



STATE OF ARKANSAS  
**Department of Finance  
 and Administration**

**OFFICE OF BUDGET**  
 1509 West Seventh Street, Suite 402  
 Post Office Box 3278  
 Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-3278  
 Phone: (501) 682-1941  
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[www.arkansas.gov/dfa](http://www.arkansas.gov/dfa)

June 7, 2024

Senator Jonathan Dismang, Co-Chair  
 Representative Frances Cavanaugh, Co-Chair  
 Performance Evaluation & Expenditure Review Committee  
 Arkansas Legislative Council  
 State Capitol Building  
 Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: FY 25 American Rescue Plan Act Request

Dear Co-Chairs:

Pursuant to Section 36 (01) of Act 152 of 2024, I am forwarding the attached American Rescue Plan Act request(s) that have received my approval as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

1. University of Arkansas at Little Rock – State Small Business Credit Initiative  
 Technical Assistance Grant Program \$450,000
2. Department of Education – School for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired – Van  
 and Bus Purchase and Updated Technology \$71,326
3. Department of Education – School for the Blind – Van and Bus Purchase  
 and Updated Technology \$142,068
4. Department of Education – Office of Early Childhood – Local Food  
 Purchase Assistance \$1,661,418
5. Department of Education – Office of Early Childhood – Child Care  
 Development Block Grant \$24,256,464
6. Department of Education – Office of Early Childhood – First Connections  
 \$404,909
7. Department of Commerce – Economic Development Commission –  
 Broadband Capital Projects \$153,464,651

Pursuant to Section 36 (02) of Act 152 of 2024, I am forwarding the attached American Rescue Plan Act request(s) that have received my approval as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

8. Department of Commerce – Economic Development Commission – Rural  
 Connect Program \$4,676,938



STATE OF ARKANSAS  
**Department of Finance  
and Administration**

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**  
1509 West Seventh Street, Suite 401  
Post Office Box 3278  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-3278  
Phone: (501) 682-2242  
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- |   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 9. Department of Education – Division of Elementary and Secondary Education – LEARNS Implementation                                       | \$49,700,000 |
| 10. Department of Agriculture – Water Related Projects, Wastewater and Stormwater Projects, Irrigation Projects                           | \$60,000,000 |
| 11. Department of Transformation and Shared Services – State and Local Recovery Funds – Workforce   | \$11,999,148 |
| 12. Department of Commerce – Division of Workforce Services – Heightened Industry Readiness Through Educational Development Grant Program | \$48,002,353 |

Sincerely,

James L. Hudson  
Secretary

Attachment(s)

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION  
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST  
SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024**

**C.2.a.** FY25

Agency: University of Arkansas at Little Rock Business Area Code: 0145

Program Title: State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI) Technical Assistance (TA) Grant Program

Granting Organization: U.S. Department of Treasury CFDA #: 21.031

Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 7/1/2024 Ending: 6/30/2025

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):  
The SBBCI TA Grant Program provides financial assistance to eligible recipients to carry out TA plans, under which eligible recipients will provide legal, accounting, and financial advisory services to very small businesses (VSBs) and business enterprises owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals (SEDI-owned businesses). The SSBCI TA Grant Program is intended to assist VSBs and SEDI-owned businesses that are currently applying, preparing to apply for, or have previously applied for the SSBCI Capital Program or another Federal or jurisdiction program that supports small businesses.

**American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding**

Func. Area: UNIV  
Funds Center: D56

Fund Code: 201ARPA  
Internal Order/WBS Element: \_\_\_\_\_

Direct Funding: X  
State: \_\_\_\_\_  
Continuation: \_\_\_\_\_

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	234,250
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	54,852
Operating Expenses	18,900
Conference & Travel Expenses	21,647
Professional Fees	3,500
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	
Other: 5080021100	116,851
Other:	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 450,000</b>

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 12/06/2028

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**DFA IGS State Technology Planning Date**  
Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.

**Positions to be established: (list each position separately)**

\* unclassified positions only

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

**State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.**

Approved by:  05/14/2024  
Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Date

Robert Brech 06/06/24  
Office of Budget Date

Office of Personnel Mgmt Date

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION  
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST  
SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024**

**C.2.b.** FY25

Agency: Arkansas School for the Deaf Business Area Code: 0513

Program Title: American Rescue Plan-Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Fund (ARP-ESSER)

Granting Organization: USDE via ADE: Division of Elementary & Secondary Education CFDA #: 84.425U

Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 7/1/2024 Ending: 6/30/2025

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):

The school has requested to reallocate funds from personnel and contract lines to increase the technology and transportation budget. Newer vans and buses with handicap accessibility are needed to transport students. Updated technology is needed to provide interactive and efficient instruction.

**American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding**

Func. Area: EDUC Fund Code: FRP5130 Direct Funding:  X  
 Funds Center: AH9 Internal Order/WBS Element: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Continuation: \_\_\_\_\_

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	
Operating Expenses	
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	
Other: ARPA Grant	71,326
Other:	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 71,326</b>

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 9/30/25

<b>DFA IGS State Technology Planning</b>	<b>Date</b>
Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.	
* unclassified positions only	

**Positions to be established: (list each position separately)**

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Comnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.

Approved by:  Date: 06/06/24  
 Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director      Office of Budget      Office of Personnel Mgmt

CH 5/14/24

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION  
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST  
SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024**

**C.2.c**

**FY25**

Agency: Arkansas School for the Blind Business Area Code: 0510

Program Title: American Rescue Plan-Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Fund (ARPESSER)

Granting Organization: USDE via ADE: Division of Elementary & Secondary Education CFDA #: 84.425U

Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 7/1/2024 Ending: 6/30/2025

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):  
The school has requested to reallocate funds from the personnel lines to increase the technology and transportation budget. Newer vans and buses with handicap accessibility are needed to transport students. Updated technology is needed to provide interactive and efficient instruction.

**American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding**

Func. Area: EDUC Fund Code: FRP5100 Direct Funding:  X  
Funds Center: AH8 Internal Order/WBS Element: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
Continuation: \_\_\_\_\_

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	
Operating Expenses	
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	
Other: ARPA Grant	142,068
Other:	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 142,068</b>

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 9/30/25

**DFA IGS State Technology Planning** Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.

**Positions to be established: (list each position separately)**

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Comnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.

Approved by: [Signature] Date: 06/06/24  
Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Office of Budget Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Office of Personnel Mgmt Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION  
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024** **C.2.d.** **FY25**

Agency: ADE - OEC Business Area Code: 0500

Program Title: Local Food Purchase Assistance (LFPA)

Granting Organization: USDA CFDA #: 10.182

Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 7/1/2024 Ending: 6/30/2025

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):  
 These funds are being provided by the USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMD) and are to be utilized for those food banks and food distributors interested in the program within the state of Arkansas who distribute food to individuals and families. It will provide an opportunity to purchase fresh and processed foods from local, socially disadvantaged farmers and producers. The distribution of this food is intended for underserved areas of the state by The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). The coherent goal for the grant funding is to build relationships between our TEFAP agencies and local farmers and producers to improve the accessibility of locally grown and produced food for the individuals, child, and families of Arkansas.

**American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding**

Func. Area: EDUC Fund Code: FRP5007 Direct Funding: X  
 Funds Center: BW7 Internal Order/WBS Element: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Continuation: \_\_\_\_\_

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	
Operating Expenses	
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	
Other: ARPA Grant	1,661,418
Other:	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,661,418</b>

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 9/30/25

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**DFA IGS State Technology Planning** **Date**  
 Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.

**Positions to be established: (list each position separately)**

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

**State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.**

Approved by:   
 Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Robert Brech 06/06/24  
 Office of Budget \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Office of Personnel Mgmt \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION  
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024** **C.2.e.** **FY25**

Agency: ADE - OEC Business Area Code: 0500

Program Title: Child Care Development Block Grant

Granting Organization: Admin for Children and Families CFDA #: 93.575

Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 7/1/2024 Ending: 6/30/2025

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):  
OEC is requesting the continuation of the ARPA Child Care Supplemental funds. The funds are being used for the T.E.A.C.H. (Teacher Education and Compensation Helps) Early Childhood Scholarship Program. Early childhood teaching staff or directors who are employed 20 hours per week in a licensed child care center or family home are eligible to apply for a scholarship. Scholarships are awarded based on need and commitment to early childhood education.

**American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding**

Func. Area: EDUC  
Funds Center: BW7

Fund Code: FRP5008  
Internal Order/WBS Element: \_\_\_\_\_

Direct Funding:  \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_  
Continuation: \_\_\_\_\_

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	
Operating Expenses	
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	
Other: ARPA Grant	24,256,464
Other:	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 24,256,464</b>

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 9/30/25

<b>DFA IGS State Technology Planning</b>	<b>Date</b>
Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.	

**Positions to be established: (list each position separately)**

\* unclassified positions only

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Comnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

**State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.**

Approved by:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Date

Robert Brech 06/06/24  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Office of Budget Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Office of Personnel Mgmt Date

CH 5/13/24

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION  
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024**

**C.2.f. FY25**

Agency: ADE - OEC Business Area Code: 0500  
 Program Title: First Connections  
 Granting Organization: Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) CFDA #: 84.181  
 Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 7/1/2024 Ending: 6/30/2025

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):  
 First Connections is funded by a federal grant under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) and supports a comprehensive early intervention network to serve parents of children birth to three with developmental disabilities and delays. First Connections helps families of program-eligible infants and toddlers know their rights, advocate for the child and family, and know how to help their child learn and develop. ARPA funding will be used to carryout the plan to improve technological infrastructure to allow for efficient interfacing with other systems, providing e-sign capabilities, and updating the website. ARPA funds will also be used to increase public awareness, provide additional training to both provider and parents, and invest in the workforce to help better serve families. Additionally, funds will be spent on providers by offering fuel assistance stipends and enhancing assessment tools, supporting families by providing child enrichment materials and educational subscriptions, and educating the public about available services by offering more events and repurposing vans for rural outreach.

**American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding**

Func. Area: EDUC Fund Code: FRP5005 Direct Funding: X  
 Funds Center: BW7 Internal Order/WBS Element: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Continuation: \_\_\_\_\_

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	
Operating Expenses	
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	
Other: ARPA Grant	404,909
Other:	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 404,909</b>

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 9/30/25

M. Lyha Li 5/23/2024

**DFA IGS State Technology Planning Date**  
 Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.

**Positions to be established: (list each position separately)**

\* unclassified positions only

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

**State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.**

Approved by: [Signature]  
 Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Date

Robert Brech 06/06/24  
 Office of Budget Date

Office of Personnel Mgmt Date

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION  
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST **C.2.g.** FY25  
SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024**

Agency: COMM - AEDC - Broadband Business Area Code: 0790  
 Program Title: Broadband Capital Projects - CPF  
 Granting Organization: U.S. Department of Treasury CFDA #: 21.029  
 Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 7/1/2024 Ending: 6/30/2025

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):  
 The U.S. Treasury awarded the State \$158,086,576 from the Capital Projects Fund authorized under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPHA). CPF funding may only be used for broadband projects and related administrative expenses (salaries, personal service matching, maintenance & operating costs, professional fees and subgrants). This grant provides for four (4) positions. Requesting additional appropriation equal to the grant award and carryforward into FY25 for the continued operation of this program.

**American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding**

Func. Area: COMM Fund Code: FRP7905 Direct Funding: X  
 Funds Center: CA9/ Internal Order/WBS Element: A.0790.ARPRESERVEPLCPF State: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Continuation: \_\_\_\_\_

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	982,898
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	191,478
Operating Expenses	705,547
Conference & Travel Expenses	40,000
Professional Fees	5,655,717
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	145,889,011
Other:	
Other:	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 153,464,651</b>

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 06/30/2021 - 12/31/2026

**DFA IGS State Technology Planning Date**  
 Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.

**Positions to be established: (list each position separately)**

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *
2216687	EC01	NEL1	422075	22181569		ACOM Division Manager	G010C	GS12	101,175
2216687	EC01	NEL1	422075	22181645		Business Operations Manager	A116C	GS08	65,265
2216687	EC01	NEL1	422075	22181646		Assistant Controller	A031C	GS11	90,670
2216687	EC01	NEL1	422075	22181647		Admin Service Manager	G076C	GS10	81,257

State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.

Approved by:  5/19/24 Date  
 Cabinet Secretary Agency Director  
 Robert Brech 06/06/24 Date  
 Office of Budget  
 Kay Franklin  5/21/24 Date  
 Office of Personnel Mgmt



JLH 05-16-2024

**Broadband Grant Monthly Financial Report**

Grant Award Capital Projects  
 Period 2/4/2022 - 12/31/2026  
 Amount 158,086,576.00

Cost Center  
 Fund  
 Fund Center  
 WBS

Subgrants	Admin
502170	4220075
FRP7905	FRP7905
CA9	CA9A
A.0790.ARPRESUCUECPF-R	A.0790.ARPRESUCUECPF-A
A.0790.ARPRESUCUECPF-E	

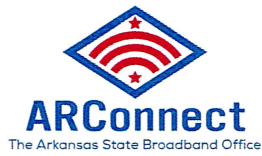
Reporting Period: 4/29/2024

CI	Description	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Revised Budget	Expend 6/30/23	Expend 4/29/24	Total Expend	Committed	ASIS Remaining Aptrn	Realign Aptrn FY 25
00	Salaries		650,000.00	650,000.00		95,451.15	95,451.15		554,548.85	982,898.00
01	Extra Help			0.00			0.00		0.00	
03	Fringe		350,000.00	350,000.00		28,972.22	28,972.22		321,027.78	191,478.00
02	M & O		50,000.00	50,000.00		20,436.86	20,436.86		29,563.14	705,547.00
04	Subgrants	147,251,108.00	(1,125,426.58)	146,125,681.42		4,347,568.97	4,347,568.97	30,699,900.52	111,078,211.93	145,889,011.00
09	Travel			0.00			0.00		0.00	40,000.00
10	Prof Services		950,000.00	950,000.00		129,495.93	129,495.93		820,504.07	5,655,717.00
11	Capital Outlay			0.00			0.00		0.00	
46	CI 46			0.00			0.00		0.00	
	Total	147,251,108.00	874,573.42	148,125,681.42	0.00	4,621,925.13	4,621,925.13	30,699,900.52	112,803,855.77	153,464,651.00

unappropriated 9,960,894.58  
 blocked 1,125,426.58

Funds Summary	
Award	158,086,576.00
Drawn	4,621,925.13
Committed	30,699,900.52
Funds Remaining	122,764,750.35

112,803,855.77 AASIS Aptrn  
 9,960,894.58 Aptrn Needed



**Arkansas State Broadband Office – Plan Updates, SFY 2024  
Detailed Plan Updates**

**Capital Project Fund-Broadband  
CA9 FRP7905**

U.S. Treasury awarded the State of Arkansas \$158,086,576 from the Capital Projects Fund (CPF) authorized under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Funding from the CPF is separate from the \$1.6 billion in funding awarded under the ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program. Unlike the SLFRF program, which may be spent in a variety of authorized categories, the CPF award from Treasury specifies that it may only be used for broadband projects and related administrative expenses (regular salaries and personal services matching for staff; fees for management consultants and strategic program design advisory services and program management support; costs related to project engineering design and review; legal expenses related to project management support; media and communications expenses, educational related expenses to educate and teach citizens how to use and utilize broadband services; payroll for extra help staff or contract labor). Treasury allocated \$15,236,576 to be used for broadband projects with the balance of \$7,850,000 to be used for broadband administrative expenses through 2026. This broadband project funding was awarded to 22 projects across the state in the October 2022 ARC funding round, approved by ALC and JBC in December 2022 and February 2023, respectively. The availability and use of funds is subject to all applicable State and Federal laws including guidance from Treasury regarding CPF established by Section 604 of the Social Security Act, as added by Section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Supplementary guidance may be published at any time by Treasury and/or the State. Capital Projects must invest in capital assets designed to directly enable work, education, and health monitoring. The CPF grant program has been designed to address the critical need for high-speed, reliable connectivity that was highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

PLAN UPDATES:

- Broadband infrastructure projects awarded, awaiting agreement execution and construction initiation:

<b>Awardee</b>	<b>County/Location</b>
CableSouth Media, LLC	Ashley
NEXT, Powered by NAEC	Baxter
Hometown Internet, LLC	Boone-B
Ashley-Chicot Electric Cooperative, Inc.	Chicot
South Central Connect, LLC	Clark
Connect2First Internet	Cleburne-A
Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	Cross
Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	Faulkner-B
Wave Rural Connect, LLC	Franklin
South Central Connect, LLC	Garland
South Central Connect, LLC/Central Arkansas Telephone Cooperative Inc.	Hot Spring
Farmers Rural Connect, Inc	Jackson
Wave Rural Connect, LLC/Cox Com, LLC	Logan-A
Wave Rural Connect, LLC	Logan-B
Connect2First Internet	Lonoke
Four States Fiber	Montgomery-A
South Central Connect, LLC	Montgomery-B
Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	Pulaski-A
Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	Pulaski-B
Petit Jean Electric Cooperative Corp	Searcy-B
Woodruff Electric Cooperative Corporation dba Enlightened	St. Francis

- A proposed awardee change for the Columbia County project.
- Utilizing allowable administrative funding, funding of four staff positions and personal services matching within the state broadband office. Two of the four proposed positions would serve as reclassifications of existing broadband office employees, while two other positions would offer additional capacity for the office.

Arkansas State Broadband Office

2024 Project Status Capital Projects Fund (CPF)

Currently, there have been 21 grants awarded for a value of \$136,812,351.82 They are at varying stages of project operations. Subgrant awards are as follows:

Project ID Number	Project Name	Internet Service Provider	Grant Award Amount
CPF-001	Ashley County	CableSouth Media III, LLC	\$7,921,193.22
CPF-002	Baxter County	NEXT, Powered by NAEC	\$2,151,269.00
CPF-003	Boone County-B	Hometown Internet, LLC	\$7,402,407.00
CPF-005	Clark County	South Central Connect, LLC	\$1,677,136.16
CPF-006	Cleburne County-A	Connect2First Internet	\$4,593,610.56
CPF-007	Columbia County	Walnut Hill Telephone Company	\$4,081,255.56
CPF-008	Cross County	Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	\$5,230,990.25
CPF-009	Faulkner County-B	Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	\$7,717,919.12
CPF-010	Franklin County	Wave Rural Connect, LLC	\$4,756,000.00
CPF-011	Garland County	South Central Connect, LLC	\$11,504,013.40
CPF-012	Hot Spring County	South Central Connect, LLC	\$2,660,631.50
CPF-12A	Hot Spring County	Central Arkansas Telephone Cooperative, Inc, now South Central Connect	\$1,919,080.00
CPF-014	Logan County-A	Wave Rural Connect, LLC	\$5,749,999.37
CPF-14A	Logan County-A	CoxCom, LLC	\$8,502,452.00
CPF-015	Logan County-B	Wave Rural Connect, LLC	\$9,000,000.00
CPF-016	Lonoke County	Connect2First Internet	\$10,947,298.10
CPF-017	Montgomery County-A	Southwest Arkansas Telecommunications and Technology, Inc dba Four States Fiber	\$11,009,162.57
CPF-21	Montgomery County-B	South Central Connect, LLC	\$8,716,204.80
CPF-18	Pulaski County-A	Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	\$3,884,359.41
CPF-19	Pulaski County-B	Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	\$1,574,886.53
CPF-20	Searcy County-B	Petit Jean Electric Cooperative Corp	\$6,137,177.37
CPF-22	St Francis County	Enlightened by Woodruff Electric, LLC	\$9,675,305.90
			\$136,812,351.82

We have contracted with Michael Baker International to be our third-party administrator managing all subgrant operations.

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION  
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST  
SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024**

**C.2.h.** State **FY25**

Agency: COMM - AEDC - Broadband Business Area Code: 0790

Program Title: Rural Connect Program

Granting Organization: U.S. Department of Treasury CFDA #: 21.027

Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 7/1/2024 Ending: 6/30/2025

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):  
Arkansas received federal funds for the Arkansas Rural Connect Grant Program to support essential broadband infrastructure improvements. This allows Arkansas to improve broadband within the State; assisting in the deployment or improvement of broadband infrastructure into unserved or underserved communities in Arkansas. This award allows for regular salaries, personal service matching, operating expenses, travel, subgrants and professional services. Requesting realignment of appropriation to include travel and professional services and continuation of the grant program into FY25.

**American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding**

Func. Area: COMM  
Funds Center: AY3/AY3B

Fund Code: FRP7904  
Internal Order/WBS Element: A.0790.ARPRESERVEPL23E  
A.0790.ARP21019ARAP21

Direct Funding: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: X  
Continuation: \_\_\_\_\_

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	285,000
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	110,000
Operating Expenses	
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	
Other: 509:00:46	4,281,938
Other:	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,676,938</b>

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 06/30/2021 - 12/31/2026

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**DFA IGS State Technology Planning Date**

Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.

\* unclassified positions only

**Positions to be established: (list each position separately)**

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

**State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.**

Approved by:  5/9/24  
Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Date

Robert Brech 06/06/24  
Office of Budget Date

Office of Personnel Mgmt Date





**Arkansas State Broadband Office – Plan Updates, SFY 2024  
Arkansas Rural Connect Program  
No Detailed Plan Updates**

There are no plan updates to the following program and fund. The Arkansas State Broadband Office formally requests continuation of the following:

**AY3 FRP7904**

To utilize funding provided under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, for continuation of the Arkansas Economic Development Commission’s Arkansas Rural Connect broadband program, grant awards, operations, purchase of equipment and construction expenses necessary to assist in the deployment or improvement of broadband infrastructure into unserved or improvement to unserved communities in Arkansas; cost of infrastructure equipment required to provide broadband network service; regular salaries and personal services matching for staff; fees for management consultants and strategic program design advisory services, including customizable software services and program management support; engineering costs for project design; legal costs related to the acquisition of real estate rights or easements; costs of media, electronics, cabling, and communications equipment; make ready costs for utility pole attachments; boring and splicing cost for infrastructure construction; educational related expenses to educate and teach citizens how to use and utilize broadband services; payroll for extra help staff or contract labor; to ensure timely and proper implementation of network construction, related equipment and material installation necessary to expand the broadband footprint in Arkansas. These funds will continue to support essential infrastructure improvements that will allow Arkansans to compete in today’s digital economy, enhance healthcare outcomes through telemedicine, and improve access to education.

Further, this appropriation provides for three staff positions established during FY22 for broadband office operations to address the need for broadband service in the areas of Arkansas that are still unserved and underserved. Additionally, due to recent broadband master plan’s recommended changes to the ARC program to 1) implement competitive bidding and 2) make awards utilizing census block groups, it was necessary to expand the scope of work performed by the ARC program’s contractors.

## Broadband Grant Monthly Financial Report

Grant Award State Broadband Office (SLRF)  
 Period 21 -12/31/2026  
 Amount 5,000,000.00

Uses: ASBO Salaries,  
Michael Baker contract, M&O

Cost Center 421969  
 Fund FRP7904  
 Fund Center AY3  
 WBS A.0790.ARPRESUEPL23R  
A.0790.ARPRESUEPL23E

Reporting Period: 4/29/2024 Project 140

CI	Description	Original Budget	Budget Revisions	Revised Budget	Expend 6/30/22	Expend 6/30/23	Expend 4/29/24	Total Expend	Committed	AASIS Remaining Appropriation	Realign Aprtn for FY25
00	Salaries	556,251.00		556,251.00		126,612.09	119,702.53	246,314.62		436,548.47	285,000.00
01	Extra Help	0.00						0.00		0.00	0.00
03	Fringe	328,069.00	40,411.58	287,657.42		29,479.49	35,201.08	64,680.57		252,456.34	110,000.00
02	M & O	100,000.00		100,000.00			12,067.00	12,067.00		87,933.00	144,770.55
04	Subgrants							0.00		0.00	0.00
09	Travel							0.00		0.00	25,000.00
10	Prof Services							0.00		0.00	4,112,167.26
11	Capital Outlay							0.00		0.00	0.00
46	Char 46	3,900,000.00		3,900,000.00				0.00		3,900,000.00	0.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,884,320.00</b>	<b>40,411.58</b>	<b>4,843,908.42</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>156,091.58</b>	<b>166,970.61</b>	<b>323,062.19</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>4,676,937.81</b>	<b>4,676,937.81</b>

Funds Summary	
Award	5,000,000.00
Drawn	323,062.19
Committed	0.00
Funds Remaining	4,676,937.81
AASIS Fund Bal	4,676,937.81

4,676,937.81  
aprtn

award 5,000,000.00  
 spent 323,062.19  
 remaining 4,676,937.81

To Do:  
 Set up to pay PSC CI-10 or CI04 from this fund  
  
 Move 46 to 10 or 04, TBD

Agency: ADE - DESE Business Area Code: 0500

Program Title: American Rescue Plan

Granting Organization: American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 CFDA #: 21.027

Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 7/1/2024 Ending: 6/30/2025

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):  
 The Arkansas Department of Education, Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, will use funds for the implementation of LEARNS. The first priority will be to continue the intensive support for literacy education through contracted literacy coaching and tutoring. The state's goal is to have 120 literacy specialist throughout the state to provide direct coaching and professional learning to all K-3 teachers in D/F schools. Additionally, funds will be made available for Supplemental Education Services and High Impact Tutoring. Both programs provide additional support to students who do not meet reading standards or are at risk of not meeting standards. Additional funding may be used to increase other LEARNS programs as funding is available. The Merit Teacher Incentive Program recognizes and rewards excellent teachers across the state with an annual bonus of up to \$10,000. DESE will also begin the Transportation Modernization Grant Program. This program will improve access to transportation for students and support transportation innovations and efficiency solutions.

**American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding**

Func. Area: EDUC Fund Code: FRP5010 Direct Funding: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Funds Center: E65 Internal Order/WBS Element: \_\_\_\_\_ State: X  
 Continuation: \_\_\_\_\_

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	
Operating Expenses	
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	
Other:	
Other: ARP Grant	49,700,000
<b>Total</b>	\$ 49,700,000

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 12/31/26

<b>DFA IGS State Technology Planning</b>	<b>Date</b>
Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.	

**Positions to be established: (list each position separately)**

\* unclassified positions only

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Comnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.

Approved by:  5/30/2024 Robert Brech 06/06/24  
 Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Date Office of Budget Date Office of Personnel Mgmt Date

	FY25	FY26
Literacy Coaches	6,200,000	6,200,000
Supplemental Education Services	8,500,000	8,500,000
High Impact Tutoring	20,000,000	20,000,000
Merit Teacher Incentive	10,000,000	10,000,000
Transportation Modernization	5,000,000	5,000,000
	49,700,000	49,700,000

**Literacy Coaches** - A.C.A. 6-17-429 (j)(1)(A) adds requirements for under-performing schools to have access to a literacy coach to support increased literacy rates through coaching for teachers and administrators. This new requirement is estimated to increase the number of literacy coaches across the state up to approximately 120. Funding to recruit and retain these professionals is included in the program.

The SEA will issue subgrants to regional education cooperatives that will in turn hire qualified literacy coaches to assist their member districts. This program is already in existence in the state, but this specific project will significantly increase the total number of literacy coaches working across the state in a very concerted effort to increase literacy rates.

Subgrants will be issued to each education cooperative at a flat rate per literacy coach to be added to that region. The number of coaches per education cooperative will be based on the number of students served in that region. The SEA expects this to be a formula grant that will result in various funding levels to individual coops but will be reflective of the need within the LEAs.

The SEA has already begun the process of recruiting additional literacy coaches using some state dollars. This demonstrates the state's commitment to this project and its intent to implement immediately.

**Supplemental Education Services** - A.C.A. 6-17-429 (j)(2)(A) establishes this new program to provide funding for eligible students to retain additional literacy tutoring services from state approved providers.

The SEA will provide up to \$500 per student for individual tutoring services. These services will be provided by approved tutors only. The program will be managed via an online portal in a similar manner as some other programs' equitable services to non-public schools and/or students. Parents will be allowed to choose from the state approved provider list. The funding will be paid to the provider upon services rendered and entered into the portal.

**High-Impact Tutoring Program** - A.C.A. 6-16-1601 et. al establishes this new program to ensure all students have access to tutoring services that accommodate each student's individual needs. The program provides funding for LEAs to retain tutoring services for all students. The SEA will issue subgrants to school districts and charter schools to provide this additional support to students.

The SEA intends to focus this initiative in three tiers of priority.

- The first tier will include LEAs with the most students testing at a deficient level on the most recent assessments. Other criteria for this tier include school report card data, federal school improvement grant recipients, and large student populations (ADM). Preliminary data analysis indicates approximately five LEAs will qualify for first tier subgrants.
- The second tier will broaden the focus to LEAs with the most students in third and fourth grades (23-24 school year) that scored as needing support or below on the most recent assessments. The SEA is targeting these grade levels because these are the students that would have been most impacted by school closures during the COVID 19 pandemic, as they were in kindergarten and first grade during that year. By having the start of their education interrupted, these students began their learning with a distinct disadvantage. High impact tutoring will help these students recover that most important learning time.
- The third tier will fully open to any and all LEAs in the state that apply.

All three tiers will be awarded on a competitive basis and funding amounts will be determined based on the needs contained in the winning applications.

**Merit Teacher Incentive Program** - A.C.A. 6-17-2901 et. al establishes this new program. The program recognizes and rewards teachers across the state with an annual bonus of up to \$10,000. Teachers are eligible based on multiple criteria some of which include:

- demonstrating outstanding growth in student performance
- serving as a mentor to aspiring teachers
- aspiring teachers in year long residencies
- teachers in subject areas or geographic areas identified as experiencing a critical shortage

**Transportation Modernization Grant Program** - A.C.A. 6-20-2701 et. al establishes this new program. This program will improve access to transportation for students and support transportation innovations and efficiency solutions. Grants will be available to districts, open enrollment charter schools, early childhood education programs, cities, counties, education service cooperatives, non profits, and other entities. Grants will be used to support appropriately insured improvements that increase access to transportation for students. This may include:

- transportation resource sharing with neighboring schools
- developing ride share programs or engaging neighborhood carpool strategies
- exploring the use of fleet vehicles
- using technology for more efficient routing
- addressing personnel shortages/challenges
- funding for parents

The Arkansas Department of Education intends to use ARP ESSER funds to support the initial activities under each of these three new academic support programs to boost student literacy rates, among other parameters. Details of the LEARNS Act are posted to the SEA's website at: <https://learns.ade.arkansas.gov/>.

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION  
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST  
SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024**

**C.2.j. FY25**

Agency: Arkansas Department of Agriculture Business Area Code: 9901  
 Program Title: American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Water Related Projects, Wastewater and Stormwater Projects, Irrigation Projects  
 Granting Organization: 117th Congress of the United States CFDA #: 12.027  
 Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 7/1/2024 Ending: 6/30/2025

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):  
Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Projects

- \$55,000,000 of the requested funding will be granted to approved communities across the state to address their water and wastewater infrastructure needs.
- Rural and small publicly owned water and wastewater systems projects
- \$5,000,000 of the requested funding will be granted to the Arkansas Rural Water Association to address rural and small publicly owned water and wastewater systems infrastructure needs.

**American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding**

Func. Area: COMM Fund Code: FRP9901 Direct Funding: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Funds Center: AZ1 Internal Order/WBS Element: \_\_\_\_\_ State: X  
 Continuation: \_\_\_\_\_

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	
Operating Expenses	
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	
Other: CI:51 (Sub FC: AZ1F)	55,000,000
Other: CI:52 (Sub FC: AZ1G)	5,000,000
Total	\$ 60,000,000

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 12/31/2026

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**DFA IGS State Technology Planning** Date  
 Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.

**Positions to be established: (list each position separately)**

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

**State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.**

Approved by: *[Signature]* 5-30-24 Robert Brech 06/06/24  
 Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Date Office of Budget Office of Personnel Mgmt



# ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Sarah Huckabee Sanders  
Governor

1 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205  
agriculture.arkansas.gov  
(501) 225-1598

Wes Ward  
Secretary of Agriculture

May 30, 2024

Senator Jonathan Dismang, Co-Chair  
Representative Frances Cavanaugh, Co-Chair  
Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review Committee Arkansas Legislative Council  
State Capitol Building  
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: American Rescue Plan Act Funding Request

Dear Senator Dismang and Representative Cavanaugh:

The Arkansas Department of Agriculture respectfully requests \$60,000,000 from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to be distributed as follows:

- \$55,000,000 of the requested funding will be granted to approved communities across the state to address their water and wastewater infrastructure needs. Projects will be funded based on their readiness to proceed to construction and expense all funds by December 31, 2026.
- \$5,000,000 of the requested funding will be granted to the Arkansas Rural Water Association to address rural and small publicly owned water and wastewater systems' infrastructure needs. Equipment would include portable meters, generators, pumps, and other equipment that can be deployed to water and wastewater systems to reduce service interruptions during emergencies.

I appreciate your consideration of this request and hope you will let me know if additional information is needed.

Respectfully,

Wesley W. Ward  
Secretary of Agriculture  
State of Arkansas

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION  
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST  
SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024**

**C.2.k.**

Agency: TSS Division of Information Systems Business Area Code: 0470  
 Program Title: State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds - Workforce  
 Granting Organization: DFA CFDA #: 21.027  
 Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 07/01/2024 Ending: 06/30/2024

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):

The initiatives proposed by this funding will develop and maintain a statewide shared services data infrastructure that will streamline workforce development, improve service delivery, and enhance Arkansas' economic growth through integrated data systems. These efforts are directly aligned with the Arkansas Workforce Strategy. Specifically, the project will:

- Support Workforce Initiatives: Expand and sustain efforts like LAUNCH to drive economic growth, align the educational pipeline with job creation, and move toward a citizen-centric service delivery experience.
- Achieve Cost Avoidance and Efficiency Gains: Reduce costs through the de-duplication of data and systems, increase process efficiencies, and enhance fraud reduction and program integrity.
- Provide Robust Data Services: Offer comprehensive services such as data cataloging, secure data sharing, data quality management, and artificial intelligence, creating a flexible foundation for responding to emerging state needs.

**American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding**

Func. Area: ADMN Fund Code: FRP470B Direct Funding: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Funds Center: \_\_\_\_\_ Internal Order/WBS Element: \_\_\_\_\_ State: x  
 Continuation: \_\_\_\_\_

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	
Operating Expenses	
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	
Other: 46	11,999,148
Other:	
<b>Total</b>	\$ 11,999,148

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 07/01/2024 - 12/31/2026

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**DFA IGS State Technology Planning** Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.

**Positions to be established: (list each position separately)**

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

**State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.**

Approved by: *Lorri Finken* 5/29/24  
 Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Date

*Robert Brech* 06/06/24  
 Office of Budget Date

Office of Personnel Mgmt Date

NT - 5/30/2024

## **0470 – TSS Division of Information Systems – Workforce Integrated Data System**

### **Total Amount to be Funded - \$ 11,999,148**

The State of Arkansas Department of Transformation and Shared Services (TSS), Division of Information Systems (DIS) is requesting the availability of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding of \$11,999,148 for implementation and support of strategic initiatives under the Arkansas Workforce Strategy.

This funding will be used to develop and maintain a statewide shared services data infrastructure and enterprise digital services for learners, jobseekers, and employers that will streamline workforce development, improve service delivery, and enhance Arkansas' economic growth. The initiatives supported by this funding are directly aligned with the Arkansas Workforce Strategy and are designed to significantly enhance our state's workforce development and integrated service delivery capacity.

Funding will be used to implement, expand, and sustain a skills-based learning, employment, and advancement platform, integrated service delivery infrastructure, interoperable digital credentials, and other key aspects of the Arkansas Workforce Strategy to drive economic growth, educational pipeline alignment, job creation, and economic self-sufficiency and mobility.

These capabilities are not only pivotal for the advancement of our current workforce initiatives but will also support goals of the PROTECT Arkansas and LEARNS Acts and other current and emerging state priorities by providing a robust and agile foundation for responding to emerging state needs.

The funding covers non-personnel capital and operating expenditures for fiscal years 2025 through 2027, including purchase of perpetual assets with a useful life beyond FY 2027. Long term sustainability is expected to be achieved through efficiency gains and cost avoidance through the deduplication of data, systems, and effort, increased process efficiencies, improved program integrity, and more effective service delivery.

We believe that the proposed data infrastructure is well-aligned with the key ARPA goals of economic recovery, support for vulnerable populations, investing in infrastructure, and promoting a resilient workforce to ensure long-term recovery and growth. This approach also aligns with recent changes in OMB Uniform Guidance for federal funding expanding allowable costs for state integrated data system capacity, streamlining processes, and improving program design and administration. The integrated data system approach aligns with the recommendations of the ALC Data-Sharing and Data-Driven Subcommittee and Task Force and the responsibilities of the Chief Data Officer (A.C.A. § 25-4-126) and the Arkansas Data and Transparency Panel (A.C.A. § 25-4-127).

**AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION  
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST SECTION 36 OF ACT 152 OF 2024**

**C.2.1**

FY25

Agency: Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services Business Area Code: 0810

Program Title Heightened Industry Readiness through Educational Development (HIRED) grant program

Granting Organization: U.S. Department of Treasury CFDA # 21.027

Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 7/1/2024 Ending: 6/30/2025

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):  
The Department of Commerce, Division of Workforce Services, requests \$48,002,353 provided under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, for grants for the Heightened Industry Readiness through Educational Development (HIRED) grant program. This funding will provide for grants in support of strategic workforce initiatives to identify, train, place, and improve workforce in the state.

**American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding**

Func. Area: COMM Fund Code: NEW Direct Funding: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Funds Center: NEW Internal Order/WBS Element: NEW State: X  
 Continuation: \_\_\_\_\_

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	
Operating Expenses	
Conference & Travel Expenses	
Professional Fees	
Capital Outlay	
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	48,002,353
Other:	
Other:	
Total	\$ 48,002,353

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 6/30/2025

**DFA IGS State Technology Planning Date**  
 Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to DFA IGS State Technology Planning.

**Positions to be established: (list each position separately)**

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

**State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.**

Approved by:  5/30/24 Robert Brech 06/06/24  
 Cabinet Secretary/Agency Director Date Office of Budget Date Office of Personnel Mgmt Date



Jacob Oliva  
Secretary of Education



Hugh McDonald  
Secretary of Commerce

## **WORKFORCE STRATEGY INVESTMENT PROPOSAL**

*June 2024*

### **SUMMARY**

A competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) designed to invest in strategic workforce training focus areas aligned with the Arkansas Workforce Strategy will be released with up to \$88M of total funds available through ADHE Workforce Initiative grant funding and ARPA funds (pending Arkansas Legislative Council approval).

### **APPLICATION/RFP PROCESS**

To effectively communicate with all stakeholders and strategically utilize these funds, there will be one RFP process with two tracks of funding for the Workforce Strategy Investment. The RFP will set clear expectations for applications, including but not limited to:

- Alignment (both funding and operational) between industry and institutions.
- Demonstration of workforce need and industry participation/partnerships.
- Outcomes and goals including increased capacity, credentialing, jobs, and placement opportunities, etc.
- Demonstrated return on investment and long-term viability.

The RFP will open on June 24. Applicants must submit a Letter of Intent by July 8, designating which targeted industry sector their proposal addresses, consistent with the focus areas identified in the Arkansas Workforce Strategy. The Evaluation Committee (comprised of representatives from the Department of Commerce, Department of Education, Chief Workforce Officer, and other critical state partners) will review letters of intent to determine which funding source or combination of sources is the best match for proposals and may invite applicants to submit full proposals by July 22.

The Committee will review and score applications using the rubric(s) in the RFP. Further information and negotiation with applicants may be required/requested by the Committee. The Committee will establish the maximum amount of funds to be awarded per project and the maximum number of awards an entity can receive.

Titling of RFP: HIRED – Higher Industry Readiness through Educational Development

### **FUNDING AMOUNT**

- Up to \$48M ARPA (pending ALC approval June 2024)
- Up to \$40M ADHE Workforce Initiative Grants (funds of up to \$8M annually allocated to ADHE through previous legislation)