included surge hospital staffing, support for the statewide Arkansas COVIDComm system which coordinates COVID-19 patient transfer in the state, monoclonal antibody administration, and unreimbursed costs to skilled nursing facilities.

A proposal template and guidance were created to assist the Steering Committee in their consideration of proposals and to ensure fair and equitable treatment across all sectors. A website has been created for applicants to submit proposals.

Uses of Funds

The plan is to address each of the expenditure categories, with the exception of Revenue Replacement.

- *Public Health – intended use of the funds include increased staffing capacities to the stressed healthcare systems of the State and ongoing COVID-19 mitigation efforts and expenses of skilled nursing facilities as they serve the most at-risk population*
- *Negative Economic Impact – several proposals are under consideration that would provide relief of the negative economic impact for both the travel and hospitality industries in Arkansas*
- *Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities – we have received several proposals to address the needs of the disproportionately impacted communities*
- *Premium Pay – a proposal has been received to consider premium pay for solid waste district employees*
- *Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure – funds for broadband expansion in the State have already been approved by the Steering Committee and the Governor*
- *Revenue Replacement – Arkansas is not eligible under the calculation to spend funds for revenue replacement*

Promoting equitable outcomes

As we continue to refine our grant application and evaluation process, goals of equity, diversity and inclusion will be addressed as a top priority.

Community Engagement

A Steering Committee website provides information for the public regarding the committee's activity, access to meetings, and proposals under consideration. In addition, a dedicated email address has been created and is monitored daily where the public can submit questions, ideas, and suggestions as well as proposals.

Use of Evidence

Our proposal applications require a detailed explanation of evidence-based interventions and method of evaluating and monitoring outcomes.

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date ($)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1	Expenditure Category: Public Health		
1.1	COVID-19 Vaccination		
1.2	COVID-19 Testing		
1.3	COVID-19 Contact Tracing		
1.4	Prevention in Congregate Settings (Nursing Homes, Prisons/Jails, Dense Work Sites, Schools, etc.)		
1.5	Personal Protective Equipment		
1.6	Medical Expenses (including Alternative Care Facilities)		
1.7	Capital Investments or Physical Plant Changes to Public Facilities that respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency		
1.8	Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)		
1.9	Payroll Costs for Public Health, Safety, and Other Public Sector Staff Responding to COVID-19		
1.10	Mental Health Services		
1.11	Substance Use Services		

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date ($)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
1.12	Other Public Health Services		
2	Expenditure Category: Negative Economic Impacts		
2.1	Household Assistance: Food Programs		
2.2	Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid		
2.3	Household Assistance: Cash Transfers		
2.4	Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs		
2.5	Household Assistance: Eviction Prevention		
2.6	Unemployment Benefits or Cash Assistance to Unemployed Workers		
2.7	Job Training Assistance (e.g., Sectoral job-training, Subsidized Employment, Employment Supports or Incentives)		
2.8	Contributions to UI Trust Funds*		
2.9	Small Business Economic Assistance (General)		
2.10	Aid to nonprofit organizations		
2.11	Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality		
2.12	Aid to Other Impacted Industries		
2.13	Other Economic Support		
2.14	Rehiring Public Sector Staff		
3	Expenditure Category: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities		
3.1	Education Assistance: Early Learning		
3.2	Education Assistance: Aid to High-Poverty Districts		
3.3	Education Assistance: Academic Services		
3.4	Education Assistance: Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Services		
3.5	Education Assistance: Other		
3.6	Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care		
3.7	Healthy Childhood Environments: Home Visiting		
3.8	Healthy Childhood Environments: Services to Foster Youth or Families Involved in Child Welfare System		
3.9.	Healthy Childhood Environments: Other		
3.10	Housing Support: Affordable Housing		
3.11	Housing Support: Services for Unhoused persons		
3.12	Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance		
3.13	Social Determinants of Health: Other		

Category		Cumulative expenditures to date ($)	Amount spent since last Recovery Plan
3.14	Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators		
3.15	Social Determinants of Health: Lead Remediation		
3.16	Social Determinants of Health: Community Violence Interventions		
4	Expenditure Category: Premium Pay		
4.1	Public Sector Employees		
4.2	Private Sector: Grants to other employers		
5	Expenditure Category: Infrastructure		
5.1	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater treatment		
5.2	Clean Water: Centralized wastewater collection and conveyance		
5.3	Clean Water: Decentralized wastewater		
5.4	Clean Water: Combined sewer overflows		
5.5	Clean Water: Other sewer infrastructure		
5.6	Clean Water: Stormwater		
5.7	Clean Water: Energy conservation		
5.8	Clean Water: Water conservation		
5.9	Clean Water: Nonpoint source		
5.10	Drinking water: Treatment		
5.11	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution		
5.12	Drinking water: Transmission & distribution: lead remediation		
5.13	Drinking water: Source		
5.14	Drinking water: Storage		
5.15	Drinking water: Other water infrastructure		
5.16	Broadband: “Last Mile” projects		
5.17	Broadband: Other projects		
6	Expenditure Category: Revenue Replacement		
6.1	Provision of Government Services		
7	Administrative and Other		
7.1	Administrative Expenses		
7.2	Evaluation and data analysis		
7.3	Transfers to Other Units of Government		
7.4	Transfers to Nonentitlement Units (States and Territories only)	107,623,740	

See Section C(7) on page 27 of the Reporting Guidance for additional information.