



Improving Neighborhood Outcomes in Disproportionally Impacted Communities

American Rescue Plan
State Fiscal Recovery Funds



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Overview

Program Total: \$250,000,000

Awards may be made up to up to \$ 2,000,000 per project. OPB reserves the right to fund, in whole or in part, any, all, or none of the applications submitted in response to this NOFO.

Application: Available at <https://opb.georgia.gov/improving-neighborhood-outcomes-disproportionally-impacted-communities>

Application Period: September 1 – November 18, 2022
(11:59pm EST)



Eligible Applicants:

- A unit of local government
- County
- Non-profits
- The project must occur within a Qualified Census Tract

Reimbursement Method: These funds will be made available for reimbursement for eligible activity through reimbursement. Please review our [post award FAQs](#) for more information on reimbursements.

Additional Requirements: All eligible applicants must have (and maintain) and active Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) from SAM.gov



Program Overview

Investments in neighborhood features, including parks, recreation facilities, sidewalks, and healthy food access, can work to improve physical and mental health outcomes. Allowing people access to nature, including parks, has been connected to decreased levels of mortality and illness and increased well-being. Urban park use during the COVID–19 pandemic may have declined among lower-income individuals. Encouraging physical activity can also play a role in health outcomes, as a sedentary lifestyle is a risk factor for chronic diseases and more severe COVID–19 outcomes. Parks, recreation facilities, and sidewalks can promote healthier living environments by allowing for safe and socially distanced recreation during the COVID– 19 pandemic.



Program Overview

The US Treasury final rule includes enumerated eligible uses in disproportionately impacted communities for developing neighborhood features that promote improved health and safety outcomes, such as parks, green spaces, recreational facilities, sidewalks, pedestrian safety features like crosswalks, projects that increase access to healthy foods, streetlights, neighborhood cleanup, and other projects to revitalize public spaces.

The final rule also recognizes that the public health impacts of the pandemic are broader than just the COVID–19 disease itself and include substantial impacts on mental health and public safety challenges like rates of violent crime, which are correlated with a neighborhood's-built environment and features.



Qualified Census Tract Dashboard

- Applicants must use the [Georgia QCT Tract Dashboard](#) to verify that the project proposed resides within a Qualified Census Tract (QCT) in the state. Applications received that are not within a QCT will not be eligible for review. The September 1-November 18, 2022 application for this program will require the QCT ID for your proposed projects.



QCT Verification Steps

1. Go to the QCT Dashboard
2. Select County Name, hit apply
3. Select Zip Code, hit apply
4. Zoom in to view the QCT by street level to see if the proposed address falls within the QCT
5. Click Home to reset your map view if you want to start over



Eligible Applicants

All ARPA applicants must have an organization, or subrecipient, that will serve as the fiduciary agent and assume overall responsibility for the grant. Eligible ARPA applicants include:

- A unit of local government
- County
- Non-profits
- The project must occur within a Qualified Census Tract
- Due to the timeframe of the grant preference will be given to projects focusing on revitalization and renovation.



Eligibility

1. Development of or improvements/maintenance to parks or recreational facilities in Qualified Census Tracts in Georgia.
2. Funding for increased repair or maintenance needs to respond to significantly greater use of public facilities during the pandemic (e.g., increased use of parks resulting in damage or increased need for maintenance).

Applicants must use the [Georgia QCT Tract Dashboard](#) to verify that the project proposed resides within a Qualified Census Tract (QCT) in the state. Applications received that are not within a QCT will not be eligible for review.



Eligible Project Costs

Allowable costs are determined in accordance with the cost principles identified in 2 C.F.R. Part 200, Subpart E. Federal funds committed to an award may only be used to cover allowable costs incurred during the period of performance for eligible activity outlined by the program category allowable activity.

All applicants are subject to reporting and auditing requirements per federal guidelines and OPB terms and conditions.

Recipients of SFRF must align to policy requirements under 2 CFR 200.



Policy Requirements

The following 2CFR policy requirements apply to 21.027 assistance listing for Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF), Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (CSFRF) and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CLFRF):

- Subpart B, General provisions
- Subpart C, Pre-Federal Award Requirements and Contents of Federal Awards
- Subpart D, Post Federal; Award Requirements
- Subpart E, Cost Principles
- Subpart F, Audit Requirements

*Additional requirements may be placed on awards are outlined in an executed terms and conditions agreement to accept the award.



Scoring Criteria

Description of the Issue (30%)

Project Design and Implementation (30%)

Capabilities and Competencies (15%)

Performance Measures (10%)

Budget (15%)

Note: Match funding is encouraged but not required.



Description of the Issue (30%)

All Categories:

- Describe the type of proposed neighborhood feature to promote improved health and safety outcomes.
- Describe and quantify the types of resources and features of or on the property
- Describe the current uses (if any) or disposition of the property to be acquired or developed, if uses will need to be discontinued, or the site rehabilitated. If there are any existing non-outdoor recreation or other non-public uses that are intended to continue on the property on an interim or permanent basis and/or proposed in the future, these should be explained.



Description of the Issue (30%)

- Describe constraints of the property (e.g., existing development; easements, rights-of-way, above ground/underground utilities; etc.).
- Applicants requesting funds for increased repair or maintenance needs to respond to significantly greater use of public facilities during the pandemic must describe the significant increase in use of the facility to be repaired or maintained with requested funds.



Description of the Issue (30%)

Combination Projects:

If your project does not propose acquisition, please enter "N/A" in the box below and continue to the next section.

Development:

- Describe the planned physical improvements and/or facilities, and the reason(s) such development is needed. Explain whether the work involves new development or rehabilitation or replacement of existing recreation facilities.



Description of the Issue (30%)

Acquisition:

- Provide a description of the property (including the current ownership) and an explanation of the need for its acquisition.
- State whether the acquisition would create a new public park/recreation area or if it will expand an existing site, and if so, by how much.
- Describe the plans for developing the property for recreation purposes after acquisition and the timeframe for the start and completion of development and when it will be open for public use.
- Describe the status of the acquisition, including negotiations with the landowner and development of due diligence materials such as title work and appraisal.



Project Design and Implementation (30%)

- Provide a description of the proposed activities and how the activities will engage with the community and any community partners that will be involved, if applicable. Applicants should identify the program objectives and ensure each objective is measurable and identify strategies to achieve the objectives. Applicant must describe how the organization will ensure project completion by October 31, 2026,
- Additionally, applicants must include a comprehensive timeline (as an attachment in the supporting documentation section) that identifies milestones, the funding source for each milestone, numerically lists deliverables, and indicates who is responsible for each activity.



Capabilities and Competencies (15%)

- Applicants should demonstrate their capabilities to implement the project and the competencies of the staff assigned to the project to include the financial management of funding.
- The applicant should 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.
- Applicants should also demonstrate their experiencing managing projects with federal funding.



Performance Measures (10%)

- Applicants should 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. Successful applicants will demonstrate understanding of performance data to be collected and reported.
- For each project goal, applicants should 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.



Budget (15%)

- Applicants should submit a budget that is complete, reasonable, cost effective, and is an allowable use of the funding under the chosen category.
- The budget must be based on quoted estimates and calculations, not rounded guestimates. (All budget totals will require validation based on the calculation provided in the uploaded version so please ensure that you retain the documentation for the basis of all calculations in the requested budget.)



Budget (15%)

Note: The application will also require a detailed budget breakdown using our detailed budget worksheet. Please download the detailed budget worksheet here and upload in the document section of the application. Instructions for the detailed budget worksheet can be found here: <https://opb.georgia.gov/document/document/budget-worksheet/download>.



Application

<https://opb.georgia.gov/improving-neighborhood-outcomes-disproportionally-impacted-communities> .

Applicants will be required to complete the application and associated tasks. Applicants will be asked for a detail budget breakdown to include a breakout of cost categories within their budget narrative for the following:

- I. Land and Structures
- II. Architectural and Engineering Fees
- III. Site Work
- IV. Demolition and Removal
- V. Construction



Application

Applicants will also be required to provide the following:

- ✓ Project Images and Photos: Photos should show current site conditions, immediate needs, surrounding environment, and planned areas of work
- ✓ Plan or Sketch of the Site Features and Improvements: Identifying the location of planned recreational improvements or other features such as where the public will access the site, parking, etc. Can also be a plan layout or design from a qualified architectural or design professional.



Application

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Application

- ✓ Recreation Area Map: Map showing the location of the project and the surrounding vicinity within of the QCT.
- ✓ Identify the qualified firms the applicant intends to use, has used in the past, or has partnered together on for the project: General Contractors, maintenance contractors, fixture and equipment suppliers or firms, design, and engineering firms, etc.



Application Review and Award Process

- All applications will be reviewed for eligibility and completeness, and then evaluated based the priorities and criteria identified herein. Recommendations will be made to the governor for final selection.
- All applications will be reviewed and evaluated according to the scoring criteria, priorities, and preferences outlined in the NOFO.
- All award results will be posted on OPB's website and applicants notified in writing.



Grant Agreement and Terms and Conditions

- An applicant selected for funding through the Improving Neighborhood Outcomes in Disproportionally Impacted Communities Grant Program that wishes to accept this award must execute the Grant Program Terms and Conditions within 60 days of award announcements.
- The State will not accept proposed changes or amendments to the Terms and Conditions.
- Failure or refusal to comply with this requirement will result in award funds being rescinded.



Grant Program Timeline

August 26, 2022: NOFO Release

September 1, 2022: Application Period Begins

September 6, 2022: Virtual Applicant Workshop

November 18, 2022: Application Window Closes. Applications due by 11:59 PM EST (OPB Staff will be available until 5pm for technical assistance)

November 19-December 19, 2022: Application Review

January 2023: Final Recommendations and Preliminary Awards Announced (Date is dependent upon the volume of applications received)



Period of Performance

All funds must be expended by October 31, 2026, which is the end of the period of performance. The awardee may use Improving Neighborhood Outcomes in Disproportionally Impacted Communities Grant funds to cover costs incurred beginning from the date of award approval by OPB through October 31, 2026.

Only new projects that have not started at the time of the release of this NOFO are eligible for the Improving Neighborhood Outcomes in Disproportionally Impacted Communities Grant Program.



Reporting

OPB will collect information from awardees as part of their reporting requirement outlined by Treasury in The Compliance and Reporting Guide and in the Terms and Conditions agreement between OPB and the grantee. The current version is located here for reference: <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Compliance-and-Reporting-Guidance.pdf>.

Additional reporting may be requested by OPB through the lifecycle of the grant.



Oversight

Subrecipients awarded funding through the Improving Neighborhood Outcomes in Disproportionally Impacted Communities Grant Program will be subject to audit or review by the Treasury Inspector General and Government Accountability Office.

Additionally, all subrecipients will undergo a subrecipient monitoring program.



Contacts

Program specialist: Jasmine Esquilin, jasmine.esquilin@opb.georgia.gov

For general questions on our grant programs, applicants may also reach out to grants@opb.georgia.gov.