



# Georgia Jobs and Infrastructure Committees

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## State Fiscal Recovery Fund Overview

August 16, 2021

Note: All dates and processes outlined in this presentation are subject to change based on application volume and state priorities



Governor's Office of  
PLANNING AND BUDGET  
THE STATE OF GEORGIA

# WELCOME

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# ARPA Grant Process Updates

No public input will be requested for this meeting, so we kindly ask all participants who are not committee members to keep their lines muted. Members of the committee will be asked for feedback and questions throughout the presentation.

The meeting will be recorded and posted on OPB's website.



# ARPA Grant Process Updates

- Broadband Infrastructure
  - 98 draft status
  - 2 submitted
- Water/Sewer Infrastructure
  - 236 in draft status
  - 3 submitted
- Negative Economic Impact
  - 355 in draft status
  - 12 submitted



# ARPA Grant Process Updates

- Awaiting the publication of FAQs regarding each category that will provide additional clarity.
- OPB will begin to add the submitted applications online:
  - Proposal Name
  - Applicant Name
  - Location
  - Status
  - Amount Requested
  - Project Description
  - Map Attachment (Broadband Only)



# Overall Expectations for Review Process

- Read through proposals prior to the grant review. Start early – it may take longer than you anticipate.
- Keep proposals and scores confidential
- Thoroughly understand the information requested in the proposal and assess each proposal's strengths and weaknesses.



# Reviewing Proposals: Step 1

Read through Treasury's Interim Final Rule and FAQs

Become familiar with:

- The goals of Georgia's priorities for your committee
  - Quick Guide for each committee
- The requirements of the proposal and reporting requirements
- The scoring criteria and point allocations



## Reviewing Proposals: Step 2

- Complete an initial read-through of each applicant's proposal but don't score them this time.
- Use this initial read through of the proposals to get a sense of what the proposals are about and how they are organized.





# Reviewing Proposals: Step 3

- Re-read each proposal and begin scoring
- Make sure to record proposal strengths and weaknesses on the Review Form
- Provide helpful comments for the applicant



# Rules and Tips for Scoring

- Everyone scores differently. Just make sure to be consistent in your scores
- Only score a proposal based on the information provided (avoid assumptions)
- Score proposals against the criteria set forth by the Interim Final Rule not against the other grant programs or other applications
- No fractions or decimals please



# Rules and Tips for Scoring

- You can deduct points for missing information. Just make sure your score is primarily based on the clarity of the responses
- Just having an answer to each question in the application requirement does not justify a high score
- Proposals should make a strong case for funding and show compelling need
- If a proposal includes more than one project, it is possible that one or more, but not all projects will be funded based on parameters of the project. The committee has discretion to recommend projects within a proposal without funding the entire project.



# Rules and Tips for Scoring

Proposals should:

- Reflect guidance outlined in the Interim Final Rule
- Be reasonable
- Reflect best practices
- Demonstrate effective collaboration
- Effectively address the needs of the community or industry



# Range of Scores

- A perfect score of 100 (or 10 points in all categories) should be rare. This means there are no weaknesses in the proposal
- Similarly, a total score of 0 is rare as this would mean there are no strengths in the proposal. Match funds would be an exception
- If you do feel like a score of 100 or 0 are warranted, please document your justifications completely



# Grant Life Cycle





# Accessing Applications and Scoring

- Reviewers will access applications to review and score via the Georgia Grants Portal.
- All reviewers will need to register in the Georgia Grants portal (TBD)
- We will help facilitate the committee registrations and provide technical assistance to ensure every has access
- An email will be sent out when registration for the committee portal is open



# Georgia Grants Portal Details

## Pending Review

- Initial Status the committee member will see on grant application(s) that require their review.
- Committee member will see a list of the grant applications that are ready for review.
- OPB performing admin review to ensure only complete applications are reviewed.

## In-Progress

- Committee member has the option of saving work
- Provides the ability to come back to grant application as needed, without having to complete review in one sitting.
- All scoring fields are edible in this status

## Initial Review Complete

- Committee member has completed their initial review
- Different status than 'In-Progress' so user understands outstanding items that need to be completed.
- Suggest that all assigned grant applications are in this status prior to collaboration session
- All scoring fields are edible in this status.





# Committee Review Page

The screenshot shows the Georgia Grants Portal website. At the top, there is a dark blue header with the text "An official website of the State of Georgia government. Here's how you know!" on the left and "Organizations A-Z" on the right. Below this is a navigation bar with the Georgia Grants logo on the left, a search bar with a magnifying glass icon, and a "Sign in" button. The main content area has a white background with a navigation menu containing "Home", "Grant Opportunities", and "Committee Evaluation". The main heading is "Georgia Grants Portal". Below the heading is a paragraph of text: "Thank you for visiting the Office of Planning and Budget's Georgia Grants portal. This website allows applicants to view current grant opportunities, apply, and check the status of grant applications. To view current opportunities, please click on Grant Opportunities in the navigation menu at the top of the this page. If you have additional questions, please contact us at (404) 656- 3820 or email us at grants@opb.georgia.gov." At the bottom of the page, there is a dark blue footer with the Georgia Grants logo and the text "GEORGIA GRANTS".



# Application Review List

GEORGIA GRANTS

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Home
Grant Opportunities
Committee Review

## Application Review List

ID	Proposal Name	Organization Name	Grant ↑	Status	Grant Requested Amount	Total Score
GA-0005116	Lorraine's HHC	Overview INC	Broadband Infrastructure	Pending Review	\$5,000.00	-
GA-0005117	KC Childcare	Midcare HHC	Broadband Infrastructure	In Progress	\$8,000.00	2
GA-0005118	Hill Haven Care	Hartwell	Broadband Infrastructure	Initial Review Complete	\$9,000.00	5
GA-0005119	Arena LLC	Overview INC	Broadband Infrastructure	Submitted	\$5,000.00	6



# Review Checklist Form

**GEORGIA GRANTS**

Home Grant Opportunities Committed Review

**REVIEW CHECKLIST**  
State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds  
State Application Rating Sheet

Application Name: KO Children's Patient e-LE Grant (Award Number): GA-0001403

This checklist is designed to assist the reviewer in identifying and evaluating the additional requirements and activities unique to this program. Reviewers should provide specific details about the application that do not pertain to the selection criteria. Feedback is critical and used to inform the funding decision process. Use only for application-specific problems or how to prepare a stronger grant submission to the funder.

In addition, the end of this checklist contains a table which outlines how scores are calculated. This information should be used only as a "guide" to how reviewers should provide the information provided in the table should not be used to fill out written responses unless that is specifically requested by the program.

**Submission Criteria**

**1. Description of the Issue (Score 0-4 points, Weight 15%)**

- The applicant describes the specific problem the submission aims to address and how it was identified by COVID-19
- The applicant describes the process used to assess, analyze, or determine the nature of the problem.
- If applicable, the applicant explains gaps in resources and request due to COVID-19

The administrator seeks to address the learning disparities among students in the DeKalb County School District (DCSD). Based on the 2019 Learning Measure's report, administrator's identified students in DeKalb County, scored for 4% science proficiency or English, 64.9% science proficiency or Mathematics, 66.1% science proficiency or science, and 18.5% science proficiency or Social Studies. DeKalb County, despite school districts reported 19.4% science proficiency in 2019. 71.4% science proficiency or Mathematics, 71.4% science proficiency or science, and 19.4% science proficiency or Social Studies. DeKalb County's year-over-year increase of 17.9% science proficiency in 2019. DeKalb County's science proficiency rate was 19.4% in 2019. The impact of COVID-19 is to have a decrease student academic performance a score more social skills, more learning and to have students during the ongoing pandemic, in addition, many teachers are not equipped to serve students during the ongoing pandemic.

Comments:  
Strength:  
Weakness:

**Total Points for Project Design and Implementation (10/15):**

**2. Project Design and Implementation (Score 0-4 points, Weight 15%)**

- The applicant explains how the project will attempt to improve the performance of the program.
- The performance measures applicable to the project.
- The applicant provides a comprehensive timeline or a detailed timeline, including:
- Key milestones, and activities and a responsible for each activity.
- The applicant specifically identifies the budget request for administrative, personnel or salaries.

This program initiative is to provide students opportunities to transition into careers that require and the learning. We will provide students to enrich and diverse students, technological, cultural, and social. We will provide students to enrich and diverse students, technological, cultural, and social. We will provide students to enrich and diverse students, technological, cultural, and social. We will provide students to enrich and diverse students, technological, cultural, and social. We will provide students to enrich and diverse students, technological, cultural, and social.

Comments:  
Strength:  
Weakness:

**Total Points for Project Design and Implementation (10/15):**

**3. Capabilities and Competencies (Score 0-4 points, Weight 15%)**

- The applicant lists how the applicant's capabilities to implement the project and the expansion of the program.
- The applicant identifies the individuals who will support the project, as well as the expertise of the individuals who will be responsible for managing the project.

Sharon Winslow - CEO  
Sharon Winslow will oversee 100% of the project. Sharon holds a BS in Education, BA in Business, and is currently serving a master's in education at Morehouse University. She participated in Project Learning in 1999 upon receiving the award for project learning support and afterward helped the community's demands grow. She is current CEO Academy, Inc., a full-time teacher learning academy, in 2016.

Comments:  
Strength:  
Weakness:

**Total Points for Project Design and Implementation (10/15):**

**4. Performance Measures (Score 0-4 points, Weight 15%)**

- The applicant demonstrates understanding of how activities to meet learning requirements.
- The applicant describes the personnel who will collect the data who is responsible for performance and assess improvement, and how the information will be used to guide the impact of the program.
- Applicant demonstrates an understanding of the performance indicators and programmatic data requirements for the project in which they applied.

Our team will work with the applicant's program manager that includes, finance, human resources project performance started by Mrs. Winslow, Mr. Hill, and Mr. Sato. Project Manager will allow all participants to engage their, track progress, and avoid productivity, quality, and safety, with their collaboration. In addition, the project management system sends automated email alerts to keep the team focused on project.

Comments:  
Strength:  
Weakness:

**Total Points for Project Design and Implementation (10/15):**

**3. Budget (Score 0-4 points, Weight 15%)**

The applicant has submitted a budget that is complete and effective and addresses:

Budget Category	Grant Request
A. Personnel	\$0
B. Fringe Benefits	\$0
C. Travel	\$0
D. Equipment	\$0
E. Supplies	\$0
F. Construction	\$0
G. Consultants/Contracts	\$0
H. Other	\$0
<b>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Comments:  
Strength:  
Weakness:

**Total Points for Project Design and Implementation (10/15):**

**4. Matching Funds (Score 0-4 points, Weight 15%)**

The applicant has submitted a letter that leverages funds available from other sources to maximize impact and to maximize funds that will be used to reach beneficiaries.

Letter to seek other grant funding to cover needed or additional funds for this project.

Comments:  
Strength:  
Weakness:

**Total Points for Project Design and Implementation (10/15):**

**APPLICATION TOTAL POINTS**  
(Points are # total\_max\_score\_min\_score/candidate)

**Score Definitions**

NOTE: The information and text provided below should only be used as a "guide" to how to evaluate the criteria score. The definitions provided in the table should not be used to fill out written assessment comments that are specific to each applicant's projects and to be submitted for an overall consensus review.

Criteria Score	Explanation	Description
0-1	Excellent	Many major and minor strengths identified. If any weaknesses and/or minor weaknesses, highest probability and confidence that the submission requirements will be met, with a majority of the requirements completed.
2-3	Good	A significant number of major and minor strengths, no more than a couple minor weaknesses, and no major weaknesses identified. High probability and confidence that the submission requirements will be met, with a majority of the requirements completed.
4-5	Acceptable	One or two major strengths, and two minor strengths, no more than a couple minor weaknesses, and no major weaknesses identified. Moderate probability and confidence that the submission requirements will be met, with a majority of the requirements completed.
6-7	Marginal	Acceptable probability for the submission requirements will be met, the major strengths, and if minor strengths, minor weaknesses and/or one or more minor weaknesses identified. Low probability that the submission requirements will be met, with a majority of the requirements completed.
8-9	Unsatisfactory	Insufficient low probability that the submission requirements will be met.

**SAVE INITIAL REVIEW COMPLETE**



# Scoring Criteria

## Description of the Issue

- Does the applicant define the specific problem they seek to address and how it was impacted by COVID-19 (if any)?
- Does the applicant describe the process used to assess, analyze, or determine the nature of the problem and explain any gaps in resources or limitations in funding the program without COVID-19 response (ARPA) funding?
- Does the applicant identify the geographic boundaries of the proposed jurisdictions/communities, and the ZIP code(s), as well as the population size and demographic makeup of the population of both the overall jurisdiction and the communities where the project is proposed?



# Scoring Criteria

## Project Design and Implementation

- Does the applicant identify the program objectives and describe the vision for the target population, specifically how this vision will address the problems identified in the Description of the Issue section and the broader impact to communities, jurisdictions, or industries?
- Is each objective measurable and identify strategies to achieve the objectives?
- Does the applicant include a comprehensive timeline (as an attachment in the supporting documentation section) that identifies milestones, numerically lists deliverables, and indicates who is responsible for each activity?
- Does the applicant propose to build a broadband network owned, operated by, or affiliated with local governments, non-profits, and co-operatives?



# Scoring Criteria

## Capabilities and Competencies

- Does the applicant demonstrate their capabilities to implement the project and the competencies of the staff assigned to the project to include the financial management of funding?
- Does the applicant detail the level of support for the project, as well as the expertise of the individual(s) who will be responsible for managing the project?
- Does the application indicated how they will monitor strategy implementation and achievement of objectives?



# Scoring Criteria

## Capabilities and Competencies

- Does the applicant demonstrate their ability to manage and monitor any subaward(s)?
- Does the applicant indicated how it will govern changes or modifications to the strategy and ensure project and fiscal accountability?
- Does the applicant identify a plan for collecting, collating, and submitting timely performance data?



# Scoring Criteria

## Performance Measures/Plan for Collecting the Data

- Does the applicant describe the process for measuring project performance, identify who will collect the data, who is responsible for performance measurement, and how the information will be used to guide and assess the program?
- Does the applicant demonstrate understanding of performance data to be collected and reported?
- Does the applicant identify the criteria that will determine how and if the objectives have been successfully met and one or more specific measurable outcome(s) and the data sources that will be used to determine whether the outcome was accomplished?





# Scoring Criteria

## Budget

- Did the applicant submit a budget that is complete, reasonable, cost effective, and allowable?



# Scoring Criteria

## Matching Funds

- Does the applicant have match funds?
- The more funding an applicant has, the more points they will receive.
- As an example, an applicant with no match could receive 0, an applicant with 10% could receive 2 points, etc. depending on how you choose to score.



## Next Steps

- Await updated FAQs
- Register for portal account when open
- Email communications from Jen Wade with specific committee guide sheets
  - These guides will contain more information on eligible projects as well as lists of facilities in list of **facilities in priority compliance categories**
  - Examples of eligible projects, etc.



## Next Steps

- Follow-up instructions one week prior to individual reviews
- Tentatively set collaboration session based on volume of awards



# Questions

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Applicants with specific questions may reach out to:

[Jennifer.wade@opb.Georgia.gov](mailto:Jennifer.wade@opb.Georgia.gov) for Broadband Infrastructure

[Jasmine.Lewis2@opb.Georgia.gov](mailto:Jasmine.Lewis2@opb.Georgia.gov) for Water/Sewer Infrastructure

[Sameerah.Anderson@opb.Georgia.gov](mailto:Sameerah.Anderson@opb.Georgia.gov) for Negative Economic Impact