ARPA Fact Sheet: Eligibility for Nonprofit Applicants

The American Rescue Plan Act (APRA) has provided $641 million in one-time funding to the City of Baltimore in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency and its negative economic impacts. Mayor Brandon M. Scott has established the Mayor’s Office of Recovery Programs to administer this funding on behalf of the City via an application process. This document contains information concerning eligibility for ARPA funding.

Who is eligible to apply?
Organizations designated as 501(c)(3) nonprofits can submit proposals for ARPA funding.

What projects are eligible?
Projects that will be considered eligible for funding must:

1. Identify a negative impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency, and
2. Identify how the project accurately documents and responds to the scale of the impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

What projects are ineligible?
Projects unrelated or not linked to the COVID-19 public health emergency in any way will not meet ARPA eligibility requirements and cannot be funded with ARPA funds. Projects that do not accurately respond to the scale of impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency in their response will also be deemed ineligible.

How can projects respond to the pandemic?
Projects can remedy the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts directly or indirectly.

Direct projects respond to effects that can be solely attributed to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Examples of direct projects include mobilizing a large-scale vaccination effort or building improvements for social distancing. The COVID-19 public health emergency is the only cause for direct projects.

Indirect projects are linked to the COVID-19 public health emergency via direct effects. For example, an organization proposing a tutoring program would be an indirect project—the direct effect of the COVID-19 public health emergency was the transition to virtual school, of which students suffered learning loss during the transition. Proposals with indirect projects should respond to the impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency in a way which accurately documents and responds to the scale of that impact.

Where can I find additional information on eligibility?
The United States Department of Treasury’s interim final rule provides more detail regarding what projects and programs are eligible for ARPA funding. Additional information can also be found by visiting arp.baltimorecity.gov or by contacting The Mayor’s Office of Recovery Program at arp@baltimorecity.gov.