

Appalachian Regional Commission in 2027

Grants in Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben counties
with an easy application and simplified forms



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What is ARC?

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) is a federal agency created to improve the economy and quality of life in a 13 state Appalachian Region.

The local activities of the ARC are accomplished by a network of 73 multi-county Local Development Districts (LDDs) in the 13-state, 420-county Appalachian region. **Southern Tier Central (STC) is your Local Development District.**

ARC programs are provided through a unique federal, state and local partnership.



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Southern Tier Central Provides the Following Assistance:

- Creates and distributes application materials and guidelines
- **Provides the first point of contact for applicants in Chemung, Schuyler, and Steuben Counties**
- Assists project sponsors to develop realistic and fund-able projects
- Identifies additional potential funding sources and matches
- Provides review and advice for improving draft applications
- **Reviews and rates all project applications**



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Who Can Apply for Grants?

- Local Governments
- Educational Institutions
- Industrial Development Agencies
- Economic Development Agencies
- Not-for-Profit Organizations
- Consortia lead by an eligible applicant
 - Can include for profit employers

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Fundable projects

BUILDING APPALACHIAN BUSINESS: Strengthen the region's economy through expanding economic development strategies and investments in entrepreneurship and business development.



BUILDING APPALACHIA'S WORKFORCE ECOSYSTEM: Expand and strengthen community systems (education, healthcare, housing, childcare, and others) that help Appalachians obtain a job, stay on the job, and advance along a financially sustaining career pathway.

BUILDING APPALACHIA'S INFRASTRUCTURE: Ensure that the residents and businesses of Appalachia have access to reliable, affordable and resilient utilities and infrastructure in order to successfully live and work in the region.

BUILDING REGIONAL CULTURE AND TOURISM: Strengthen Appalachia's community and economic development potential by preserving and investing in the region's local, cultural heritage, and natural assets.

BUILDING COMMUNITY LEADERS AND CAPACITY: Invest in the capacity of local leaders, organizations, and communities to address local challenges by providing technical assistance and support to access resources, engage partners, identify strategies and tactics, and conduct effective planning and project execution.

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Project Examples and the Goals they Advance

ARC Goals	Construction	Non-Construction
Goal #1: Building Appalachia's Businesses	Incubators, industrial sites	Providing TA to businesses
Goal #2: Building Appalachia's Workforce System	Training center construction	Workforce training program Healthcare/SUD recovery program
Goal #3: Building Appalachia's Infrastructure	Water, sewer system expansion Installing Broadband fiber EV charging network construction	Planning, studies to assess need
Goal #4: Building Regional Culture and Tourism	State Park trails extension Historic building renovation	Tourism Promotion
Goal #5: Building Community Leaders & Capacity		Community Strategic Planning



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How Large Are ARC Grants?

The maximum grant level allowed by New York State is \$500,000 through this program. Smaller applications are often more competitive, when reviewed through the lens of "community impact per dollar".

STC anticipates receiving the following requests for FY 2027:

- One \$250,000 project
- Two \$150,000 projects
- Four projects between \$25,000 and \$100,000

Larger awards are being allowed under POWER, WORC, INSPIRE, and the ARISE funding 'pools'.

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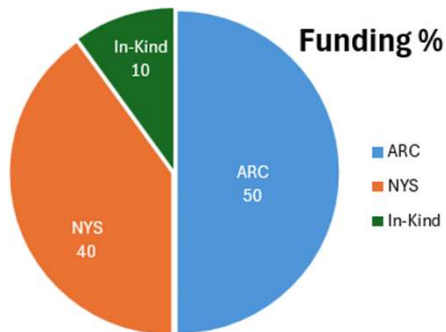
Is Match Required?

Match funding is a required part of the ARC grant program. Applicants must provide match that is at least equal to the ARC grant portion for each project. Example: \$50,000 of ARC funds require \$50,000 match for a total \$100,000 project cost.

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ARC can reimburse 50% of a project's cost



- 50% of the cost must be funded by another entity- but ARC can accept matching funds from NYS, other federal partners, and in-kind contributions from applicants and their project team.
- Speak to STC about the specifics of ARC funding and budget/planning for your project idea.

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Types of Match

- A match can be either cash, in-kind or a combination of both.
- Other state, federal, or private grants and loans may be used for a match. NYS CFA is a well-aligned source of match for ARC grants.
- However, federal funding can only be used for 80% of the total project cost for construction projects (20% non-federal funding is required).
- The match should be secured before the application is submitted, applicants must agree that ARC funds are 'last in.'

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Eligible Project Activities?

- Asset-Based Development Projects
- Customized Workforce Skill Training
- Improve Regional Health and Wellness
- Access to Quality Child Care & Early Childhood Education
- Water and Wastewater Systems
- Accessibility and Use of Telecommunications Technology
- Leadership Training
- Local Economic Development Studies

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Project Types Not Well-Suited for ARC

- Community centers
- Daycare centers
- Public art installations
- Parks without clear benefit to businesses
- Street repaving
- Housing
- Municipal buildings/services (fire, police, courthouse, etc.)
- Residential water/sewer projects (except in Distressed counties with compelling need)

Projects should focus on
economic outcomes –
job creation, business
impact, etc.

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Ineligible Activities

- Continuation of ongoing programs and activities.
- Replacement of money from budget cuts or cost overruns.
- Projects that promote unfair competition between businesses in the same immediate service area.
- Projects to enrich for-profit organizations or individuals.

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ARC will fund Construction & ARC will fund Programs, Planning and Training

- Workforce training and development is a topic that ARC strongly supports.
- Collaborative projects with several employers and a long-term sustainability plan are strongly preferred.

Partnerships are strongly preferred by ARC, particularly projects that incorporate partners in the planning and delivery of programs. Evidence of support in applications include: commitment letters, shared strategies, press releases, financial and in-kind commitments. Inclusion of partners in the narrative is also beneficial.

Collaboration is the next-step for these established project partners and other relevant agencies. Design your ARC project with opportunities to support and enhance collaborative efforts.

Sustainability is at the heart of any good ARC project. How will this effort continue after the ARC grant is completed? Use the narrative to show how your agency will work with partners to develop a reasonable funding strategy for long term success.

Budgets must be reasonable and well explained. Include all expected costs in your ARC project budget, and explain how those expenses will support the success of your proposal. Explain the sources and uses of funds. Explain how your agency will comply with all necessary federal procurement policies.

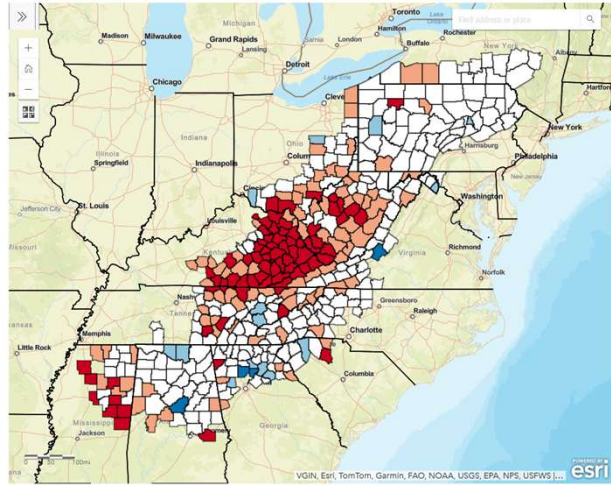
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Distressed Counties

In October 2000, the Commission approved the creation of an enhanced program for distressed counties. The program has two parts: a capacity-building effort and a telecommunications and information technology initiative. The capacity-building program is designed to strengthen communities and help organizations fulfill their mission in an effective manner. Elements of the program include:

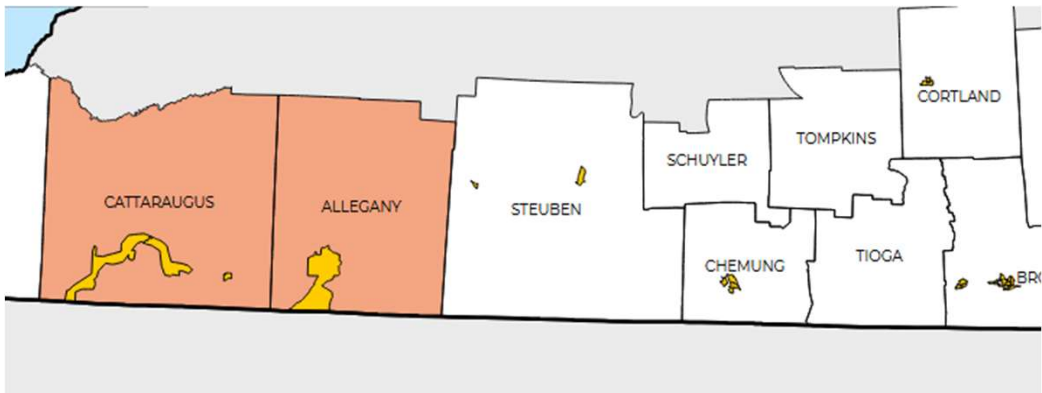
- A mini-grant program to provide strategic planning and technical assistance so local communities can jump-start the process of economic development;
- Workshops, knowledge sharing, and other activities to encourage community learning and leadership development; and
- ARC outreach efforts that give local communities access to other resources, including nonprofits, foundations, and government agencies.



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ARC PROGRAM: Distressed Census Tracts

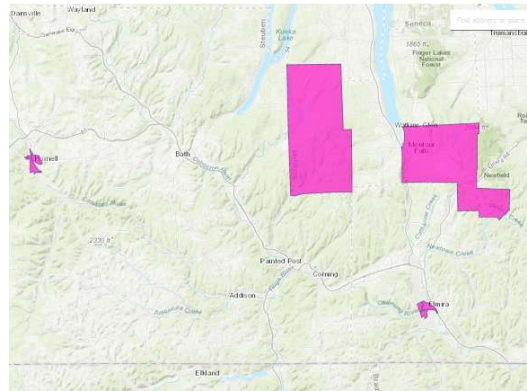


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Federal Opportunity Zones

Southern Tier			
Census Tract #	Map #	County	City
36007013500	135	Broome	Village of Endicott
36007013400	134	Broome	Village of Endicott
36007013900	139	Broome	Village of Johnson City
36007000400	4	Broome	City of Binghamton
36007000500	5	Broome	City of Binghamton
36007000200	2	Broome	City of Binghamton
36015000600	6	Chemung	City of Elmira
36015000700	7	Chemung	City of Elmira
36015001000	10	Chemung	City of Elmira
36017970400	9704	Chenango	City of Norwich
36025970600	9706	Delaware	Town & Village of Walton
36025970400	9704	Delaware	Town & Village of Sidney
36025970500	9705	Delaware	Town of Deposit
Towns of Catharine, Cayuta and Montour and the Villages of Montour Falls and Odessa			
36097950500	9505	Schuyler	
36097950300	9503	Schuyler	Towns of Orange and Tyrone
36101960700	9607	Steuben	City of Hornell
36101960800	9608	Steuben	City of Hornell
36107020701	207.01	Tioga	Town & Village of Spencer
36107020600	206	Tioga	Town/Village of Nichols and Town of Tioga
36109000800	8	Tompkins	Town of Ithaca
36109001100	11	Tompkins	Town of Ithaca

Map of Opportunity Zones



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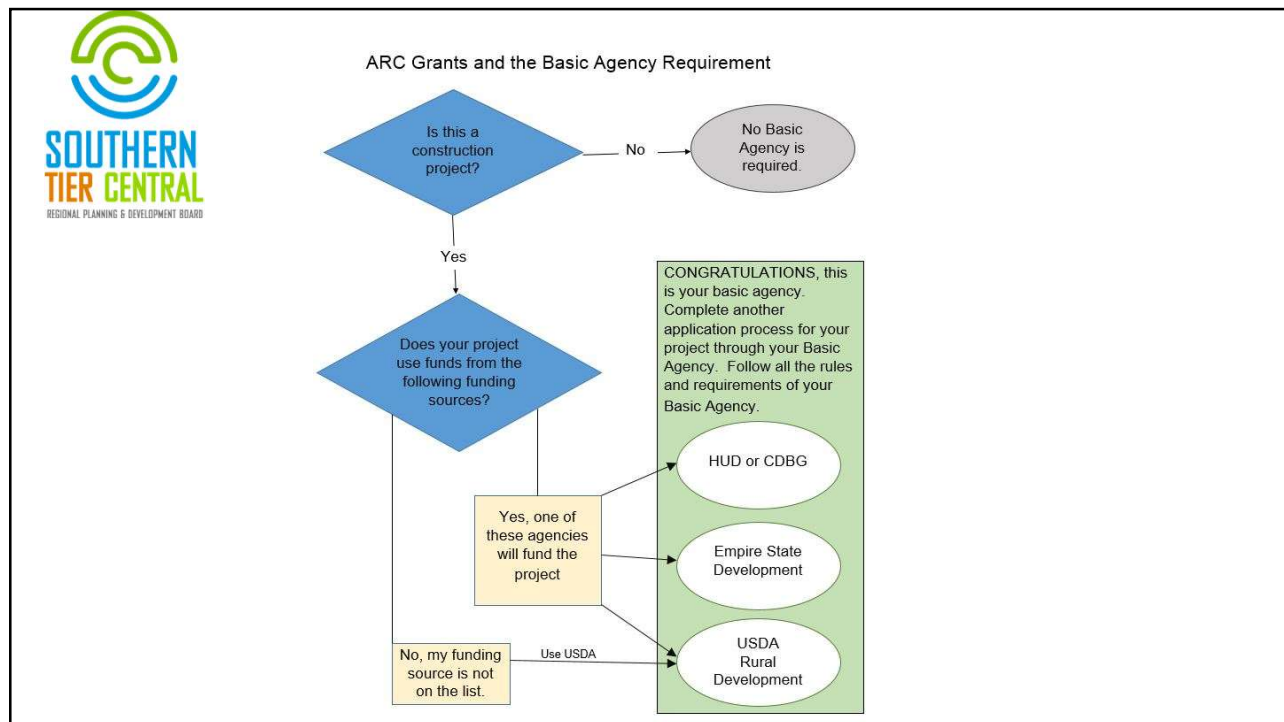
What is a Basic Agency?

A Basic Agency agrees to oversee a construction project on behalf of ARC.

Three organizations have Basic Agency agreements with the Appalachian Regional Commission in NY:

- USDA RD: a complete USDA RD application is/will be required for USDA RD to act as an ARC Basic Agency.
- HUD: can only act as an ARC Basic Agency for projects with HUD funding.
- Empire State Development: can only act as an ARC Basic Agency for projects with ESD funding & ESD permission.

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ARC has created a new application!

- The new application is far superior to the old ARC grant process
- The forms are simplified; the process is easier.

ARC's grant cycle is now open!

- Updated FY2027 ARC grant materials were posted on STC's website on 5/1.
- Pre-applications will be due on 6/26/26.
- We have about 6 weeks left to work on your projects.
- NYS says the approval timeline will be accelerated. Successful applicants should have awards before Summer 2027.

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The Four Pillars of a Solid Application

Clear

- ✓ Each section should be well-written and limited to the topic at hand
- ✓ Avoid use of industry jargon and abbreviations

Concise

- ✓ Project narrative should be 5-8 pages
- ✓ Avoid lengthy/irrelevant attachments (e.g. 60-pg Strategic Plan)

Comprehensive

- ✓ The application should include everything required in the [checklists](#)
- ✓ Narrative should describe all components of the project

Consistent

- ✓ Information and numbers should be consistent across all sections of the application and attachments



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What Makes A Good ARC Project?

The best ARC projects are strategic, impactful, collaborative, and sustainable.



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ARC Annual Timeline

- ARC grant funding is moderately resilient and reliable in this federal funding environment.
- There will continue to be ARC cycles at least once a year.
- Depending on how NYS implements the new review system, there may be additional rounds like the FY 2026 waitlist cycle; as always, to ensure our region and our state has an adequate pool of projects to fund.

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How does the application process work?

ARC is a unique federal/state/local partnership; which means your application is reviewed many times.

The 2027 grant cycle is now fully underway. You have 6 weeks time to develop your projects. Get board resolutions soon, if needed.

- Applications are due Friday, June 26th 2026 (subsequent USDA applications may be necessary as well for projects that need a Basic Agency).
- STC will review the applications and submit to NYS in July 2026.
- NYS will review the projects after the CFA awards in December 2026. Then transmit selected projects to ARC before March 2027.
- Selected applicants will be notified between April and July of next year, if they are selected.

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First Steps:

- Review the application materials
- Consider your sources of match (50%- 50%)
- Is your project sustainable in year 2? How can you make it sustainable
- Are you in contact with all your project partners?
- Have you reached out to USDA/HUD if you need a basic agency?

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How long is the application?

It's so short, w can go through the application questions now....

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Executive Summary

This section serves as an executive summary of your project and provides STC, NYS, and ARC with some basic information as well as a high-level snapshot of what your project entails. Responses here should summarize the longer and more detailed information required in the narrative.

*** Project Purpose**

Summarize the purpose of this project (1-2 sentences)

*** Project Summary**

Summarize the major activities to be conducted. The description should address who, what, where, when, and how for each major activity (1-2 paragraphs).

*** Strategic Rationale Summary**

Summarize the problems and/or opportunities the project will address, explain the critical circumstances that compel the project to be funded by ARC, and describe how the project supports a regional strategy or plan (1 paragraph).

*** Collaborative Partnerships Summary**

Summarize local, regional and/or state partnerships that will support the project (1 paragraph)

Note: You may attach letters of engagement or similar documentation that verify partnerships as appendices to your application package.

Project Sustainability and Capacity

Summarize your capacity to undertake the proposed activity by describing previous experience with similar activities and how the project will be sustainable once ARC support is no longer available (1 paragraph).

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Basic Project Information

*** Broadband Project**

Is this an application for a broadband construction or broadband as a service (BaaS) project? (Yes / No)

*** Access to Capital Project**

Is this an application for an access to capital project? (Yes / No)

*** Project Start Date**

Provide an estimated start date for your project.

*** Project End Date**

With few exceptions, 3 years from the project start date is the default timeframe for construction projects.

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Executive Summary

*** Organizational Capacity**

Describe the qualifications of key individuals who will manage and operate the project. Identify subrecipients and intended contractor roles to distinguish them from other personnel. Make sure to include any experience with similar activities i.e., federal and state award management, if applicable.

Note: You may attach resumes and/or position descriptions in the Attachments to provide additional information.

*** Partnerships**

Expand on any partnerships or collaborations with other local community, state, regional, and federal partners in the development of the proposal.

Note: You may also include letters of engagement/MOUs in the Attachments.

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Project Classification

*** Goal**

--Select One--

1. Business Development
2. Workforce Ecosystem
3. Infrastructure Development
4. Regional Culture and Tourism
5. Community Leaders and Capacity

*** Objective**

State Goal

State Objective

*** Category**

--Select One--

- Business Development
- Capacity Building
- Community Development
- Critical Infrastructure
- Education & Workforce Development
- Health
- Research & Evaluation

Performance Measures

Measure	Value	Notes
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*** Methodology**

Please provide a credible and established methodology for estimating each performance measure that results from the project. If the project creates or retains jobs, please attach letter(s) to document these commitments. Similarly, if the project leverages private investment, please supply additional documentation supporting the investment commitment.

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Detailed Budget

- Provide a detailed budget that lists the uses of ARC funds and all non-ARC matching funds and includes a detailed explanation of expenditures. Applicants should include cost category, the associated line-item name, a brief description and calculation of cost, and the breakdown between ARC and match funding sources. All items in the detailed budget must reflect the level of detail requested in the proposal.

Round to the nearest dollar. Do not include cents.

If including equipment and supplies, attach a separate list that breaks down per unit costs and quantity in the “Attachments” section of this application.

If the budget includes key personnel, estimate the number of hours/days and hourly rate (or portion of FTE and salary) for the time that is expected to be spent on the proposed project. This includes consultants and subrecipients. (After a grant is awarded, all time should be tracked by actual hours worked individually).

Include all costs associated with a contractor’s scope of work in the “Contractual” line item (i.e., estimates for key deliverables, wages, travel, etc.).

If you use a NICRA for indirect costs, submit your NICRA as an attachment in the “Attachments” section of this application.

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Budget

Budget Category	Budget Line Item Name	Budget Notes	Cash or In Kind?	ARC Amount	Other Federal Amount	State Amount	Other Amount	Total Amount

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Required - Budget Narrative for Non-Construction ARC Application				
Grantee Name: Hopeful ARC Applicant				
Project Title: We Make a Difference In Appalachia				
Below are descriptions of operational activities, based on the required line items found in the SF424A - Please provide details pertaining to your project and add or delete lines as applicable to your project.		Please make sure to break out costs by ARC & matching columns		
COST CATEGORY	ARC	COST-SHARE (matching funds)		TOTAL
		Cash	In-Kind	
PERSONNEL				
Travel				
Travel for 2 staff members to attend regional planning meetings, 2x year. Assumes per diem of \$45/day, lodging of \$100/night, and .49 mile (per state rate) for 75 mile round trip. Travel cost per trip = \$417	\$ 834.00			\$ 834.00
Equipment				
Hybrid EV Trainer (unit cost = \$51,500) x 2	\$ 51,500.00	\$ 51,500.00		\$ 103,000.00
Hydraulic Training Panel (unit cost = \$15,058) x 3	\$ 45,174.00			\$ 45,174.00
Supplies				
Computer lab tables (unit cost = \$650) x 2	\$ 1,300.00			\$ 1,300.00
Computer lab chairs (unit cost = \$250) x 4	\$ 1,000.00			\$ 1,000.00
Computers for student workspaces (unit cost = \$1500) x 10	\$ 15,000.00			\$ 15,000.00
Contractual				
Contract with Quick Transportation Company (transport students to internship site)		\$ 8,000.00		\$ 8,000.00
Other				
Subgrant to Chapman Training Academy	\$ 15,000.00			\$ 15,000.00
Indirect Costs				
University uses a 30% indirect rate. Will apply 10% to ARC funds, with remaining 20% applied as inkind cost share. See attached negotiated indirect cost rate agreement with DOE for additional details.	\$ 11,680.00		\$ 23,357.00	\$ 35,037.00
Total Operations Cost	\$			224,345.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST				\$ 300,000.00

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Funding

*** Project Funding Sources**

Contributor Name	Contributor Type	Funding Type	Funding Amount	Funding Status	Funding Notes

Program Income
Enter the estimated amount of total program income, if any, expected to be directly generated by or earned from this project.

Procurement Procedures
Describe the procurement methods you will use to purchase goods (supplies/equipment) or services (contractor/consultant) with grant and/or matching funds [2 CFR 200.320].

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Overview

* Project Description

Describe the project's primary purpose, main activities, and expected outcomes (the who, what, when, where, and how of main project activities. This should expand on what is included in the Project Summary under the Project Info section.)

Note: You should also attach a detailed workplan that describes major project activities and timelines for each activity in the Attachments.

* Project Geography

Please identify the proposed project area highlighting geographic areas of focus. If the project is not county-wide, identify the project's census tract(s) (and economic status, particularly if a Distressed Area). Include a map or diagram to demonstrate project scope or service area as needed in the Attachments.

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Rationale

* Strategic Rationale

Describe any economic development problems and/or opportunities that the project will address and how these issues impact the community.

* Regional Strategy and Planning Assessments

Explain how the proposed project represents progress toward addressing a regional strategy, such as a comprehensive economic development strategy or local visioning process.

* Analysis of Alternatives

Explain why the proposed project is the most practical, cost-effective, and beneficial way to achieve the desired results when compared to alternative approaches.

* Evidence of Local Demand

Describe local/regional demand for your project. Summarize any letters of demand from businesses and other community stakeholders that attest to the economic impact of the proposed project. Make sure to include these letters as attachments.

* Long-Term Impacts

Describe other project benefits likely to result from the project (e.g. positive impact on future economic development activity in the area).

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Project Sustainability

* Sustainability

Explain how the project will achieve long-term financial and operational sustainability once ARC support is no longer available. In your description, include a plan and timeline of efforts to secure other sources of support for future operations.

Project Expansion or Continuation

Please note if the proposed project is a continuation or expansion of an ongoing program as well as whether the project previously received ARC funding. If so, describe the program's outputs and outcomes to date, as well as other project milestones reached.

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Supporting Documentation

Type of File	Notes
Evidence for Local Demand	From businesses and other community stakeholders that attest to the impact of the proposed project (supplements strategic rationale)
Map: Project Service Area(s)	Provide one or more maps of the project site with project components and beneficiaries clearly indicated. Attach maps that are already available (such as Google maps), and note that you may be required to submit maps such as U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) maps and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) floodplain maps as part of the complete application should your project be selected for consideration; however, such types of maps are not required at the proposal stage.
Match Commitment Letter	Include a letter of commitment from each funding source that specifies the amount of funds committed and the kind of funds committed (grant, loan, cash, in-kind, etc.). If land or property acquisition is part of the project budget or being used as match, a copy of an MAI appraisal or equivalent is required. Note: Match commitment letters should include the specific funding amount being provided (dollar amount or value of in-kind), description of in-kind match and how value was determined (as applicable), be on letterhead/official document, and contain an authorized signature.
NICRA	Provide a copy of your Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (as applicable)
Partner Engagement Letter	Provide letters from key partners and partner organizations that commit to overseeing specific activities in support of the project

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Supporting Documentation Continued

Type of File	Notes
Performance Measures Documentation	If project has “jobs created,” “jobs retained,” or “leveraged private investment” as a performance measure, attach letters documenting job or investment commitments (supplements performance measures) Note: Business Development projects do not need to include documentation letters for LPI.
Resume/ Qualifications Document(s)	For key individuals who will manage and operate the project, provide position descriptions or brief resumes for those individuals.
Workplan Template	Provide a detailed work plan that includes a description of all major project activities (what will be done and by whom) and timelines for each activity during the project. Include as many details as possible.

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Matching Resources

- Match that counts toward your ARC grant can only be ‘spent or accrued’ after your ARC grant award is finalized.
- Match for your ARC grant should have a direct relationship to the successful performance of your program.
 - Unrelated staff time or equipment expenses are poor sources of match; unaligned match will cause difficulty when attempting to document your program’s outcomes.

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Letters of Commitment

- All letters of commitment should be unique.
- Commitment letters must include the dollar value of the amount of match committed.
- Commitment letters must include the method used to calculate the value of the match committed.
 - For example, the sentence “our agency commits \$5,000 of in-kind value to this project, and it has the full support of our agency.”
 - Requires a follow-up sentence, “the value of in-kind matching support provided by our agency is calculated as 5% of the Director’s fully burdened salary of \$100,000. [$\$100,000 * 5\% = \$5,000$] in-kind support paid by our agency for our director to support implementation of (ARC APPLICANT)’s project in our community.”

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Letters of Support

- Support Letters are good, and nice to have (particularly from your congressperson and your senators).
- Each support letter should be unique- form letters are not acceptable.
- The letter of support should mesh well with the partnerships and program approach / community support described in the application narrative.

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Brainstorm: support, match and partnerships

- Will you have an upcoming award in the next two years? Think of a way you could assist partners in the community, by committing some portion of that award to integrate with a new ARC program?
- Do your staff have a role in supporting relationships between agencies? That could be an activity reported as match

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A much simpler range of questions!

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Completing the application:

Construction applications are longer, include construction focused budget forms, engineer's reports, and basic agency requirements.

Non-construction applications (planning, studies, and capacity building projects) are slightly shorter. It can be slightly more difficult to show the outputs and outcomes of the project (see the app. guidance).

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Performance Measures

Please contact STC to ensure that your proposed outputs and outcomes are aligned with the Pathways System application guidance.

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Paired Performance Measures

The output and outcome measures below must be paired as shown.

Output Measure	Outcome Measure
businesses served	businesses improved
communities served	communities improved
households served	households improved
organizations served	organizations improved
participants served	participants improved
patients served	patients improved
students served	students improved
workers/trainees served	workers/trainees improved

Businesses Served

The number of businesses served by an ARC project. For infrastructure projects, this includes either the number of non-residential entities *with* access to new service (e.g., water, sewer, gas line, or telecommunications) or improved service (e.g., improvements in health or safety, compliance with environmental quality, improved water pressure). For business development projects, this includes businesses receiving technical assistance or participating in training, entrepreneurship, export, or other business development and improvement programs.

Communities Served

The number of communities served or impacted by an ARC project, including projects that address planning, civic participation, infrastructure, educational opportunities, and community capacity. For consolidated technical assistance grants, the number of communities served is the number of projects submitted by state ARC program offices. visit, within one year of project implementation.

New Visitors: Overnights

The number of new overnight visitors to a tourism destination times the number of their overnight stays, within one year of project implementation.

Organizations Served

The number of organizations served by an ARC project, including hospitals, schools, churches, non-profits, non-governmental organizations, and government agencies (use when number of businesses or households does not apply).

Participants Served

The number of individual participants served or targeted by an ARC project (use when patients, students, or worker/trainee measures do not apply). This can include the number of attendees at a meeting, workshop or conference. For example, the number of individuals participating in a planning process; participating in a leadership program; or the number of individuals attending health promotion activities.

Patients Served

The number of unique patients receiving clinical services one or more times as a result of an ARC health project. For equipment projects, report the number of unique patients served by that equipment during the project period and one year after the equipment is deployed. For health projects that do not provide clinical services (such as health promotion activities), use the measure "participants served."

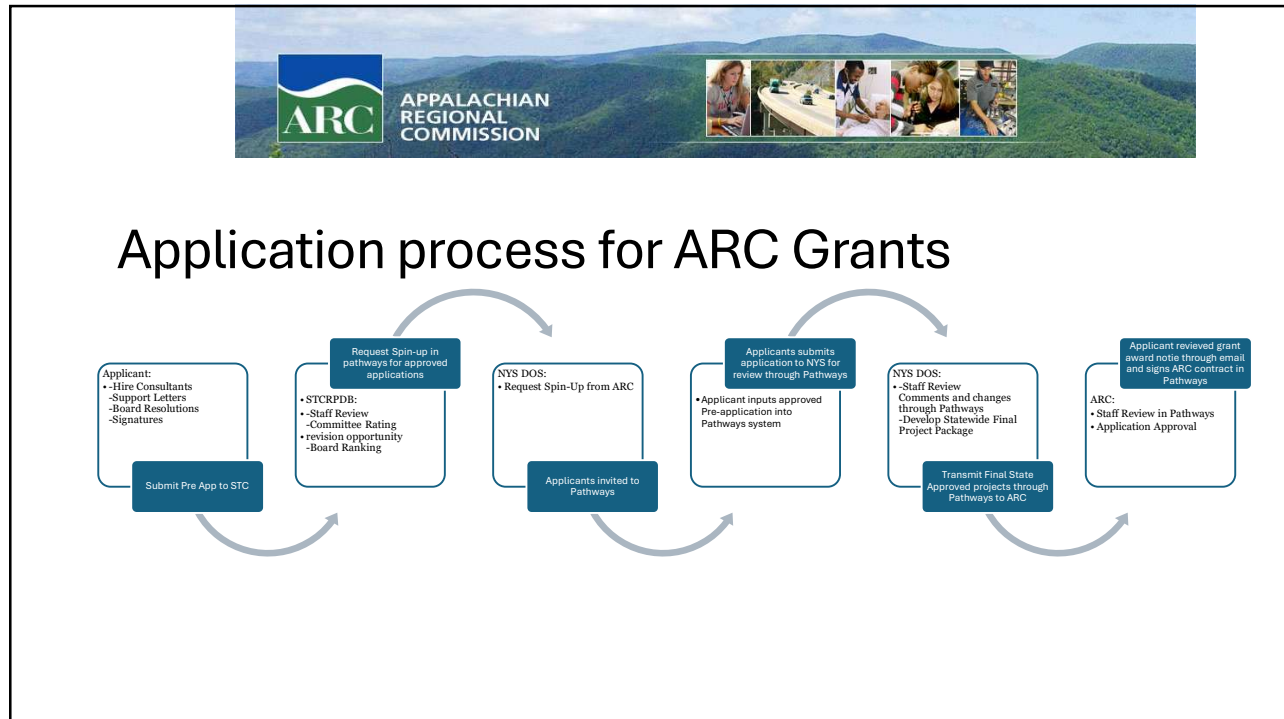
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Budget narrative:

- Write it so ‘future you’ knows how you planned to spend the funding.
- Write this section so your accountant knows how you intended to use cash funds, and how to document match/ in-kind resources.
- Must match the budget categories.
- Don’t create any new categories
 - Work with STC to fit your project ideas into ARC’s standard categories.
- Don’t label staff by name- use job titles. Briefly describe the activities for each staff member.

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ARC Timeline: local review 1 month

- Pre-applications will be the method of local review going forward.
- Pre-applications are due 6/26. Please reach out to STC to develop your project idea before submitting.
- The purpose of the pre-app is present your project idea to STC's review committee- perfection isn't required. Do your best, the committee will be able to make recommendations for improvements.
- Once your project is reviewed by the committee, improvements are made, and approved by STC's board, then STC's will authorize a project Spin-up with NY.

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ARC Timeline: State review 6+ months

- Interactions with Pathways- the grant submission and management system, will begin with a project spin-up document (sample shown here)
- The spin up document will be submitted by NYS to ARC, and this will cause a new pathways account to be generated for the Authorized Representative and the Primary Contact.
- The Authorized Representative must have contracting authority for the project.

Lead Applicant name:
ARC \$ Request
Score
Organization UEI:
Lead Applicant email address:
Project Title:
(Implementation or Planning)
(Construction or Nonconstruction)
State(s) and County/(ies):
Project Contact Roles
Applicant Authorized Representative name:
Applicant Authorized Representative email:
Applicant Primary Contact:
Applicant Primary Contact email:

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ARC Timeline: State Review 6+ months

- Applicants will then input their ‘STC approved’ application answers into the online pathways grant management system.
- Some answers can be pasted into Pathways by the primary contact. Other answers and certifications can only be accomplished by the Authorized Representative.
- Once all the answers are pasted into Pathways- the Authorized representative can submit the application to NYS for review. (this will ‘lock’ the application and the applicant won’t be able to make revisions.)
- State reviewer can view and comment on all aspects of the application and then send it back to the applicant (‘unlock it’) so the applicant can make any necessary changes, or clarifications.

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- A brief 'aside' to discuss the CFA-

- ARC and CFA grants can often be matched to fund the same project.
- If your project includes a CFA grant as match, then your project can't be transmitted to ARC until the CFA grant has been awarded. CFA award announcements are expected in December of 2026.
- STC anticipates that projects will NOT be transmitted to ARC for review until after CFA award announcements are made.

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ARC Timeline: State Review 6+ months

- When both the applicant and the state reviewer accept the application as final, then the State will complete a final review and approval of the project.
- Approval by the NYS Secretary of State is required, and proof of the State's approval is included in the pathways system by the NYS reviewer.
- Then the project is "transmitted" to ARC through the Pathways system.
- The applicant will be able to observe the project's status as it's under review in Pathways.

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ARC Timeline: Federal Review 2+ months

- ARC staff will be able to complete their review of the project in Pathways, and have access to all the uploaded attachments in the system.
- STC staff may have questions or comments- which I believe will be resolved by the applicant or the State with the same “question-unlock- reply-lock” process that was used in state review.
- If the project scores well by ARC’s standards, then ARC staff will refer the project for Final review by ARC’s legal and executive departments.
- Notice of award will come via a grant award notice in an email, to be approved in Pathways.

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ARC Grant Execution-

- Once the ARC grant contract is signed by both parties, your work can begin.
- ARC is (for the most part) a reimbursement-based grant... the Match documentation, commitments letters, and budget narrative should show how the project is going to be funded and remain functional while you await each 120-day reimbursement cycle.
- Once your grant is active, please reach out to your ARC grant administrator to approve specific details- ARC often likes to review the RFP’s or Bid proposals for work funded with ARC grants. OR ensure your basic agency is able to review all relevant materials (like bid requests, RFP, and contracts with consultants).

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Appalachian Regional Commission Online Information | STC Regional Planning

Non-construction Application:

https://www.stcplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/STC_Non-Construction-Pre-App-1.docx

One page flyer:

https://www.stcplanning.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/ARC_Onepager_2027.pdf

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