

EDA American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grants Overview



Housekeeping Items

- This meeting is being recorded
- Please mute your microphones until Q&A
- If you have questions, please type them into the CHAT function
- We will read through questions during the Q&A session
- Any additional questions after the meeting please email to jlasser@spcregion.org
- This is not required viewing in order to apply
- EDA reserves the right to adjust any NOFO at any time
- Thank you for attending and we hope you learn a lot today

Welcome!

Johnna Pro

Regional Director

**PA Department of Community &
Economic Development (DCED)**



Overview of the Workshop

- Overview of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
- EDA Application Basics
- Build Back Better Challenge
- Economic Adjustment Assistance Challenge
- Coal Communities Commitment
- Good Jobs Challenge
- Statewide Planning, Research & Networks
- Indigenous Communities
- Travel , Tourism and Outdoor Recreation
- What's Next –
- Q&A - Discussion

EDA Application Basics



Eligible Applicants – EDA Grants

- District Organization of an EDA-designated Economic Development District
- Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes
- State, county, city, or other political subdivision of a State, including a special purpose unit of a State or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions
- Institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education
- Public or private non-profit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State

What you'll need to apply

- SAM.Gov (system for award management)
- Grants.gov registration
- Be an eligible applicant
- Review the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to ensure the requirements are met
- Review grant requirements
- CEDS (SPC www.spcregion.org) – Smart Moves
- Reminder- don't wait to last minute to register and read NOFOs
 - Grants.gov can take 3-5 business days and up to several weeks if issues

American Rescue Plan & Challenges



About the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

- On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan into law.
- Legislation was designed to enable all Americans to respond to and recover from the impacts of COVID-19.
- \$3 billion in supplemental funding to assist communities nationwide in their efforts to build back better by accelerating the economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic and building local economies that will be resilient to future economic shocks.
- ARPA enables EDA to provide larger, more transformational investments across the nation while utilizing its greatest strengths, including flexible funding to support community-led economic development.
- With an emphasis on equity, EDA investments made under the American Rescue Plan will directly benefit previously underserved communities impacted by COVID-19.
- EDA is making a *Coal Communities Commitment*, allocating \$300 million of its \$3 billion American Rescue Plan appropriation to ensure support for these communities as they recover from the pandemic and create new jobs and opportunities, including through the creation or expansion of a new industry sector.
- Six Challenges/Grants to apply for under ARPA

Build Back Better Challenge



Build Back Better – Application Details

- One Regional Applicant with 3-8 large scale projects
- Due Date(s): Two phases
 - Phase 1: October 19th 2021 – concept planning
 - 50-60 regional grants awarded \$500,000
 - Phase 2: March 15th 2022 – implementation
 - 20-30 grants awarded for 25 – 75 million dollar projects (up to 100 million)
- Award Period: September 2022 through May 2027
- Performance Period: 12 to 48 Months
- Match Rate:
 - Phase 1: 0 % match (100% funded)
 - Phase 2: 20% match (80% funded, but could be up to %100)

Build Back Better Challenge - About

- Aims to assist communities and regions impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.
- BBB is designed as a two-phase competition:
 - (1) help regions develop transformational economic development strategies and
 - (2) fund the implementation of those strategies that will create and grow regional growth clusters.
- Recover from the pandemic and build economic diversity and resiliency to mitigate impacts of future economic disasters
- Benefit regional workforces and residents through creation of high-quality jobs, increased wages, and revitalized communities.

Build Back Better - About

- BBB is designed to **support clusters in transforming their regional economy** through groups of complementary, aligned construction and non-construction projects.
- The projects should be organized under a **singular vision** to support industry growth across the region.
- SWPA is forming a regional coalition, in coordination with private sector partners and other partners, that **share a common vision** for how significant investment from EDA could catalyze wage growth, increased economic growth, the creation of a new industry, and/or the scaling or growth of existing industries in their region.
- The identified projects should **foster economic growth and competitiveness** through job creation, capacity building, and attracting private investment
- **Allegheny Conference** is leading the regional collation and is looking for projects

Build Back Better - What can be funded?

- Construction activities include: Industrial parks; Shipping and logistics facilities; Business incubators and accelerators; Brownfield redevelopment Technology-based facilities; Transportation enhancements; Water and sewer system improvements; and Telecommunications infrastructures
- Non-construction activities include: Design and engineering; Technical assistance; Economy recovery strategy development; Entrepreneurial support; Workforce training; New academic curricula; Market feasibility studies; and Capitalization of revolving loan funds (RLFs)

Build Back Better – Coalition Support

- Allegheny Conference is the regional entity for SWPA collecting project ideas
- Utilizing HR&A as the team to have project discussions lead conversations
- Future project meetings to be scheduled
- Projects can include planning, infrastructure, workforce and entrepreneurship
- EDA has stressed collaboration over competition
- Collaboration around Regional assets, Industry Leadership, Sustainability and Equity
- Important for us to be thinking regionally, not just one county
- Project ideas for BBB, please email jlasser@spcregion.org will connect to appropriate team member for Allegheny Conference and/or HR&A

Economic Adjustment Assistance Challenge



Economic Adjustment Assistance – Application Details

- Due Date: March 26th 2022 (rolling acceptance)
- Award amounts: \$500,000 - \$5,000,000
- Performance Period: Sept 2022 – May 2027
- Match rate: 20% (80% funded but could be up to 100% funded)
- Any project that will create jobs or contribute to a community's or region's economic recovery is eligible

Economic Adjustment Assistance- About

- The Economic Adjustment Assistance program is EDA's most flexible program, and grants made under this program will help hundreds of communities across the nation plan, build, innovate, and put people back to work through construction or non-construction projects designed to meet local needs.
- Focus on Strong employment opportunities for workers
 - Re-hire laid off employees
 - Create and retain union jobs
 - Promotion of efficient projects

Economic Adjustment Assistance – About

- EDA has broad discretion on use of EAA funds; funding is authorized to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus and for necessary expenses for responding to economic injury as a result of coronavirus
- Looking for long-term, regionally oriented, coordinated, and collaborative economic development or redevelopment strategies that foster economic growth and resilience. This includes plans aimed at building stronger regional economic links between urban centers and rural areas.

Economic Adjustment Assistance – Eligible Activities

- **Construction activities including:**
 - Water and sewer system improvements, industrial parks, high-tech shipping and logistics facilities, business incubators and accelerators, brownfield redevelopment, technology-based facilities, wet labs, multi-tenant manufacturing facilities, science and research parks, workforce training facilities, and telecommunications infrastructure (e.g., broadband) and development facilities.
- **Non-construction activities including:**
 - Design and engineering, technical assistance, economic recovery strategy development, and capitalization of revolving loan funds (RLFs)

Economic Adjustment Activities – In Eligible Activities

- Projects that are primarily residential in nature
- Projects to create community amenities (e.g., swimming pools, zoos, recreational centers)
- Projects that support casinos or gaming
- Projects that support general governmental or public safety functions (e.g., buildings to house municipal government, firehouses, public safety equipment)
- Requests for funding to supplement operating budgets or replace lost revenue (including lost tax revenue).
- Projects primarily directed at public health responses to the coronavirus pandemic (e.g., testing or vaccination centers, increased hospital capacity)
- Acquisition of PPE for general government use or public distribution
- Funds may not be used, directly or indirectly as an offset for other funds, to support or oppose collective bargaining

Coal Communities Commitment



Coal Communities Commitment

- EDA's Coal Communities Commitment allocates \$300 million of its \$3 billion American Rescue Plan appropriation to support coal communities as they recover from the pandemic and to help them create new jobs and opportunities, including through the creation or expansion of a new industry sector.
- Funds to directly support coal communities:
 - \$100 million of its [Build Back Better Regional Challenge](#) funds
 - \$200 million of its [Economic Adjustment Assistance](#) funds
- There is no pre-defined list of impacted coal communities.
- Coal communities include those regions that can reasonably demonstrate how changes in the coal economy have resulted or are anticipated to result in job losses and layoffs in any coal-reliant commercial sector (e.g., coal mining, coal-fired power plants).

Coal Communities Commitment

- EDA will encourage coal communities to apply to all American Rescue Plan programs offering them the opportunity to successfully compete for large, transformational grants
- Provide planning and technical assistance grants to help support states in their effort to develop plans to revitalize coal communities
- Offer opportunities to develop national communities of practice to support coal communities in building resilient economies
- To demonstrate eligibility, complete applications must provide appropriate third party economic and demographic statistics that document the extent to which contractions in the coal economy have negatively impacted the community or region

Examples of Coal Impacted EDA Projects:

- Mandan, North Dakota: \$4M grant to the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives to construct a new lineworker training facility.
- Southeast Ohio: \$1.6M to Ohio University to support the Building Opportunities Beyond Coal Accelerating Transition (BOBCAT) Network which assists communities that have been impacted by the decline of the coal industry. This project utilizes development resources and regional collaboration to accelerate the region's economic diversification through entrepreneurial growth, workforce development, and identification of infrastructure investment needs.
- Sheridan, Wyoming: \$2.26M to the Sheridan Economic and Educational Development Authority to fund the construction of a new manufacturing facility at the Sheridan High Tech Park. The investment will expand operations for the local manufacturing company including an insulated metal building structure, the purchase of equipment and materials, plumbing, electrical and data lines, and a fire suppression system.
- Johnstown, Pennsylvania: \$1.95M grant to the Johnstown Regional Development Authority to build a new entrepreneurial center to house growing small businesses. The center also helps persons recovering from opioid addiction reenter the local workforce.
- Hazard, Kentucky: \$3.88M to construct the Hazard Community College Center of Manufacturing Excellence facility in the Kentucky Community and Technical College System.

Good Jobs Challenge



Good Jobs Challenge - Application Details

- Due Date: January 26th 2022 (rolling acceptance)
- Award amounts: \$5,000,000 - \$25,000,000 for appx 25-50 regional project
- Three Phases – Phased Funding
- Performance Period: July 2022 – May 2027
- Match rate: 0% (up to 100% funded)
- Projects that leverage funds are more competitive
- Applications must identify a backbone organization to support a sectoral partnership that can connect, convene and coordinate a variety of stakeholders across a region

Good Jobs Challenge - About

- Designed to get Americans back to work by establishing or strengthening regional workforce training systems to train workers with in-demand skills through sectoral partnerships
- Partnerships will create and implement industry-led training programs, designed to provide skills for and connect unemployed or underemployed workers to existing and emerging job opportunities.
- Systems are designed to train workers with the skills to secure a union job or a quality job that provides good pay, benefits, and growth opportunities.
- Focus on Job Placement and FIRM employer commitments to hire
- Creation of a Regional Workforce System
- Assisting groups facing barriers to employment

Good Jobs Challenge - About

Three phases of regional workforce training systems/sectoral partnerships.

- **System Development** funding to help a System Lead Entity establish and develop a regional workforce training system comprised of multiple sector partnerships
- **Program Design** funding for sectoral partnership(s) to identify the skills needed by industry and workers, develop the skills training curriculum and materials, and secure technical expertise needed to train workers with the skills needed by businesses, including providing professional development and capacity-building to trainers and educators,
- **Program Implementation** funding to deliver workforce training and wrap-around services that place workers into quality jobs through a new or expanded sectoral partnership(s)

Good Jobs Challenge – Eligible Activities

- **System Development:** Establish a regional system of key stakeholders to develop employer-driven training models, which should include the following organizations, or similar functions: ▪ Backbone organization/intermediary ▪ Local/state gov't incl. workforce boards ▪ Employers ▪ Employer-facing organization ▪ Training provider ▪ Community-based organization (CBO) or Worker-serving organization (WSO) ▪ Labor Unions (if relevant in region) • Develop the processes to gather skills needs from employers and translate into effective training-to-employment models
- **Program Design:** Employers identify in-demand industry/ role to focus on based on hiring needs and market analysis • Determine skills needs from employers for selected industry/role • Develop training model and curriculum with (or by) employers • Gap analysis: Determine the existing training providers/courses that could be scaled to help address skill needs • Secure employer commitments to hire (e.g., work-and-learn, conditional hire, employer commitment to hire specific # of successful trainees) • Develop plan to partner with CBOs/ WSOs to conduct outreach and recruit underserved workers to participate in program
- **Program Implementation:** Recruit underserved workers who are unemployed or underemployed to participate in program • Deliver skills training • Provide wrap-around services to workers (childcare, transportation, coaching) • Place workers into well-paying, quality jobs

Statewide Planning, Research and Networks Challenge



Statewide Planning/Research & Networks – Application Details

- State Planning grants – (invitation by EDA)
- Research & Networks Grants
- Due Date: October 31st 2021 (rolling acceptance)
- Award amounts:
 - Research \$200,000 – \$600,000
 - Networks/Communities of Practice – \$2,000,000 – \$6,000,000
- Performance Period: July 2022 – May 2027
- Match rate: up to 100% funded
- Projects that leverage funds are more competitive

Research & Networks – About

- EDA is supporting states in planning efforts by allocating \$59 million for Statewide Planning Grants.
- In addition, \$31 million for Research and Networks Grants to invest in research that assesses the effectiveness of EDA's programs, and provides support for stakeholder communities around key EDA initiatives.
- **Statewide Planning** Invites sent directly to States
- **Networks & Communities of Practice** - Develop stakeholder and grantee networks to assist EDA grantees with technical assistance, best practice, and community connections to scale what works and accelerate impact
- **Research** - Study and evaluate EDA's new American Rescue Plan programs

Research & Community of Practice - About

- Networks/Community of Practice – ensure the project increases the economic development capacity of the identified stakeholder group(s) and enhances the intended impacts of the cohort they are proposing to support
 - Develop nationwide, sustainable networks for existing and future EDA grantees, including EDDs, Tribal Partners, University Centers, RLF grantees, Build to Scale (B2S) grantees
 - Develop a Community of Practice around ARPA program grantees, coal community grantees, and/or critical areas of need
- Research - proposed project is original and innovative, and will add to the body of knowledge supporting decisions made on economic development
 - Specifically interested in real-time research and evaluation of American Rescue Plan programs: especially the Good Jobs Challenge, BBB Regional Challenge, Indigenous Communities program, and the Travel & Tourism programs

Research & Communities of Practice – Evaluation Basis

- Each application will be evaluated on:
 - Applicant capacity
 - Applicant expertise in the applicable component
 - Strategic approach of the proposal
 - Feasibility of budget; strength of proposed financial match (if any)
 - Feasibility of deliverables and timeline
 - Project sustainability, scalability, and dissemination
 - Cross-collaboration with other EDA grantees and/or other economic development partners

Indigenous Communities Challenge



Indigenous Communities – Application Details (Eligibility)

Eligible entities under this EDA program are:

- Indian Tribes or a consortium of Indian Tribes, as defined in 13 C.F.R. § 300.3
- A public or private non-profit organization or association serving Native Hawaiians
- A public or private non-profit organization or association serving Native Pacific Islanders of Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, or the Republic of Palau

Indigenous Communities – Application Details

- Due Date: Rolling acceptance – funds to be obligated by September 2022
- Award amounts: \$500,000 - \$5,000,000
- Performance Period: July 2022 – May 2027
- Match rate: 100% funded

Indigenous Communities - About

- \$100 million specifically for Indigenous communities, which were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.
- **This program is designed to support the needs of Tribal Governments and Indigenous communities.**
- A wide range of technical, planning, workforce development, entrepreneurship, and public works and infrastructure projects are eligible for funding under this program.
- Indigenous communities are also eligible and encouraged to apply under all of EDA's other programs.

Indigenous Communities – Eligible Projects

- A wider range of projects are eligible:
 - Foundational economic infrastructure: broadband, energy, roads, water, and wastewater
 - Vocational and higher education facilities
 - Community health facilities, even if the connection to job creation is indirect
- Note: Projects that directly support casinos or requests to replace lost revenue remain ineligible

Travel Tourism & Recreation Challenge



Travel, Tourism & Recreation - Application

- Due Date: March 15th 2022 (rolling acceptance)
- Award amounts: \$5,000,000 - \$10,000,000 for appx 150 projects
- Performance Period: July 2022 – May 2027
- Match rate: 20% (up to 100% funded)
- Projects that leverage funds are more competitive
- State Tourism Grants: \$510 million in non-competitive awards to help states quickly invest
- Competitive Grants: \$240 million to help communities that have been hardest hit by challenges facing the travel, tourism and outdoor recreation sectors to invest in infrastructure, workforce or other projects to support the recovery of the industry and economic resilience of the community in the future.

Travel, Tourism & Recreation - About

- Intended to fund projects that:
 - Support the development and implementation of a community's economic development strategy for travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation pandemic recovery
 - Are in regions most adversely affected by damage to the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors from the coronavirus pandemic
- Applicants must clearly notify EDA in the application if seeking or receiving any other funding for the project, including funding from a State Tourism Grant

Travel, Tourism & Recreation - Eligible Activities

- Strategy development for travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation pandemic recovery
- Construction
 - Recovery project implementation
 - Cultural, arts and tourism facilities
 - Zoos and aquariums (policy change)
 - New outdoor recreation and trail infrastructure and public access enhancements
 - Nature-based infrastructure projects to improve access to recreation
- Non-construction Activities
 - Country-wide or multi-state travel, tourism, or outdoor recreation promotion
 - State and local-level tourism promotion
- Marketing projects are only eligible under state tourism grants Diversification projects (EDA prefers projects that support the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors)

Travel, Tourism & Recreation – In Eligible Activities

- Projects that are primarily residential in nature
- Projects to create community amenities that are not specific to regional tourism (e.g., swimming pools, golf courses) Projects that directly support casinos or gaming
- Projects that support general governmental or public safety functions (e.g., buildings to house municipal government, firehouses, public safety equipment),
- Funding to supplement operating budgets or replace lost revenue (including lost tax revenue). In
- Funds may not be used, directly or indirectly as an offset for other funds, to support or oppose collective bargaining.

What's Next?

- Survey on Workshop
- Workshop recording and slides available (link provided to all applicants after meeting)
- Technical Assistance for Individual Grants as needed
- BBB Project Meetings and Discussions

How SPC can be of assistance on EDA grants

- CEDS Plan alignment
- Maps
- Data
- Technical Assistance
- Project meetings – convening partners
- SPC ARPA Website (go live date next week)

Conclusion and Wrap Up

- Give yourself proper time to get registered
- Read each NOFO – pay attention to deadlines and requirements
- Not every project is going to be applicable for your municipality or organization
- If you're not sure or have questions, reach out to SPC or EDA
- Think regional and greater impact
- Many other grants are expected to come out through other Federal agencies
- Have a Build Back Better challenge project, let's talk!
- Reminder, we're here to help and want to be of assistance!

Question & Answer Project Discussion

Jenn Lasser, Johnna Pro, Steve Meredith & Faith Collins





Thank You.

