

6 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ARP FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Federal pandemic relief funds are available under the American Rescue Plan to help public safety agencies and schools recover costs and improve communications systems and other critical tools – here’s how you can tap into this resource

The events of 2020 strained public budgets like never before. The American Rescue Plan, a \$1.9 trillion federal relief package signed into law in early 2021, includes aid available to state and local governments – including police, EMS and fire agencies, as well as schools – via grants to help cover unexpected costs and shortfalls, such as payroll and distance learning initiatives.

Here are six things you need to know and do to make the most of this funding opportunity.

1

What is the American Rescue Plan?

The American Rescue Plan created the \$350 billion Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Fund (administered by the Treasury Department) for eligible state, local, territorial and tribal governments. A key goal is to help replace lost public sector revenue and strengthen support for vital public services like police, fire, schools and EMS.



2

What does the ARP mean for public safety?

Within the categories of eligible uses, communities have broad flexibility to decide how best to use this funding to meet their needs, including public safety-related needs attributable to the pandemic. Eligible uses include:

- Supporting public health response, including PPE purchases, enforcement of public health orders and public communication efforts.
- Providing premium pay for essential workers, especially those who bear the greatest health risks.
- Replacing lost public sector revenue to provide government services including the provision of police, fire, and other public safety services.
- Investing in water, sewer and broadband infrastructure.
- Covering the full payroll and benefits costs for public health and safety employees primarily dedicated to COVID-19 response.



President Biden has directed that communities may also use these funds to address an increase in violence attributable to the pandemic, including investing in technology and equipment to allow law enforcement to more efficiently and effectively respond to the rise in gun violence resulting from the pandemic.

NOTE: ARP funding cannot be used to offset a reduction in revenue or to make a deposit in a pension fund.

3

What does the ARP mean for schools?

The American Rescue Plan provides \$122 billion via the Elementary and Secondary School Elementary Emergency Relief Fund (administered through the U.S. Department of Education). Eligible uses include but are not limited to:

- Coordinating preparedness and response efforts with public health departments, and other relevant agencies, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19.
- School facility repairs and improvements that reduce risk of virus transmission.
- Providing principals and other school leaders with the resources necessary to address the needs of their individual schools.
- Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve preparedness and response of local educational agencies.



4

What kinds of projects may be eligible?

A number of public safety, school and infrastructure projects are eligible for ARP funds, including but not limited to provision of police, fire and other public safety services. This could include radios, software and other mission-critical tools to support emergency response, such as:

- Interoperable Two-Way Radios and Networks
- Cybersecurity Professional Services
- Call Taking and Dispatch Solutions
- Video Security and Analytics
- Work Group Communications
- Broadband Solutions
- Community Engagement Solutions
- COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Solutions



Possible Solutions to Consider

Explore a full list of solutions that **fire, police and EMS agencies** can consider for use with ARP funding.

Explore a full list of solutions that **schools** can consider for use with ARP funding.

NOTE: Consult your legal counsel to validate appropriate usage of ARP funds.

5

How do we apply for ARP funds?

With any grants program, it’s important to be prepared and follow these best practices:

1. Identify the need within your community or department and establish measurable goals and objectives that address it.
2. Identify key stakeholders who will play essential roles in researching, collecting data, completing and submitting the application.
3. Name your authorized official representative (AOR) – the individual in your organization with legal authority to sign grant documents, enter into contracts and execute documents.
4. Check your registrations. Federal grant programs require an up-to-date registration with SAM.gov, DUNS and FEMA GO. Check your State Administering Agency for additional requirements.
5. Make sure your organization is eligible to apply, and determine whether you will be required to apply directly or via your State Administering Agency.
6. Use data and financial summaries to justify your proposed investment in the application. Explain the extent of the problem you aim to address and how the project to be implemented will meet the need.
7. Submit your application and check the application portal regularly for additional requests from the grant maker for information/documentation.



6

Where can we get help to apply for ARP funds?

Applying for grants can be challenging. To help, Motorola Solutions has partnered with Lexipol’s grant experts to offer a wide range of free grant assistance programs, which include:

- Free customized grant research specific to department needs.
- Grant alerts for upcoming grants.
- Unlimited free grant consulting from senior grant consultants.
- Discounted grant writing services.

Choose a Grant Assistance Program to Get Started Today!



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