



El Paso County



American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) NOFO

Frequently Asked Questions - updated 05/10/22

Number	Question	Response
1	Who is eligible to apply for El Paso County (County) ARPA funds through this NOFO?	Most nonprofit organizations are welcome to apply. Also, local governmental or quasi-governmental entities that have not already received ARPA funding directly from the federal government or El Paso County may apply for non-duplicative ARPA funding.
2	Can faith-based agencies apply?	Yes, but the proposed program must provide services to the broader community and not be religious in nature.
3	Are organizations limited to one proposal?	Yes, each eligible agency is limited to one proposal.
4	Can schools or universities apply?	This NOFO is not accepting proposals from schools or universities.
5	Can a foundation apply?	Yes, as a fiscal agent for an eligible non-profit.
6	Can a foundation associated with an agency otherwise funded by ARPA apply?	Foundations associated with agencies already directly funded by the ARPA are not eligible to apply.
7	Is there a minimum or maximum grant request amount?	Yes, the grant request range is from \$100,000-\$1 million.
8	Can I speak with, meet with, or lobby the Commissioner’s Court (Court) for my agency’s grant?	No, the community listening sessions and public input phase are over. Avoiding lobbying provides all applicants with fair treatment. See the NOFO for grants managers’ contact information.
9	What role does the PdN Community Foundation (Foundation) play?	The Foundation is facilitating the NOFO grant development and review process, but the Foundation staff and board will not evaluate proposals. The Foundation will engage an independent review team to review proposals and make recommendations to the Court.
10	Who will make the funding decisions?	The Court will make the funding decisions with input from an independent review team.
11	Does the proposal need to be related to COVID?	Yes, the ARPA funds are granted in response to the COVID pandemic. Therefore, proposals must relate to COVID.



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12	Are there preferred services to be funded?	Yes, health, safety, community assistance, and career training services and programs are a priority.
13	Can an eligible applicant submit a request to support fundraising activities or the development of fundraising strategies?	No, the County seeks sustainable outreach and service programs.
14	Can a nonprofit organization with an office or operations in El Paso County, but based outside the county, apply?	Eligible nonprofit organizations must be headquartered with a governing board in El Paso County. All funded services must be offered in El Paso County.
15	Can a nonprofit organization receive ARPA funding from multiple sources?	Yes, but these ARPA funds are not to be duplicative. Organizations that received ARPA funds directly from the state or federal government are not eligible.
16	Can a newly formed nonprofit apply if the organization uses an established nonprofit as the fiscal agent?	Applicants must have been established before the pandemic (i.e., before March 2020). A fiscal agent may be used.
17	Can an eligible applicant submit a request for funding to cover costs for debt retirement or operating deficits?	No, this type of request is not eligible for funding.
18	Can an eligible applicant submit a request for funding employee bonuses or enhanced pay?	No, this type of request is not eligible for funding.
19	Can an eligible applicant submit a request for funding a large project intending that the grant will help to leverage support for the project?	Yes, the County will consider requests that leverage funding from other sources for large projects.
20	Can an eligible applicant submit for funding COVID 19 testing and treatment?	No, this is not being funded under the NOFO.
21	Can an eligible applicant submit a request for funding for a program that supports organizational strategic planning?	No, the County seeks sustainable outreach and service programs.



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22	Can an eligible applicant apply for funding to upgrade IT systems, such as telephones, software, and computers?	IT equipment directly related to a program is allowable, but requests for general IT upgrades are not.
23	Can an eligible applicant submit for funding communications and website redesign costs?	No, a website redesign or other electronic communication is not eligible unless integral to the grant-funded program or services.
24	What is the indirect rate for these grants?	Ten percent
25	Can an eligible applicant submit a request for funding materials and training for licensed providers to add billable services for its clients (e.g., telehealth delivery training)?	Yes, provided that the training costs are part of a broader plan to deliver sustainable services.
26	Can an eligible applicant submit a request for funding for COVID-related cleaning supplies or personal protective equipment?	No, this is not being funded under the NOFO.
27	Can an eligible applicant submit a request for funding renovations?	No, this is not being funded under the NOFO unless such renovations are necessary for a specific outreach or service program.
28	Can an eligible applicant submit a request for funding for new construction?	No, new construction will not be funded. ARPA funds must be spent by 12/31/26. With supply chain and construction delays, the County is not funding new construction. However, the County may fund a design proposal.
29	Can an eligible applicant submit a request to purchase land?	No, this is not being funded under the NOFO.
30	Can an eligible applicant submit a request to fund land studies or surveys?	Yes, these are eligible.
31	How important is program sustainability?	Very important. The County would like to see a sustainable outcome or feature from every funded program.
32	Can funds be used to provide short-term or immediate assistance?	No, meeting short-term needs, such as providing food or clothes, are not eligible.



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33	Can funding be provided through the applicant to individuals for assistance with daily needs, like utilities or rent?	No, this is not being funded under the NOFO.
34	Can funding be earmarked to benefit animals primarily?	No, this is not being funded under the NOFO.
35	Can the eligible applicant offer grant-funded services outside of El Paso County?	No, all grant-funded services are for residents of El Paso County.
36	Can an eligible applicant submit a request for a hike/bike trail, sidewalk, park, or other infrastructure improvement project?	Yes, for a needs assessment, related study, or design, but not for construction or renovation.
37	Can funds be used for marketing, advertising, or public relations?	Yes, but such expenses must be program-related. General organization marketing is not eligible.
38	May a program serve anywhere in El Paso County?	Yes, programs may take place anywhere in the County. Those serving unincorporated areas are preferred.
39	Is travel an eligible cost?	Local mileage is eligible; out-of-town travel is not.
40	Is collaboration preferred?	Yes, projects that leverage various organizations are preferred.
41	Are in-kind funds or leveraged preferred?	Yes, proposals that document in-kind or leveraged funding are preferred.
42	If an applicant received CSLFRF funding indirectly, how is that documented?	Summarize other CSLFRF funding in the budget narrative to include the source and purpose.