



## Frequently Asked Questions

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## **General**

### **What is ARISE?**

- [\*\*Appalachian Regional Initiative for Stronger Economies \(ARISE\)\*\*](#) is a new ARC initiative that aims to drive **large-scale**, regional economic transformation through **multistate, collaborative projects** across Appalachia.
- With the additional funding provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, also known as the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021*, ARC launched ARISE to strengthen Appalachian business and industry, and to grow and support the development of new opportunities across multiple states.

### **Why ARISE?**

- To create long-term, broadscale economic impact in the region, it's critical for [Appalachia's 13 states](#) to collaborate and work together as much as possible.
- ARISE encourages our states to think as one united Appalachia to have a transformational impact across the region. This means supporting initiatives that encourage ARC states to collaborate across state lines as one, united Appalachia.

### **What types of projects can qualify for ARISE?**

- ARISE projects must address at least one of [ARC's five strategic investment priorities](#): 1.) building workforce developments, 2.) building businesses, 3.) building infrastructure, 4.) building regional culture and tourism, or 5.) building leaders and community capacity.
- ARISE projects must also include partnerships and collaboration across multiple states. Projects must serve and benefit at least 2 states within the Appalachian Region, but they do not need to be contiguous.

### **Who is eligible for an ARISE grant?**

1. Local development districts (LDDs);
2. Indian tribes or a consortium of Indian tribes;
3. States, counties, cities, or other political subdivision of a state, including a special purpose unit of a state or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions;
4. Institutions of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education;
5. Public or private nonprofit organizations or associations.

## **Application Specifics**

### **What is the deadline for ARISE 2022 grant applications?**

- There are currently no hard deadlines on ARISE grant applications. Concept papers and full applications for ARISE grants will be accepted on a rolling basis, but ARC will prioritize reviewing complete applications on a quarterly basis as funds remain available.

### **What types of grants are available?**

- Planning grants and Implementation grants.
- Planning grants can help communities put together partnerships and vision to drive strong applications. ARC encourages partners to apply for a planning grant before an implementation grant is considered to yield a compelling implementation proposal. However, planning grants are not a prerequisite to applying for an implementation grant.

### **What is the maximum project time for planning grants and implementation grants?**

- ARC is generally expecting planning grants to last one year and implementation grants to last up to five years. This said, if a longer timeline is explained or extensions are needed, ARC could consider diverging from this timeframe.

### **What is the maximum funding amount for planning and implementation grants?**

- Of the total \$73,500,000 set-aside for ARISE, at least \$10 million will be available for planning grants. Up to \$500,000 can be requested for each planning grant.
- The remaining \$63.5 million will be available for implementation grants. Up to \$10 million can be requested for an implementation grant, though ARC has the discretion to diverge from the max on a case-by-case basis.

### **What are the steps in the application process?**

First, review the [ARISE Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#) carefully. If you believe you have a concept that fits with the initiative:

1. First, consult your [ARC State Program Managers](#). You must consult **ALL** program managers in ALL states your project idea impacts. You must work with your program managers *before* developing and submitting a concept paper to ARC.
2. Next, submit a [Concept Paper \(guidance on page 6 of ARISE RFP\)](#) to [ARISE@arc.gov](mailto:ARISE@arc.gov). It will then be reviewed and screened for the next phase of the application process.

3. After concept papers are reviewed and screened, applicants may be invited to submit a full application. Instructions on how to submit a full application will be provided in the invitation to apply.

### **Will a match be required? If so, how will the match rate be calculated?**

- Yes, match rates on ARISE projects are calculated following standard ARC matching procedures. Details about matching or cost sharing requirements for ARC grants are available at here – [Match Requirements for ARC Grants](#).

### **What needs to be included in an ARISE application?**

- Refer to the RFP sections on [Concept Paper \(page 6\)](#) and [Criteria for and Guidance on Planning/Implementation Grants \(page 9\)](#) for more information on application requirements and how they will be reviewed.

### **What else do I need to know before submitting an ARISE application?**

- Eligible entities must first work with ARC state program managers before developing and submitting a concept paper to ARC. Doing this ensures that proposals are aligned with state Appalachian economic development plans and strategy statements.
- Keep in mind that projects must serve and benefit at least 2 states within the Appalachian Region, but they do not need to be contiguous. There must be at least 1 partner in each state impacted by a proposed project. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, but the review of complete applications will be prioritized on a quarterly basis as funds remain available. Please understand that if ARC issues an invitation to apply, that should not be considered a guarantee of funding. As with any federal funds, you need to be aware that federal requirements are part of the program. Several are mentioned in the RFP so make sure to review the entire RFP.

## **Other FAQs**

### **Do all the counties involved in an ARISE project need to be a part of the Appalachian region?**

- Yes, all counties involved in a project must be on the list of Appalachian counties served by ARC.

### **Where is the list of Appalachian counties?**

- [List of Appalachian Counties Served by ARC](#)

## **I wasn't able to attend the Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> Pre-Application Workshop. Where can I find the recording of that call?**

- A recording of that workshop is available here: [ARISE Pre-Application Workshop Recording](#).

## **How can applicants learn more?**

- ARC just released a new **Regional Multistate Collaboration Toolkit** to help potential applicants understand the impacts, challenges, solutions, and critical factors involved in building, growing, and sustaining successful multistate initiatives.
  - The toolkit synthesizes this information and provides case study examples of successful regional multistate partnerships, and offers more detailed information regarding partnership building, grant operations, challenges, and best practices involved in building a successful multistate initiative.
- All information on ARISE, including the RFP, can be found on our website: <https://www.arc.gov/ARISE>.
- If you have any other questions, please reach out to [ARISE@arc.gov](mailto:ARISE@arc.gov).