Understanding & Unpacking the American Rescue Plan

An Arras Foundation Clearinghouse

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A healthier community, together.

In our mission to grow a healthier community for all people, we seek to weave together **community assets** – people, places, and organizations – so that all can thrive.

For this reason, we have developed a guide to help community leaders, elected officials, and advocates understand and implement the **American Rescue Plan** (ARP).

Our hope is that this Clearinghouse not only serves as an **informative resource for decision making**, but also as a starting point for **conversation and collaboration** among the many different leaders and groups who wish to use this **unique opportunity** to work together and better our communities for today, and tomorrow.

The Opportunity

The American Rescue Plan (APR) delivers an unprecedented amount of financial support to communities and organizations for responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The ARP provides various avenues of financial support, including direct relief, grant expansion, and extension of CARES Act programs, that will allow communities to meet their unique needs.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Local governments, community advocates, and non-profits have a unique opportunity to use this funding to rebuild and restore their communities for the better by:

1. Listening and **engaging diverse voices** in their communities
2. Addressing **immediate needs** of the community
3. Investing in **long-term solutions** that mitigate future risk
4. Building on **community assets** for current and future generations

The Arras Foundation Clearinghouse

1. **PROVIDES THE BIG PICTURE VIEW**
   Outlines all the different avenues of funding to help decision makers take a step back and consider the overall intent of the funding and how they can best use it

2. **DEEPENS UNDERSTANDING OF GUIDELINES**
   Unpacks the Treasury's intentionally broad usage guidelines to help decision makers understand how they can and cannot use funding

3. **IDENTIFIES OPPORTUNITIES FOR MAXIMIZING FUNDS**
   Cross-examines the direct recovery fund usage against additional funding to identify funding gaps or opportunities for collaborating that may maximize investment and minimize duplication

4. **OUTLINES KEY CONSIDERATIONS**
   Highlights other important factors outside of the usage guidelines that may be important to consider during the decision-making process (e.g., community needs, additional policy, etc.)

Overview of Funding

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

State & Local Recovery

Direct recovery funds for state and local governments to address challenges emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic

South Carolina: $2.5B

Chester County: $8.9M

Lancaster County: $19M

Cities*: $142M

Small Towns*: $435M

Education

Combination of direct funding to school districts and state education agencies as well as grants to support education institutions

Healthcare

Financial support for critical health programs that expand access to community and support the public healthcare workforce

Food & Housing

Extension of public benefit programs to support high-need households in securing access to basic necessities

Community Development

Support for a wide range of funding categories related to community development, from small business assistance to public transportation improvement

Capital Projects Fund

Additional funding for critical capital projects that directly address the COVID19 crisis

South Carolina: $188M

Awaiting further guidance from Treasury Department, as of May 11, 2021

*Cities: Populations over 50K
*Small Towns: Populations under 50K

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Part I: Local & State Direct Recovery

Overview of Direct Recovery Funds

Receiving Direct Recovery Funds:

WHEN: State, County, and Municipal governments can now request funds directly from the Treasury Department. Non-Entitlement units of government can request funds from the State and should receive funds within 30 days of distribution

DISTRIBUTION:

- Local governments will receive funding in two tranches, the second one 12 months after the first.
- The State will receive all funding in a single tranche

DEADLINE: December 31, 2024 to spend all received funds

ELIGIBILITY: State and local governments can transfer funds to local community groups and non-profits for permissible uses

$2.5B
State of South Carolina

$999M
South Carolina Counties

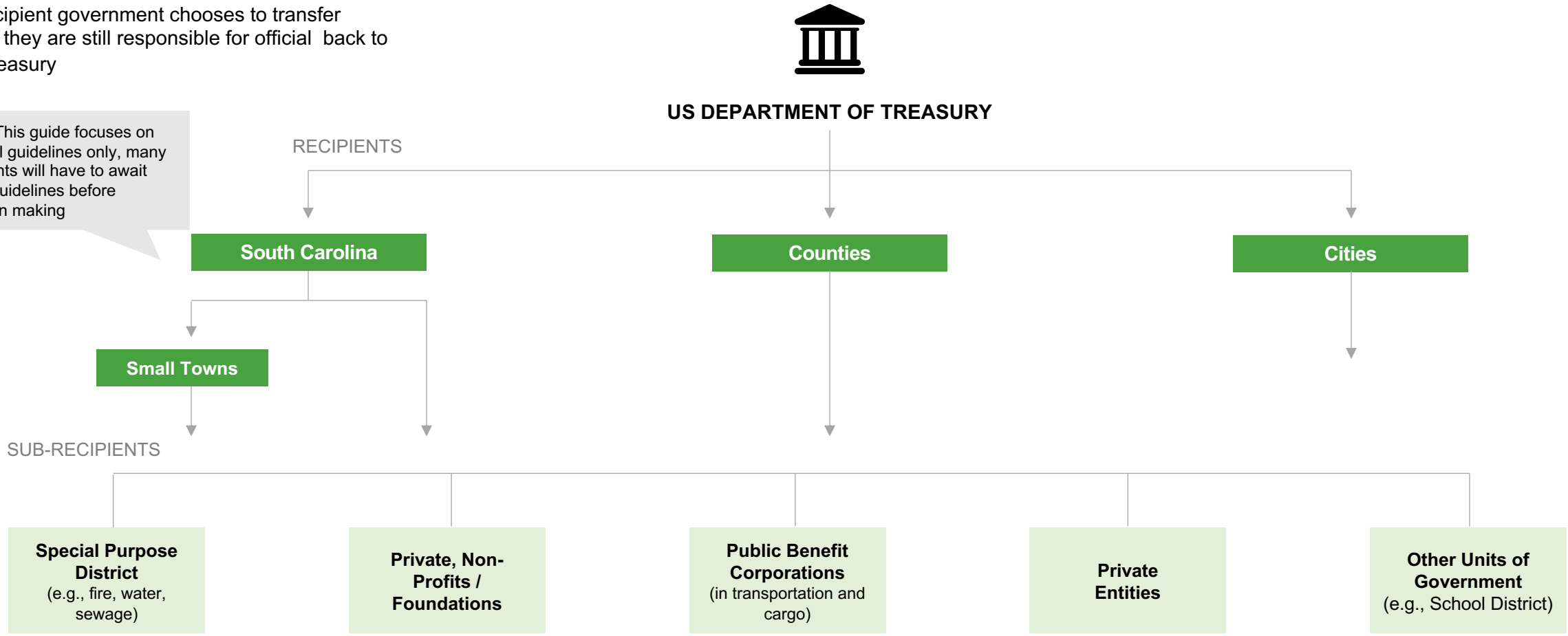
$142M
South Carolina Cities

$435M
South Carolina Small Towns
(Population < 50K)

Eligible Sub-Recipients

UNDERSTANDING SUB-RECIPIENTS:
Subrecipients can use funds within guidelines to ensure efficient and effective distribution. However, if a recipient government chooses to transfer funds, they are still responsible for official back to the Treasury

Note: This guide focuses on Federal guidelines only, many recipients will have to await State guidelines before decision making



Introduction: Usage Guidelines

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

To ensure funding can be used to address challenges specific to each community, official usage guidance is intentionally broad. However, funds must be used to address problems that have emerged directly from the pandemic and are not to be used for investments unrelated to the pandemic.

GUIDANCE CATEGORIES:

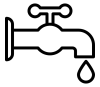
Containing the Spread of COVID-19

Investing in Public Health

Mitigating Economic Impact

Supporting Disproportionately Effected Communities

Premium Pay for Essential Workers



Investing in Infrastructure

Replacing Lost Revenues

How funding to allocated across these categories is entirely up to the discretion of local decision makers…

Containing the Spread of COVID-19

Permitted uses of recovery funds within this category:

- ✓ **Medical Expenses** (e.g., Covid-19 testing, vaccination roll-out, PPE)
  Ex: Public telemedicine program for COVID-19 related treatment and monitoring
- ✓ **Expanding Healthcare Capacity** (e.g., investments in alternative care settings)
  Ex: Converting a local event space to host COVID-19 patients and take pressure off local hospitals
- ✓ **Capital Investments at Public Buildings/Hospitals/Clinics** (e.g., physical plant improvements, mitigation tactics)
  Ex: ICU infrastructure improvements at public hospital to stop the spread of COVID-19
- ✓ **Containment** (e.g., contact tracing, quarantine, safety measures in group living facilities and schools)
  Ex: Sanitation protocol at local correctional facility to slow the spread among incarcerated individuals
- ✓ **Public Health Surveillance** (e.g., monitoring for variants, genomic sequencing)
  Ex: University led research to study the impact of long-COVID on local population
- ✓ **Enhancement of Public Health Data** (e.g., data and IT infrastructure)
- ✓ **Enforcement of Public Health Orders**
- ✓ **Public Communication Efforts** (e.g., Public Health or vaccination campaigns)
  Ex: Awareness campaigns focused on vaccine access and availability
- ✓ **Ventilation Improvements in Key Setting** (e.g., healthcare, nursing homes, incarceration facilities, schools)

Additional Related Funding

Additional, separate funding within the ARP that may overlap with permitted uses:

- ✓ Grants for COVID-19 testing and vaccines
- ✓ Provider Relief Fund (Medicare & Medicaid Providers)
- ✓ Community Health Grants (Federally Qualified Health Centers)
- ✓ Public Health Workforce Funding

Restrictions on Usage

- All investments must directly address needs and challenges emerging from the Pandemic

Investing in Public Health

Permitted uses of recovery funds within this category:

- ✓ **Behavioral Health Care** (e.g., treatment, substance misuse, community care, hotlines, crisis intervention, overdose)
  Ex: Community mental health program targeted at youth in crisis
- ✓ **Expanding Access to Health** (e.g., services and outreach to promote access to primary care and preventative medicine)
- ✓ **Public Health & Safety Staff** Payroll and covered benefits for services directly devoted to responding to the health crisis (Note: all public health and safety officials are deemed 100% dedicated to the crisis)
- ✓ **Design and Execution of Public Health Programs** (e.g., targeted outreach, data/technology, infrastructure, impact evaluation)
  Ex: Survey research to understand the efficacy of mobile vaccine sites in fighting vaccine hesitancy
- ✓ **Address Public Health Disparities:** The following uses are permitted if used in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT) community or those disproportionately impacted by the pandemic
  - ✓ **Funding Community Health Workers** (e.g., to expand access to services that address social determinants of health)
    SDOH: Conditions that affect an individual's health such as housing, wealth, food access, environment, education, race, neighborhood safety
  - ✓ **Public Benefits Navigators** for helping members understand and apply for public benefits
  - ✓ **Housing Services** to support health, mental and physical living
  - ✓ **Remediation of lead paint** and other lead hazards
  - ✓ **Evidence-based community violence intervention** for prevention and mitigation

Additional Related Funding

Additional, separate funding within the ARP that may overlap with permitted uses:

- ✓ Community Mental Health Services Block Grant (SC: $21.5M)
- ✓ Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment Block Grants (SC: $19.2M)
- ✓ CDC Public Health Workforce Supplemental Funding (SC: $31M)

Restrictions on Usage

- All investments must directly address needs and challenges emerging from the Pandemic
- Funding to alleviate health disparities must focus on groups indisputably disproportionately affected

Mitigating Economic Impact of Covid-19

Permitted uses of recovery funds within this category:

- ✓ **Assistance to Unemployed Workers** (e.g., job trainings, rehiring programs)
  Note: Eligible workers in this category are those that were unemployed before, during, or directly after the pandemic
- ✓ **State Unemployment Insurance Trust Funds:** Restoring levels up to pre-pandemic balances as of 1/27/20
- ✓ **Assistance to High-Need Households** (e.g., food assistance, rent, mortgage, utilities, counseling/legal aid for eviction or homelessness, burials, home repairs, weatherization, internet access, digital literacy)
  Ex: Cash transfer program focused on low-moderate income families facing economic harm from COVID-19
- ✓ **Efficacy of Economic Programs** (e.g., data analysis, targeted outreach, infrastructure, impact evaluations)
  Ex: Targeted campaign raising awareness of employment assistance programs in low-income communities
- ✓ **Financial Assistance to Non-Profits/Small Businesses** (e.g., mitigate loss in revenue, payroll, benefits, mortgage/rent, operating costs)
- ✓ **COVID-19 Response for Non-Profits/Small Businesses** (e.g., contact tracing, cleaning efforts, social distance, etc.)
- ✓ **Rehiring State, Local, Tribal staff** (e.g., payroll, covered benefits, and rehiring costs to get staff to pre-pandemic levels)
- ✓ **Aid to Impacted Industries** (e.g., tourism, travel, and hospitality)
  Ex: Supporting tourism companies with funds to implement COVID-19 mitigation (e.g., safety, sanitation, social distancing)

Additional Related Funding

Additional, separate funding within the ARP that may overlap with permitted uses:

- ✓ Paycheck Protection Program
- ✓ Economic Industry Disaster Loan
- ✓ SNAP 15% Benefit Increase
- ✓ Emergency Rental Assistance (SC: $274M)
- ✓ HOME Partnerships Program (SC: $26M)
- ✓ Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (SC: $35M)

Restrictions on Usage

- Responses to harm must be reasonable and in response to harm caused by the pandemic
- Industries must have been impacted by Covid- 19 pandemic
- No contributions to Rainy Day funds
- No settling debt incurred before March 3, 2021

Supporting Disproportionately Effected Communities

Permitted uses of recovery funds within this category when serving individuals in QCTs or in communities disproportionately impacted by pandemic:

- ✓ **Investments in Housing + Neighborhoods** (e.g., homelessness services, affordable housing development, housing vouchers, residential counseling, housing navigation assistance)
  Ex: Grants to transitional housing organization to help cover annual operating costs
- ✓ **Investments in Education** (e.g., expand early learning, pre-K, Head Start, financial assistance to high need school districts)
- ✓ **Investments in Students** (e.g., tutoring, summer, afterschool, mental and social health programs)
  Ex: Hiring of supervisors for afterschool programs for K-12 students
- ✓ **Early Childcare** (e.g., childcare programs, home visiting programs for young families, child foster + welfare services)
  Ex: Grants to non-profit that offers community services related to positive parenting and coping mechanisms
- ✓ **Investments to avoid cuts** to government services that will help stimulate economic growth and recovery

Additional Related Funding

Additional, separate funding within the ARP that may overlap with permitted uses:

- ✓ Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (SC: $1.5M)
- ✓ Family Violence and Prevention Programs (SC: $1.8M)
- ✓ Emergency Rental Assistance (SC: $274M)
- ✓ HOME Partnerships Program (SC: $26M)
- ✓ ESSER Funds (SC: $2.1B ; Lancaster: $25M ; Chester: $15M)
- ✓ Child Care & Development Block Grants
- ✓ Child Care Stabilization Funds (SC: $437M)
- ✓ Head Start

Restrictions on Usage

- All funding must impact communities who have been impacted disproportionately

Providing Premium Pay for Essential Workers

Permitted uses of recovery funds within this category:

Premium Pay: Increases a workers' total pay up to $13/hr. in addition to the wages they otherwise would receive, and does not exceed $25,000 per worker

Essential Work: Any work involving regular in-person interactions or regular physical handling of items that were also handled by others

Premium pay funding and grants should prioritize low-income workers in the following occupations:

- ✓ Staff at nursing homes, hospitals, and home-care settings
- ✓ Workers at farms, food production facilities, grocery stores, and restaurants
- ✓ Janitors and sanitation workers
- ✓ Public health and safety staff
- ✓ Truck drivers, transit staff, and warehouse workers
- ✓ Childcare workers, educators, and school staff
- ✓ Social service and human services Staff

Tip: Prioritize workers who have not yet been compensated with premium pay, and provide this retroactively – **Dept of Treasury**

Restrictions on Usage

- Cannot pay for work that was conducting remotely or online
- Cannot increase pay over 150% of residing State's or County's average annual wage must be reported and justified
- Premium pay cannot be used as substitute for a worker's normal earnings

Investments in Infrastructure

Permitted uses of recovery funds within this category:

- ✓ Infrastructure projects that support labor and community benefits agreements that offer wages at or above the prevailing rate and offer employment opportunities to local workers

Water and Sewer Infrastructure

- ✓ Improve and/or repair wastewater treatment plants
- ✓ Control non-point sources of pollution (e.g., pollution that comes from many different sources like urban runoff) and protect waterbodies from pollution
- ✓ Strengthen infrastructure to protect against weather events
- ✓ Ensure compliance with drinking water regulations (e.g., improve failing treatment and distribution systems, upgrade lead distribution lines)
- ✓ Wastewater Infrastructure (e.g., manage/treat storm water, facilitate water reuse, secure publicly owned treatment, cyber security for infrastructure)

Broadband Infrastructure

- ✓ Provide at least 100mbps, unless impossible due to geographic location
- ✓ Appropriate speeds must consider uses (e.g., health consultations, education, remote work)
- ✓ All projects must focus on underserved communities that currently lack reliable internet

Restrictions on Usage

- All infrastructure projects must respond to public health need and could not be fully funded by private sources
- Hiring practices must lean on the local economy to job start job market

Tips:

- Prioritize water projects in communities where quality of water is impacting health
- Consider investments in “green” projects that respond to effects of climate change (e.g., rain gardens, green streets, etc.)
- Invest in broadband providers that are owned, supported, or operated by local governments or non-profits
- Avoid broadband investments in areas that have existing agreements to implement broadband by 12/31/24
- Cross check funding with Infrastructure Bill

General Restrictions

Given that the intent of all Fiscal Recovery Funds is to respond to the immediate needs and emerging challenges from the pandemic the following uses of funding of prohibited across funding categories:

X PENSION FUNDS

Fund cannot be used as deposits if the payment is unrelated to the COVID-19 pandemic and if the payment occurs outside regular timing

Note: Pension does not equal payroll or covered benefits (e.g., leave, insurance, retirement, unemployment)

X OFFSET LOSS DUE TO TAX CUTS

Funds cannot be used offset a reduction in tax revenue that resulted from a change of law or administrative interpretation during the fiscal year 2020

Illustrative “Do’s and Don’ts” of usage

Permissible Use of Funding:

- ✓ Increasing stock of N95 respirators at local community hospital
- ✓ Providing premium pay for workers at local food packaging facility
- ✓ Supporting employee benefits at local hardware store in order to continue operations
- ✓ Funding afterschool programs in a high-need school district where at least 30% of students come from families below the poverty line
- ✓ Covering sanitation costs for locally-owned gym and recreation center so they can re-open safely

Not Permissible Use of Funding:

- × Purchasing additional brain imaging technology at local hospital
  Although benefit to a hospital, this technology is not necessary for responding to the COVID-19 health crisis
- × Providing premium pay for local bank administrators
  Because these employees can work remotely and are not handling objects used by others, these are not essential workers
- × Contributing to Rainy Day fund for the same store to prepare for future decreases in revenue
  Local Fiscal Recovery funds are intended to address the needs of the pandemic not prepare for other future economic harm
- × Providing learning enrichment summer programs for students at a local private elementary school
  Under these guidelines school funding should be reserved for high need students who have experience the most harm
- × Supporting operating costs of local deli that successfully launched a local delivery service during the pandemic
  Support for small business should only be used for businesses who suffered directly from the pandemic

Key Considerations for Decision Making

1. Prioritize Immediate Needs

The purpose of the ARP is to address needs that have risen from the pandemic, and these most immediate needs should be addressed to minimize harm

2. Invest in "Future Proof" Projects

Invest in projects that prepare for future challenges such as climate change, future pandemics, technology needs, etc. to ensure the money goes as far as possible

3. Think Outside the Box

Consider non-traditional means of reaching people and making investments in order to ensure money is used effectively

4. Cross-Check with Additional and Upcoming Funding

Consider other funding that you will receive from this bill as well as additional policy in order to minimize duplication and overlap

5. Strategize Collaboratively

Work with community stakeholders to understand where there are gaps in funding or opportunities to support existing or complimentary efforts

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Part II: Education Funding

Overview of Education Funding

1. DIRECT RELIEF

ESSER III Funding: $2.1B
Support state education agencies and local school districts reopen safely and provide support services for students impacted by the Pandemic

Recipients: State Agencies, School Districts

Disabilities Education (IDEA): $42M
Funds to safely reopen schools and sustain safe operations for education institutions that provide services for students with disabilities

Recipients: State Agencies, Pre-Schools, Early Intervention Programs

2. STATE-LEVEL GRANTS

Child Care Stabilization Fund: $437M
Support federally qualified childcare providers in reopening help reopen safely and support staff and impacted children

Eligible: Qualified Providers (focus on low-income)

Child Care Development Block Grants: $273M
Expansion of grants subsiding childcare for low-income parents and families who are working, in school, or in occupational training

Eligible: Low-income parents

3. FEDERAL PROGRAMS + GRANTS

Head Start Funding:
Additional funding to support Head Start programs in expanding programming and engaging students and families impacted by COVID-19

Eligible: Head Start, Early Head Start, Early Head Start Child Care

Emergency Connectivity Fund:
Funding for reimbursement of internet access and technology devices for underserved students at schools and public libraries

Eligible: Schools, school districts, public libraries, counties that own public libraries

ELIGIBILITY KEY:

- Government/Government Agencies
- Non-profits/Community Orgs
- Individuals

Considerations for Direct Recovery Funds

WHAT DOES THIS ADDITIONAL FUNDING MEAN FOR INVESTING RECOVERY FUNDS:

1. **IMMEDIATE EDUCATION NEEDS ARE COVERED:**

   ESSER funding takes pressure off local governments to support education efforts, allowing them to focus on other immediate needs like unemployment, housing security, and infrastructure

2. **PLANNING CALLS FOR COLLABORATION:**

   Local decision makers should work with school officials during the planning process in case there are opportunities for recovery funds to supplement ESSER programs

3. **ADDITIONAL SUPPORT MAY BE NEEDED FOR CHILDCARE:**

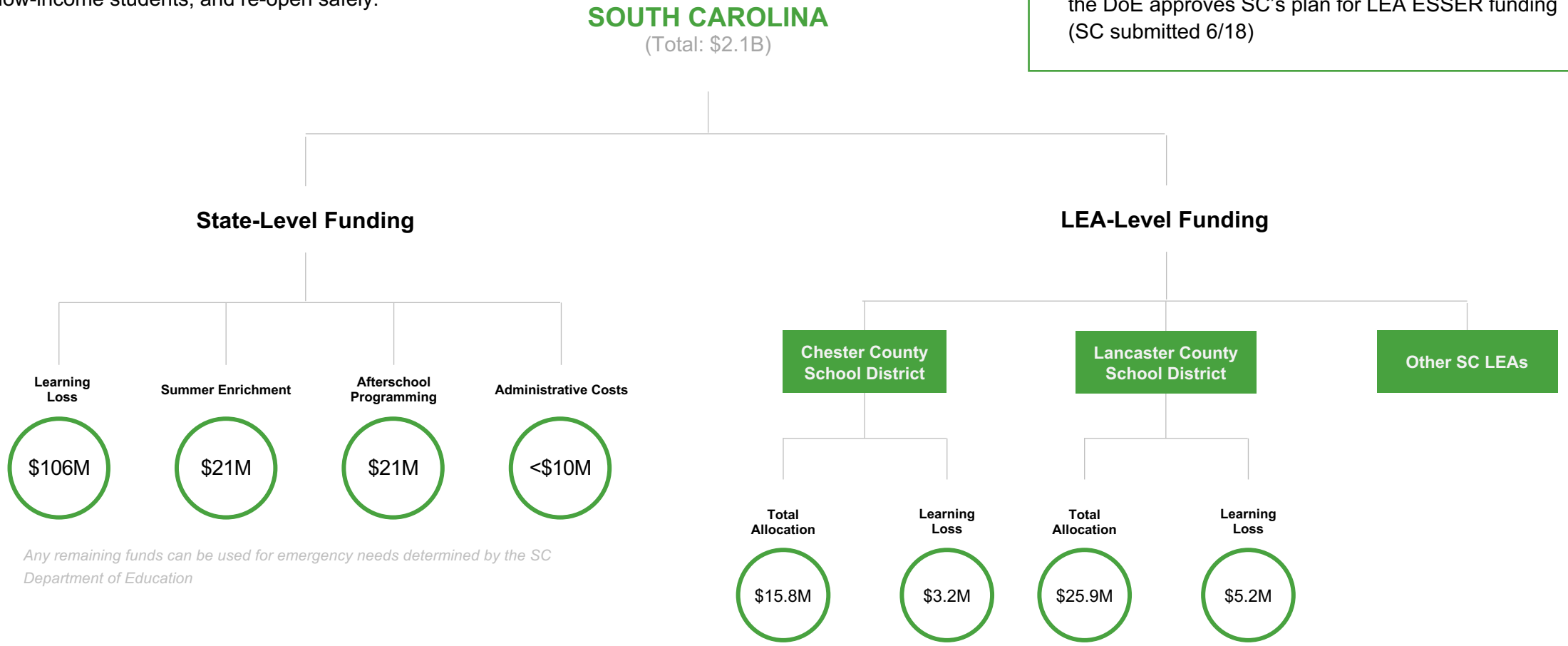
   The Childcare stabilization fund only covers providers, meaning that recovery funds may be an opportunity to support non-provider programs focused on healthy parenting, foster children, and early learning

ESSER III Funding Allocations

The ARP extends funding for ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) to support support public schools address learning loss, provide support for low-income students, and re-open safely.

Timing:

- On May 24th 2/3 of ESSER funding was made available for immediate use to safely reopen schools
- The remaining third of funding will be available once the DoE approves SC's plan for LEA ESSER funding (SC submitted 6/18)



Any remaining funds can be used for emergency needs determined by the SC Department of Education

ESSER III Permissible Uses

1. Maintaining Healthy & Safe Reopening

In accordance with the CDC's latest guidelines, all LEAs should use ESSER funds to safely reopen schools and mitigate the spread of COVID-19

EXAMPLES:

- Adopt policies for reopening schools
- Enforce the wearing of masks
- Invest in modifications to facilities to accommodate social distancing (e.g., cohorts or pods)
- Accommodate children with disabilities
- Provide necessary sanitation and cleaning
- Improve ventilation
- Implement contact tracing
- Provide vaccinations in schools

2. Addressing Emotional, Social, Academic Needs

LEA should also use funding for the emotional & social needs from COVID-19, particularly for students who were disproportionately impacted

- Hire additional personnel (e.g., counselors, teachers, nurses, psychologists)
- Investment in mental health programs to support students
- Implement accelerated learning strategies
- Provide necessary technology for any hybrid learning needs
- Invest in necessary food programs

3. Accommodating Learning Loss (20%)

20% must go to addressing learning loss from the pandemic via evidence-based programs for disproportionately impacted students

- Summer learning programs
- Summer enrichment programs
- Extended days / extended school years
- Comprehensive afterschool programs

How ESSER III Differs from CARES Act ESSER Funding:

ARP ESSER III Funding:

- SEA must award funds to LEAs within 60 days of receiving funds, not 12 months
- Funds are available for use through September 30, 2023
- LEAs are required to use 20% of funds for evidenced based interventions for learning loss
- ESSER III funds may not be used for non-public schools (Support for non-public schools is provided through a separate program)

ESSER III Planning for LEAs

PROCESS: How to Develop an ESSER Plan

The Department of Education requires that each LEA publicly submit a plan to the SEA detailing how the ESSER funding will be used.

Stakeholder Consultation:
All LEAs are required to consult stakeholders to understand community needs and ensure that investments are made in high need students. These stakeholders include students, families, administrators, teachers, civil rights organizations, and other community advocates for disadvantaged students.

Public Availability:
LEAs must ESSER plans publicly available to their communities for comments and input

Plans Due to SCDE: by August 24, 2021

CONTENT: What must be included in an ESSER Plan

An LEA's ESSER plan must include the following:

1. **Reopening:** How funds will be used to mitigate Covid-19 and implement the latest CDC guidelines around reopening schools
2. **Learning Loss**: How the LEA plans to use 20% of funds to directly address the loss of instructional time through evidence-based programs
3. **Remaining Funds**: How the LEA plans to use the remaining funds if not used for learning loss or reopening
4. **Equitable Funding**: How the LEA will use funding to respond to the academic, social, emotional and mental health needs of students who were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic (e.g., low-income, students facing homelessness, students in foster care, migratory students)
5. **Demonstrate Consultation**: Demonstrate clearly how the LEA incorporated the voices of additional stakeholders to develop this plan

Part III: Healthcare Funding

Overview of Healthcare Funding

ELIGIBILITY KEY:

- Government/Government Agencies
- Non-profits/Community Orgs
- Individuals

1. PROVIDER RELIEF

Community Health Centers & Community Care
Grants to FQHCs for activities related to mitigating spread of COVID-19

Recipients: Federally Qualified Health Centers

Emergency Rural Development Grants for Rural Health Care
Emergency pilot program to support providers in rural, low-income areas

Recipients: TBD

Rural Provider Relief:
Expands the Provider Relief Fund to reimburse Pandemic related medical expenses and costs

Recipients: Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP enrolled providers

2. PUBLIC HEALTH

Public Health Workforce: $31M
Funding to expand and arm the public health workforce to combat COVID-19, including hiring and benefits

Recipients: State Public Health Agency

COVID-19 Mitigation: $256M
A variety of direct funding from CDC to combat COVID-19 pandemic via public health organizations

Recipients: State Public Health Agency

3. MENTAL HEALTH

Community Mental Health Services Block Grants: $21.4M
To support addressing mental health needs of underserved communities

Eligibility: Community mental health providers, non-profits

Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment Block Grants: $19.2M
To support those who are struggling with SU and those impacted by it

Eligibility: Non-profits

Project AWARE - SEA
Increases awareness of and training for mental health in young people

Recipients: SC Dept of Education

4. MEDICAL TRAINING

- Expansion of Nurse Corps
- Expansion of National Health Service Corps
- Expansion of Teach Health Centers (e.g., Primary Care residency programs)

Note: Gray indicates no-action required funding, but is important to understanding how funding is being distributed in the bill

Considerations for Direct Recovery Funds

WHAT DOES THIS ADDITIONAL FUNDING MEAN FOR INVESTING RECOVERY FUNDS:

1. **PUBLIC HEALTH NAVIGATORS MAY MAXIMIZE PROGRAMS**

   There is an opportunity to use recovery funds to hire public health navigators as a means of creating new jobs and ensuring health programs reach the audiences that need them the most

2. **PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING MAY HAVE LONG-TERM BENEFITS:**

   As local governments receive funding to expand their community health workforce, there is opportunity to support this expansion with occupational training programs that upskill workers and set them up for success in a post-pandemic job market

3. **COLLABORATION WITH HEALTH SECTOR IS NEEDED:**

   Local decision makers can work with local healthcare providers to fill in gaps where the provider relief funding may fall short, including capital investments or telemedicine programs that may better equip providers for future health emergencies

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Part IV:
Food & Housing

Overview of Food & Housing Funding

ELIGIBILITY KEY:

- Government/Government Agencies
- Non-profits/Community Orgs
- Individuals

1. FOOD SECURITY FUNDING

SNAP Administration: $2.9M ('21)
Provides funding to support administrative needs from SNAP expansion and modernization over the next 3 years

Recipients: State SNAP Administrators

WIC Extension:
Provides funding to expand WIC benefits into the Fall by increasing Cash-Value Voucher/Benefit for Fruit and Vegetable up to $35 per month

Recipients: Low-income individuals

2. HOUSING SECURITY FUNDING

Emergency Rental Assistance: $273M
Additional funding to support high-need families maintain stable housing via rent and utilities coverage as well as administrative services

Eligible: State Governments, Low-income households

HOME Partnership Program: $26.7M
Expands funding for HOME program to help address issues of homelessness including housing stabilization programs and development of affordable housing

Eligible: State Governments, non-profits, community organizations

Home Energy Assistance Program: $35M
Provides additional funding for States to provide financial assistance to low-income households for utilities, weatherization, etc.

Eligible: State Governments, Low-income households

Household Water Assistance Program: $8.4M
Provides funding to support low-income households with keeping clean, running water

Eligible: State Governments, Low-income households

Emergency Assistance Rural Housing
Provides direct housing assistance to those living in USDA rural areas

Eligible: Rural households on USDA land

Note: Gray indicates no-action required funding, but is important to understanding how funding is being distributed in the bill

Considerations for Direct Recovery Funds

WHAT DOES THIS ADDITIONAL FUNDING MEAN FOR INVESTING RECOVERY FUNDS:

1. **PUBLIC BENEFIT NAVIGATORS MAY MAXIMIZE IMPACT**

   To ensure public benefit programs are utilized equitably, local decision makers can hire public benefit navigators to help high need community understand how to access the programs and assistance made available to them

2. **OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT LARGE CAPITAL NEEDS:**

   Since other parts of the ARP expand funding for utilities and water to individual households, recovery funds can be reserved for larger infrastructure projects that address underserved communities

3. **RURAL RESIDENTS ARE COVERED:**

   For local decision makers who have rural constituents, the USDA's direct financial support to these households can take the pressure of local recovery funds to support these families and focus on wide scale projects

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Part V:
Community Development

Overview of Community Development

ELIGIBILITY KEY:

- Government/Government Agencies
- Non-profits/Community Orgs
- Individuals

1. FUNDING FOR BUSINESS + CULTURE

National Endowment of the Arts:
Grant awards to arts and culture organizations that have been heavily impacted by the pandemic

Recipients: Non-profits, Local art agencies, State or local government

Economic Injury Disaster Loans:
Increase funding available to small businesses and non-profits

Recipients: Small businesses, Non-profits

Rural Transportation Grants: $1.1M
Formula grants for states to increase transportation access and quality in rural areas

Recipients: State or local government, Non-profits Operators of public transportation, Intercity bus service

2. FUNDING FOR FAMILIES

Family Violence Prevention: $1.8M
Expands formula grants for services and organizations focused on individuals and children who experience violence in the home

Eligible: State, Non-profits, community groups

Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment: $1.5M
Expands State grants to help improve child protective services system

Eligible: Direct funding to SC DSS

Community Based Child Abuse Prevention: $3.7M
Expands formula grants for services directed at children who experience abuse

Eligible: State, Non-profits, community groups

Family Planning Grants
Supports grant funding for Title X family planning and reproductive health grants

Eligible: Non-profits, community groups, and county health departments

Considerations for Direct Recovery Funds

WHAT DOES THIS ADDITIONAL FUNDING MEAN FOR INVESTING RECOVERY FUNDS:

1. **RESPONSIBILITY TO SMALL BUSINESSES**

   The ARP does not include much additional funding related to small businesses and therefore it will fall on local governments to ensure that these businesses, particularly those within impacted industries, can get back on their feet

2. **COLLABORATATION WITH NON-PROFITS IS NECESSARY:**

   Local decision makers can collaborate and engage with non-profits to understand where there is grant funding gaps for critical community services

3. **BOOSTING LOCAL ECONOMIES:**

   Funding for community development is focused on critical community programs, which leaves the space for local recovery funds to be used in the form of economic growth through premium pay, job creation, etc.

Our North Star

We envision the communities we serve as places where all people join together to build on community assets for current and future generations, and where all people have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

arras foundation

Thank you!