

# ARC FY2025 GRANT NUTS & BOLTS



Brought to you by  
Southern Tier West

Dr. Fileve Tlaloc Palmer

# ELIGIBILITY

- Must have 501c3 status (or like status)
- NPOs or CBOs Educational institutions
- Local, municipal, and/or county governments
- Sovereign Native Nations
- **ARC does not award grants to individuals or for-profit entities, unless they are affiliated with a non-profit or government entity.**

# PRIOR SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS

Click [here](#) for link

New York	CORE - 1w Career Opportunities in Rural Education - Transformative Workforce	Educational Achievement/Attainment	NY-19645-I	83,000	166,000
New York	Olean Community and Cultural Center	Community Facility	NY-19646-I	84,672	169,709
New York	FLX Works	Business Incubator	NY-19648-I	30,000	60,000
New York	Tech Programs: Expanding the Focus on Automation and Robotics	Career & Technical Education	NY-19649-I	149,677	304,436
New York	Child Care Career Development Pipeline	Child Development	NY-19650-I	115,665	231,623
New York	Village of Bath's Comprehensive Economic Development Plan	Community Revitalization	NY-19651-I	12,000	30,000
New York	Move Forward Elmira	Community Revitalization	NY-19652-I	55,000	118,580
New York	The ClayHouse	Arts-Culture-Tourism	NY-19653-I	149,851	299,702
New York	Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Simulation Lab	Workforce Training	NY-19654-I	101,113	203,553
New York	Hammondsport Business Wastewater Project	Community Revitalization	NY-19655-I	150,000	1,675,000
New York	Vision 2050: NYS as the Northeast's Leading Foodshed	Sector-based strategies	NY-19656-I	111,284	234,760

### FISCAL YEAR 2023 INVESTMENT SNAPSHOT



**\$9.8M** ARC INVESTMENT\*

**\$18.9M** PROJECT MATCH

**\$28.7M** TOTAL PROJECT INVESTMENT

**53** PROJECTS

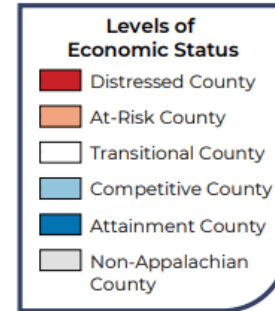
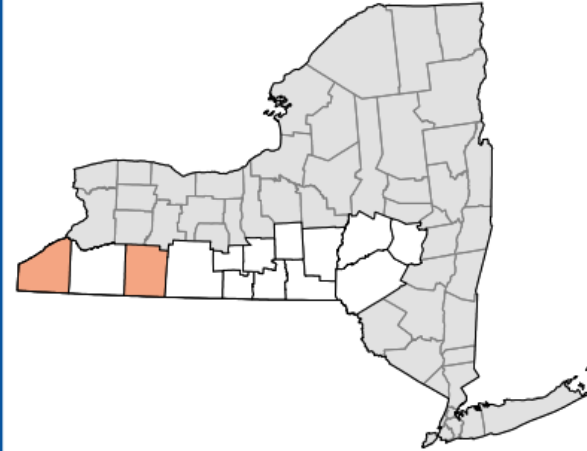
**150** JOBS CREATED OR RETAINED

**525** STUDENTS AND WORKERS TRAINED AND EDUCATED

**280** HOUSEHOLDS/BUSINESSES SERVED WITH INFRASTRUCTURE



### FY 2023 COUNTY ECONOMIC STATUS IN NEW YORK



### FISCAL YEAR 2023 INVESTMENT PRIORITIES



#### WORKFORCE ECOSYSTEM

**\$3.6M**

invested in Appalachian New York to expand community systems that will help Appalachians obtain a job, stay on the job, and advance their careers



#### COMMUNITY LEADERS & CAPACITY

**\$2.7M**

invested in growing the capacity of local leaders, organizations, and communities to address challenges and create opportunities in Appalachian New York



#### COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

**\$2.6M**

invested in New York to ensure access to reliable and affordable broadband, clean water and updated wastewater systems, highways, and more



#### ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES

**\$821K**

invested in entrepreneurship and business development to strengthen the economy and preserve Appalachian New York's local history, culture, and natural assets



WORKFORCE ECOSYSTEM

**\$2.6M**

invested in Appalachian New York to expand community systems that will help Appalachians obtain a job, stay on the job, and advance their careers



COMMUNITY LEADERS & CAPACITY

**\$1.4M**

invested in growing the capacity of local leaders, organizations, and communities to address challenges and create opportunities in Appalachian New York



WORKFORCE ECOSYSTEM

**\$3.6M**

invested in Appalachian New York to expand community systems that will help Appalachians obtain a job, stay on the job, and advance their careers



COMMUNITY LEADERS & CAPACITY

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invested in growing the capacity of local leaders, organizations, and communities to address challenges and create opportunities in Appalachian New York



COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

**\$1.4M**

invested in New York to ensure access to reliable and affordable broadband, clean water and updated wastewater systems, highways, and more



ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES

**\$180K**

invested in entrepreneurship and business development to strengthen the economy and preserve Appalachian New York's local history, culture, and natural assets



COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

**\$2.6M**

invested in New York to ensure access to reliable and affordable broadband, clean water and updated wastewater systems, highways, and more



ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES

**\$821K**

invested in entrepreneurship and business development to strengthen the economy and preserve Appalachian New York's local history, culture, and natural assets

# NYS 2022/3 STATS

Click [here](#) for link

FY 2025 ARC AD grant calendar	Applicant Activity Timeline
<b>Thursday:</b> March 7, 2024	Call out for Letters-of-Intent (LOI)
<b>Wednesday:</b> March 13, 2024 <b>Tuesday:</b> March 19, 2024	Webinar on ARC available funding – special focus Area Development Program  Virtual Teams meeting. Email to <a href="mailto:fpalmer@southerntierwest.org">fpalmer@southerntierwest.org</a> to RSVP
<b>Monday:</b> April 15, 2024	<b>Deadline:</b> LOI by 4 pm – email forms to <a href="mailto:fpalmer@southerntierwest.org">fpalmer@southerntierwest.org</a>
<b>Wednesday:</b> May 1, 2024	Applicants receive feedback on LOIs.  Invitation to move forward.
<b>Monday:</b> June 3	<b>Deadline:</b> Pre-application (Project and budget narrative, Timeline, budget) by 4:00 PM email to <a href="mailto:fpalmer@southerntierwest.org">fpalmer@southerntierwest.org</a>
<b>Thursday:</b> July 11	Presentation of proposals at STW Board Meeting  <b>Tentative</b>
<b>Friday:</b> August 23	<b>Deadline:</b> Draft of final application, all required documents ( <a href="#">click here</a> ) due by 4:00 PM email to <a href="mailto:fpalmer@southtierwest.org">fpalmer@southtierwest.org</a>
<b>Friday:</b> September 20	<b>Deadline:</b> Full final applications: all documents by 4:00 PM email to <a href="mailto:fpalmer@southerntierwest.org">fpalmer@southerntierwest.org</a>
<b>Tuesday:</b> October 1	Applications sent to NYS ARC representatives for review
<b>June 1, 2025</b>	ARC notice of successful applications.

# CALENDAR



Southern Tier West Regional Planning & Development Board  
 Letter-of-Intent  
 Appalachian Regional Commission  
 FY2024 Area Development Program Grant  
 Dr. Palmer [fpalmer@southerntierwest.org](mailto:fpalmer@southerntierwest.org) or 716-945-5301, x2205



**WHO:** In addition to the general contact information, web presence, and name of contact person; provide a brief description of the organization or the applicant municipality and its mission.

**Applicant Information**

Organization Name		Address:	
Website		Social Media	
Primary contact Full name and title			
Contact email:		Phone:	

Applicant's organizational or local government's mission:

**Project title:** Give it a title that catches people's attention and summarizes your action plan.

**WHAT:** Give a title to the project for which you seek funding. Summarize the main points that describe the project, the goals, and the reason(s) this project is worth funding. **Project Summary, Goals, and Reasoning (200 words):**

**WHEN:** Provide a brief timeline that includes when the proposed project and the associated activities will begin, any associated milestones that mark accomplishments towards goals, and completion of the project. Also, include sustainability plans to carry this program into the future.

**Project Start / End Dates (month/year):**

**Milestone(s) at 3, 6 and/or 9 months (limit 100 words):**

**Project Sustainability Plan (after ARC funds are expended):** Describe how you will continue the project's goals after the grant period ends (limit 200 words).

**Performance/ Impact Measures:**

Outputs Project Period 12 months	Outcomes 12 mo. Post project completion	Outcomes 3 years post project completion

**Area(s) Served (Municipality/ County):**

**Project funding sources:**

Funding	Amount	Source	Committed/Pending	Match Rate Percent
ARC Request				
Match – Cash				
Match – In-kind				
Match – Other grants				
<b>Total Match</b>				
<b>Total Project Cost</b>				

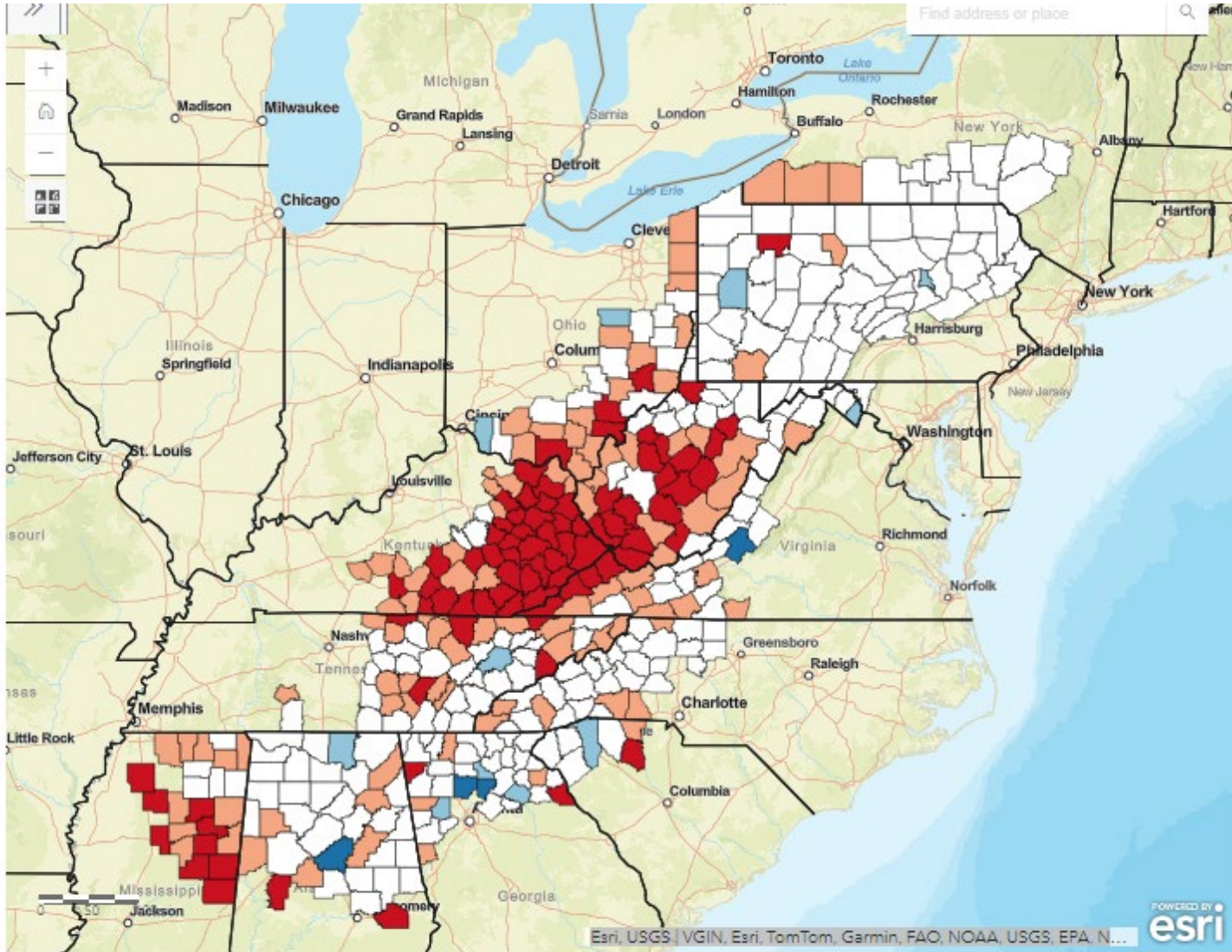
**ARC Investment Goal:** most closely matching your project goals

**NYS Implementing Strategy:** most closely matching your project goals.

LOI  
DUE  
4/15

Click [here](#) for link





## APPALACHIA ATTAINMENT, COMPETITIVE, TRANSITIONAL, AT-RISK AND DISTRESSED COUNTIES

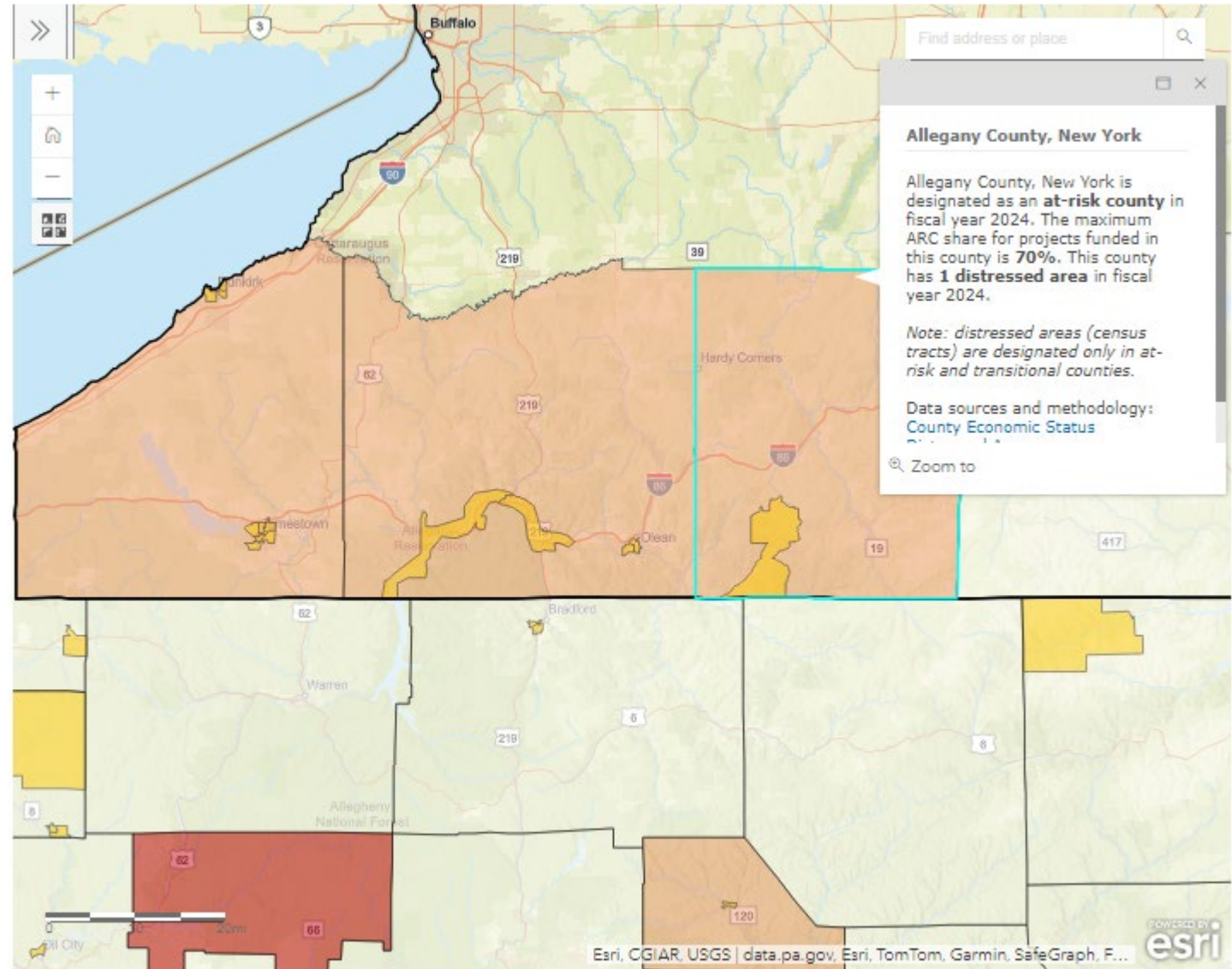
Click [here](#) for link

*Interactive Map of County Economic Status and Distressed Areas, FY 2024*



# ARDA OF 1965 DESIGNATIONS AND MATCH

- PreCovid-19 STW region ARC AD grants are limited to 50% of project costs.
- Projects in ARC-designated distressed counties, limit can be raised to 80%.
- **Projects in ARC-designated at-risk counties, this limit can be raised to 70%.**
- Projects located in ARC-designated competitive counties (those that are approaching national economic norms), funding is usually limited to 30% of project costs
- ARC funding is usually not available for projects located in ARC-designated attainment counties (those that have attained or exceeded national economic norms)



Interactive Map of County Economic Status and Distressed Areas, FY 2024

# MATCH FOR ARC AREA DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

## • **Cash**

- Drawn from grantees' own funds (from fundraisers, investment funds, etc.)
- Cash donations from non-federal third parties e.g., partner organizations
- Federal, state, or private foundation grants
- Bank loans are also counted as cash

## • **In-kind donations**

- Personnel time given to the project
- Person on loan from another organization/corporation
- Donation of or use of equipment, like use of a crane or bulldozer
- Expert services, like engineering or architectural services
- Value of a lease for project space

Maximum ARC Share:

- **All applications for ARC funding must include a formal “commitment” letter from the matching source indicating a firm commitment to provide the required match.**

- Click [here](#) for link

Match Requirement:  
**50%**

Maximum ARC Share:

Match

Maximum

# ARC INVESTMENT PRIORITIES

▪ Click [here](#) for link

## Our Focus Areas

Building  
Businesses

Workforce  
Ecosystems

Community  
Infrastructure

Regional Culture  
and Tourism

Leaders and Local  
Capacity

## Our Focus Areas

Building  
Businesses

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Capacity

INVESTMENT PRIORITY

### Building Appalachian Businesses

Investments in entrepreneurship and home-grown business development helps communities build sustainable, diverse economies.

Learn More



INVESTMENT PRIORITY

### Building Appalachia's Workforce Ecosystem

Expanding and strengthening community systems, including education, healthcare, housing, and childcare, will help Appalachians obtain a job, stay on the job, and advance their careers.

Learn More





## Our Focus Areas

Building  
Businesses

Workforce  
Ecosystems

Community  
Infrastructure

Regional Culture  
and Tourism

Leaders and Local  
Capacity

INVESTMENT PRIORITY

### Building Appalachia's Infrastructure

Access to reliable and affordable utilities and infrastructure ensure that Appalachia's residents can successfully live and work in the Region.

[Learn More](#)



INVESTMENT PRIORITY

### Building Regional Culture and Tourism

Preserving and investing in the Region's local, cultural heritage, and natural assets will strengthen Appalachia's economic potential.

[Learn More](#)



INVESTMENT PRIORITY

### Building Community Leaders and Capacity

Investing in the capacity of local leaders, organizations, and communities to address local challenges will strengthen the Region's economic prosperity.

[Learn More](#)



# Basic Agency Partners

Federal and state public agencies experienced at managing federal construction grants can be approved as designated ARC Basic Agencies. ARC currently partners with the following federal and state basic agencies to administer and manage construction projects in the Appalachian Region:

## Federal Basic Agency Partners

- U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration
- U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration

## Registered State Basic Agency Partners

- New York Housing Trust Fund Corporation (NY HTFC)
- New York State Department of Economic Development



# STRATEGIC STATEMENT 2022-23

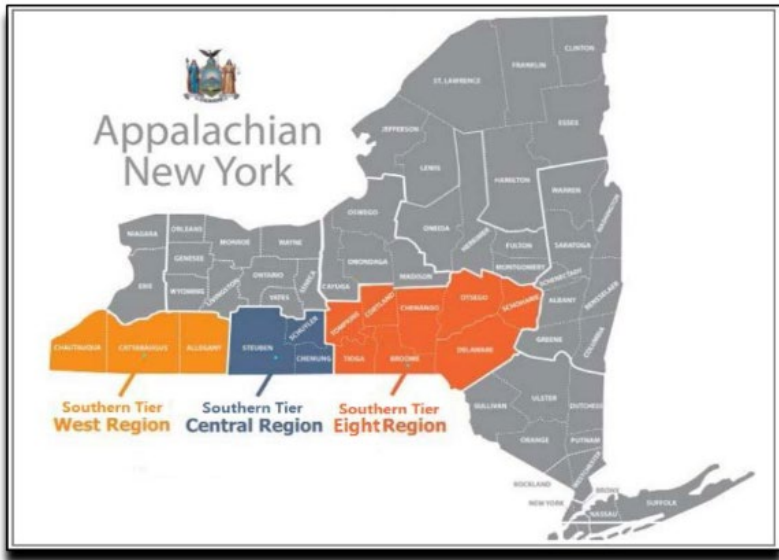
## Goal #4: Building Regional Culture and Tourism

Strengthen Appalachia's community and economic development potential by preserving and investing in the Region's local cultural heritage and natural assets.

Appalachia is a region with unique downtown communities, a vibrant cultural and arts tradition, and diverse natural spaces. Stakeholders emphasized the importance of preserving and leveraging these regional assets to support quality of life for residents, community development, economic opportunity, and tourism. ARC can support these objectives by investing in the revitalization of Appalachian downtowns, providing support for the maintenance and promotion of the Region's arts and cultural heritage, and assisting communities in preserving and harnessing natural resources and outdoor spaces for recreation and tourism purposes.

### NYS Implementation Strategies to Promote Asset Development and Tourism

- Strategy 4.1:** *Support preservation and stewardship of communities, historic districts, and main streets to advance local economic growth and to provide support for transformative placemaking.*
- Strategy 4.2:** *Support strategic investments in natural and cultural heritage resources to advance local economic growth.*
- Strategy 4.3a:** *Provide support for expansion of indoor and outdoor recreation spaces that will support community revitalization, fuel the region's tourism economy, and increase the region's employment opportunities.*
- Strategy 4.3b:** *Take active steps to restore brownfields and disturbed sites to serve community-oriented purposes that revitalize local waterways and residential, agricultural, and natural lands.*



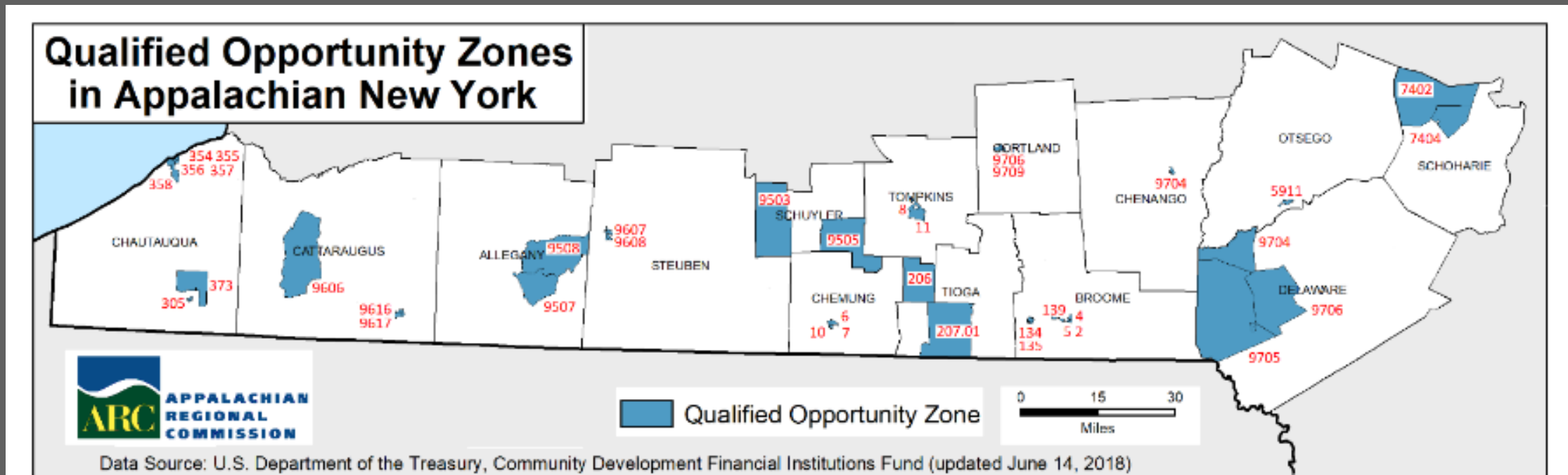


# KEEP IN MIND

- During the upcoming program cycle, DOS will seek out projects that emphasize the following priorities:
- Advance the [REDC's strategies/priorities](#), the LDD's [CEDS](#), and [county or community comprehensive plans](#). (All 3 is best!);
  - Contribute measurably positive economic impact and advance economic development;
  - Demonstrate job creation; or, alternatively, demonstratively retain local jobs;
  - Train the workforce for employment in “wealth producing” careers;
  - Promote Smart Growth (and/or village or urban center commercial revitalization); Foster rehabilitation of local pockets of distress\*

# SECTION 3: TARGETED INVESTMENT PRIORITIES (PP. 7)

- Pockets of Distress: high rates of poverty, unemployment, and low per capita income.
- Economic Clusters, Job Creation, and Entrepreneurship
- Click [here](#) for link



# BUILDING SUCCESS

- Solves challenges in new and innovative ways
- Includes specific outputs and outcomes **NUMBERS!!!**
- Cultivates new partnerships
- Is sustainable beyond the grant period

## What Makes A Good ARC Project?

The best ARC projects are strategic, impactful, collaborative, and sustainable.



Click [here](#) for link

## Paired Performance Measures

*The output and outcome measures below must be paired as shown.*

Output Measure	Outcome Measure
businesses served	businesses improved
communities served	communities improved
households served	households improved
organizations served	organizations improved
participants served	participants improved
patients served	patients improved
students served	students improved
workers/trainees served	workers/trainees improved

## Businesses Served

The number of businesses served by an ARC project. For infrastructure projects, this includes either the number of non-residential entities *with access to* new service (e.g., water, sewer, gas line, or telecommunications) or improved service (e.g., improvements in health or safety, compliance with environmental quality, improved water pressure). For business development projects, this includes businesses receiving technical assistance or participating in training, entrepreneurship, export, or other business development and improvement programs.

## Communities Served

The number of communities served or impacted by an ARC project, including projects that address planning, civic participation, infrastructure, educational opportunities, and community capacity. For consolidated technical assistance grants, the number of communities served is the number of projects submitted by state ARC program offices. visit, within one year of project implementation.

## New Visitors: Overnights

The number of new overnight visitors to a tourism destination times the number of their overnight stays, within one year of project implementation.

## Organizations Served

The number of organizations served by an ARC project, including hospitals, schools, churches, non-profits, non-governmental organizations, and government agencies (use when number of businesses or households does not apply).

## Participants Served

The number of individual participants served or targeted by an ARC project (use when patients, students, or worker/trainee measures do not apply). This can include the number of attendees at a meeting, workshop or conference. For example, the number of individuals participating in a planning process; participating in a leadership program; or the number of individuals attending health promotion activities.

## Patients Served

The number of unique patients receiving clinical services one or more times as a result of an ARC health project. For equipment projects, report the number of unique patients served by that equipment during the project period and one year after the equipment is deployed. For health projects that do not provide clinical services (such as health promotion activities), use the measure "participants served."

# PREREQUISITE INFORMATION FOR FEDERAL GRANTS

CLICK [HERE](#) FOR LINK



You have reached SAM.gov, an official website of the U.S. government. There is no cost to use this site.

## **The unique entity identifier used in SAM.gov has changed.**

On **April 4, 2022**, the unique entity identifier used across the federal government changed from the DUNS Number to the Unique Entity ID (generated by SAM.gov).

- The Unique Entity ID is a 12-character alphanumeric ID assigned to an entity by SAM.gov.
- As part of this transition, the DUNS Number has been removed from SAM.gov.
- Entity registration, searching, and data entry in SAM.gov now require use of the new Unique Entity ID.
- Existing registered entities can find their Unique Entity ID by following the steps [here](#).
- New entities can get their Unique Entity ID at SAM.gov and, if required, complete an entity registration.

# ARC Non-Construction Project Application Checklist

## Section 1: INTRODUCTION

- One-Page Summary/Cover Page (form)
- Certification Form (form)
- Table of Contents/Checklist (this page)

## Section 2: REQUIRED APPLICATION FORMS

- Standard Form 424
- Standard Form 424A Budget Information
- Standard Form 424B Assurances – Non-Construction Programs
- ARC Memorandum of Understanding for ARC Projects
- NYS Self-Sufficiency Statement
- NYS Sustainability & Phased Effort Questionnaire
- NYS *Table 3.2(b):* Project Workplan & Timeline
- NYS *Table 4.1:* Funding Sources, Commitment Status & Uses
- NYS *Table 4.2:* Budget Format B (Non-Construction)

## Section 3: PROJECT NARRATIVE

### Page #

- 1 Goals and Strategies.....p. 1
- 3.2 Project Description .....p. 1
- 3.3 Strategic Rationale .....p. 5
- 3.4 Collaborative Partnerships .....p. 5
- 3.5 Project Sustainability and Grantee Capacity .....p. 6
- 3.6 Performance/ Impact Measures .....p. 6

## Section 4: BUDGET NARRATIVE

### Page #

- 4.1 Funding Sources, Commitment Status, & Uses .....
- 4.2 Budget Details .....
- 4.3 Procurement Compliance .....
- 4.4 ARC Match Rate Calculation .....

## Section 5: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

### Page #

- Support & Commitment Materials .....
- Additional Support Letters .....
- Procurement Documentation .....
- Credentials Documentation .....
- Technical Documentation .....



Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 FY2024 ARC - Project start and end dates: September 2024 - March 2026

Criterion	5 Needs Improvement	8 Good start	10 Exemplary	Comments/Points
<b>Project Summary, Goals, and Reasoning</b>	Applicant does not adequately introduce the project. Discussion of the connection between the proposed project, the applicant's mission statement, and the goals of the grant program is incomplete or vague. The author fails to make a compelling case.	A concise project timetable is provided, but there are inconsistencies or clarifications are needed.	<b>Applicant provides a strong rationale for grant funding, clearly explains activities and outcomes. There is a clear connection between the proposed project, the applicant's mission statement and the goals of the grant program needs improvement. The significance of the proposed activities is present but can be stronger.</b>	10 - _____ proposes to construct an all-season's, teaching/learning facility for youth leadership training on the wooded shores of Lake Chautauqua that will double as a drive for tourism by out of the area youth participants and their families. The project will also develop curriculum for use with youth.
<b>Timetable and Milestones</b>	A partial description of scheduled activities is provided. Milestones are vague and/or indicate limited foresight of project's impact.	Applicant clearly defines the sustainability of the project that connects with performance and impact measures. The applicant has strong presence and connections in the community/region but needs more partnerships. Past applications have failed to work.	<b>A clear and concise project timetable is provided with relevant milestones that show logical and feasible project progression in relation to project goals, objectives, and budget.</b>	10 - The narrative and timeline chart are consistent. Major milestones present and detailed relating to the project.
<b>Sustainability</b>	Information regarding how the project will be sustained beyond the funding period shows promise, however, the applicant needs to develop greater partnerships or leverage resources to maintain community/regional impact.	Applicant includes performance/impact measures as well as outputs and outcomes associated for the requested timeline. However, project outputs and outcomes need development to increase community/regional development impact.	<b>Applicant clearly defines the sustainability of the project that connects with performance and impact measures. The applicant has strong presence and connections in the community/region to maintain and leverage continued support.</b>	10 - _____ is an established entity since 1924. Page 7 of the narrative lists the ways they will pay for maintenance and upkeep of the facility: e.g., fundraising, legacy fund of \$1 million, and annual fees.
<b>Performance/Impact Measures</b>	Applicant includes performance/impact measures as well as outputs and outcomes associated for the requested timeline. However, project outputs and outcomes need development to increase community/regional development impact.	Applicant shows adequate AND pending in-kind or cash match for ARC funds requested.	<b>Applicant includes performance/impact measures as well as outputs and outcomes associated for the requested timeline. Project outputs and outcomes have potential to significantly impact community and regional development.</b>	10 - High impact measures for local and visiting youth in the 100s. They propose this will "create a pipeline to leadership and instill a positive work ethic in youth. Is consistent with their project narrative.
<b>Project Funding Sources</b>	Applicant shows the potential for adequate in-kind or cash match for ARC funds requested.	The Applicant must prioritize one ARC Investment Goal and NYS Implementation Strategy.	Applicant shows adequate AND committed in-kind or cash match for ARC funds requested.	10 - They have both cash and in-kind match that is committed!
<b>ARC Investment Goal/NYS Implementation Strategy</b>	The Applicant's proposed ARC Investment Goal and NYS Implementation Strategy does not match the proposed projects reasoning and/or goals.	The Applicant chooses the ARC Investment Goal and NYS Implementation Strategy that best match the proposed projects reasoning and/or goals.		9 - Applicant has an ARC goal to which they plan accordingly. They are missing a NYS strategy.

FFY-2019 ARC GRANT APPLICATION REVIEW RECORD

LDD Project ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

PROJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSOR: \_\_\_\_\_

BUDGET: ARC \$ \_\_\_\_\_ DOS / LDD Reviewer: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other Fed. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Local Cash \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Local In-Kind \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Basic Agency: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable)  
 TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ARC GOAL: \_\_\_\_\_ NYS STRATEGY: \_\_\_\_\_

Grades Assigned

Scoring Category	Max%	Score for Category
A. Contribution to Area Development (40%)	40%	_____
B. Project Feasibility (40%)	40%	_____
C. Sponsor's Need / Relevance of ARC Funds / Accuracy & Timeliness (20%)	20%	_____
<b>Total:</b>		_____

Grading Guidance:

Credit for each sub-category may be given in 1/8th increments (i.e., 5 pt. sub-categories may earn 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, or 0 pts); 10 pt. sub-categories may earn 10, 8, 6, 4, 2, or 0 pts, etc.)

- 5/5ths x total subcategory points: Completely, effectively and efficiently satisfies all subcategory criteria.
- 4/5ths x total subcategory points: Moderately high compliance with subcategory criteria.
- 3/5ths x total subcategory points: Moderate compliance with desired criteria.
- 2/5ths x total subcategory points: Moderately low compliance to criteria.
- 1/5ths x total subcategory points: Low match to subcategory criteria.
- 0/5ths x total subcategory points: Little or no relationship between project and subcategory criteria.

**A. Contribution to Area Development (40%)** Score: 10 / 8 / 6 / 4 / 2 / 0

- 1. Demonstrated Area Need (15 pts)** Score: 15 / 12 / 9 / 6 / 3 / 0
  - a. Does this project address a problem or need that can be well-addressed by a NYS implementing strategy?
  - b. Is the proposed project relevant to the ARC Strategic Plan and appropriate for ARC funding?
  - c. Will the proposed project implement a program identified in the REDC Strategy and / or the LDD's CDS?
  - d. If not, will the proposed project implement a program identified in a regional, county, or other comprehensive plan?
  - e. What other formal community documents have identified a need for the proposed project?
  - f. Is there other widespread support from the civic or business community for this project? Is it documented?

**2. Outcomes / Impacts / Regional Significance (15 pts)** Score: 15 / 12 / 9 / 6 / 3 / 0

- a. Are the projected outputs / outcomes significant?
- b. Do the projected outputs / outcomes represent a "good value" for ARC's investment? (This is a subjective evaluation of costs vs. benefit compared to other alternative projects.)
- c. Does the project significantly implement a NYS strategy and contribute toward an ARC investment goal?
- d. How much additional economic benefit from public and private resources will be generated for the community / region after completion of the proposed project?

**3. Sustainability (10 pts)** Score: 10 / 8 / 6 / 4 / 2 / 0

- a. Is the project fully sustainable? Is it effective as a standalone accomplishment? Will it be perpetuated by a committed sponsor that does not require any speculative additional sources of funding in the future?
- b. If not fully committed, is the projected source of future sustaining funds reputable and significantly credible?

**B. Project Feasibility (40%)** Score: 3 / 4 / 3 / 2 / 1 / 0

- 1. Workplan & Timeline (5 pts)** Score: 5 / 4 / 3 / 2 / 1 / 0
  - a. Is the workplan clearly and concisely explained? Is it feasible?
  - b. Is the timeline diagram consistent with the workplan? Is it feasible?
  - c. Is the proposed the best approach for NYS's implementing strategy and for the region / LDD?

**2. Uses and Sources of Funds (35pts)** Score: 5 / 4 / 3 / 2 / 1 / 0

- a. What are the "uses" of ARC and other agency funds? Is it clear what the funds will be used for? How they contribute to the community's "need"? Are they appropriate for the program?
- b. Are the sources of funds clearly identified, well-documented, and committed?
- c. Uncommitted funds: If some matching funds are uncommitted, has the applicant addressed the gap by providing details about the status of the funding, a date such funding was requested, and an anticipated date by when the funding commitment will be finalized?

**3. Budget Substantiation (5 pts)** Score: 5 / 4 / 3 / 2 / 1 / 0

- a. Are all budget presentations consistent and well explained?
- b. If in-kind resources are used to match the project, are they justified by appropriate documentation and explanations and consistent with known standards?

**4. Project Sponsor's Capability and Reputations (10 pts)** Score: 10 / 8 / 6 / 4 / 2 / 0

(This is a subjective evaluation sub-category.)

- a. Graders should evaluate the sponsor's capability to execute the contract on time and on budget.
- b. Graders should evaluate the project partners' capabilities to complete their portion of the proposal as necessary to effectively complete the requirements of the project.

**5. Prerequisites in Place (5 pts)** Score: 5 / 4 / 3 / 2 / 1 / 0

- a. If a Basic Agency (BA) is needed to administer a project with a significant construction component, is a signed BA letter submitted with the application?
- b. If a municipal board resolution is needed, it is appropriately certified and included with the application?
- c. All commitments are documented and included with the application.
- d. If the proposed project will affect expansion of sewer or water lines or roadways, or otherwise affect local development, a DOS Smart Growth Review should be initiated.

**6. All Other Relevant Documentation Included (5 pts)** Score: 5 / 4 / 3 / 2 / 1 / 0

(To include materials indicating ongoing community support that will see the project to completion and beyond, and other documents reflecting on the appropriateness and/or sustainability of the project.)

- a. Additional documentation must include required support letters from any project partners, board resolutions from municipalities, and should include community support letters from appropriate officials and business community and affected civic organizations.
- b. Any maps, vendor materials, and engineering documentation that may be required; Must be CONCISE, LEGIBLE when duplicated in black and white print, and relevant. (Significant reference documentation may be submitted by a virus-scanned thumb drive or disk.)

**7. REDC Support (5 pts)** Score: 5 / 4 / 3 / 2 / 1 / 0

- a. Ideally, a member of the applicable REDC has cited the applicability of the project to the current REDC strategy, or expressed confirmation that the project is "consistent" with the objectives of the REDC.
- b. If the proposed project is not related to any of the REDC's objectives or strategies, but is important to area development, some indication of REDC support would still be helpful.

**C. Sponsor's Need / Relevance of ARC Funds / Application Accuracy & Timeliness (20%)**

**1. Sponsor's Need (5 pts)** Score: 5 / 4 / 3 / 2 / 1 / 0

- a. Has the sponsor availed itself of all potential resources? Is the ARC's contribution the last and best resource available for this project and this sponsor?
- b. If the sponsor is financially well-off, explain to the satisfaction of the graders why ARC program is needed and why self-financing is impractical or why other benefactors are not viable for this project.

**2. Relevance / Significance of ARC Funds (5 pts)** Score: 5 / 4 / 3 / 2 / 1 / 0

- a. Will the ARC's contribution be materially significant? (I.e., if the sponsor can fund a significant portion of the project through outside resources, can ARC funding be justified as having a significant impact on the overall project?)
- b. If ARC funding were unavailable, could the project's proposed outcomes be achieved with other available resources? If yes, are the reasons why ARC should support this project explained?

**3. Completeness, Accuracy, and Timeliness of the Application (10 pts)** Score: 10 / 8 / 6 / 4 / 2 / 0

- a. Has the sponsor thoroughly and accurately completed the application, including all required, and concisely answered all questions asked in the application narrative?
- b. (This is a subjective evaluation.)

# SAMPLE GRADING CRITERIA

# KEY POINTS

- Maximum grant \$250,000 (for the next few years)
- This is a long-haul grant – meaning your project won't start until mid-2024
- Projects can last up to 18 months
- Priority given to projects focused on those with significant economic outputs & outcomes
  - Although construction/renovation grants are considered eligible, the extra cost and bureaucracy associated with involving an external government entity to manage the grant AKA “basic agency” is not prioritized
  - Planning or R&D grants, while eligible, have lower priority than those that are ready to implement plans
- Depending on the ask between 4-6 projects get funded for any given year
- Don't wait to do your homework, start the conversation, and fill out an LOI

# THANK YOU!

- Primary contact:
  - Dr. Fileve T. Palmer – Program coordinator
  - [ftpalmer@southerntierwest.org](mailto:ftpalmer@southerntierwest.org)
  - 716 945 5301 ext. 2205
- Secondary contact
  - Richard Zink - Executive director
  - [rzink@southerntierwest.org](mailto:rzink@southerntierwest.org)

# OTHER ARC PROGRAMS

(CLICK BELOW FOR LINK)

- [ARISE](#) – multi state, limited funding available
- [INSPIRE](#) – ongoing
- [POWER](#) – ongoing
- [WORC](#) – no match
- [J-1 Visa Waiver](#)
- [READY Appalachia](#) – training and funds

### ARISE

Appalachian Regional Initiative for Stronger Economies

#### How To Apply

### INSPIRE

Investments Supporting Partnerships in Recovery Ecosystems Initiative

### POWER

Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization Initiative

## J-1 Visa Waiver Program

ARC is committed to helping residents of Appalachia have access to quality, affordable health care. Accordingly, under certain conditions, ARC will consider recommending a waiver of the foreign residence requirement on behalf of physicians holding J-1 Visas in Health Professional Shortage Areas to address the Region's healthcare needs.

### Important Dates

ARC is accepting ARISE concept papers on an ongoing basis. Concept papers will be reviewed in batches every two months starting after the first submittal deadline.

- 1st round:** October 31, 2023
- 2nd round:** December 31, 2023
- 3rd round:** February 29, 2024
- 4th round:** April 30, 2024
- 5th round:** June 30, 2024

### Investments Supporting Partnerships in Recovery Ecosystems Initiative

ARC's INSPIRE Initiative addresses the substance use disorder (SUD) crisis in Appalachia by creating or expanding recovery ecosystems that will lead to workforce entry or re-entry.

### Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization Initiative

ARC's POWER Initiative targets federal resources to communities affected by job losses in coal mining, coal power plant operations, and coal-related supply chain industries.

[Learn More](#)

## READY Appalachia



Appalachians are ready to strengthen their communities, and ARC is here to provide the resources they need.

**READY Appalachia** is ARC's **community capacity-building** initiative for nonprofits, community foundations, local governments, and **Local Development Districts** serving the Appalachian Region.

## Workforce Opportunity for Rural Communities (WORC)

The **Workforce Opportunity for Rural Communities (WORC)** Initiative, managed by the U.S. Department of Labor, provides enhanced training and support activities to dislocated workers, new entrants in the workforce, incumbent workers, and individuals affected by substance use disorder returning to work in the Appalachian and **Delta** regions. As part of WORC, ARC partners with the Department of Labor to develop comprehensive approaches addressing economic distress and workforce development activities throughout the Region. Successful WORC projects draw on long-term economic growth strategies, building on bottom-up, community-led plans maximizing economic resilience and regional strengths.

### WORC's Impact in Appalachia

**\$60.7M**

Invested

**48**

Projects Supported

# RESOURCES

- Interactive map online at: <https://www.arc.gov/county-economic-status-and-distressed-areas-by-state-fy-2023/>
- Match Requirements for ARC Grants online at: <https://www.arc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Match-Requirements-for-ARC-Grants.pdf>
- NYS STRATEGY STATEMENT 2020 online at: [https://www.arc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/NYS\\_Appalachian\\_Region\\_Strategy\\_Statement\\_Fiscal\\_Year\\_2020.pdf](https://www.arc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/NYS_Appalachian_Region_Strategy_Statement_Fiscal_Year_2020.pdf)
- ARC Goals: <https://www.arc.gov/investment-priorities/>
- <https://www.arc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/InvestinginAppalachiasFutureARCs2016-2020StrategicPlan.pdf>
- ARC Project Guidelines: <https://www.arc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/ARCProjectGuidelines.pdf>
- <https://www.arc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/InvestinginAppalachiasFutureARCs2016-2020StrategicPlan.pdf>
- <https://www.arc.gov/grant-resources/>
- <https://www.southerntierwest.org/>
- CEDS: <https://www.southerntierwest.org/comprehensive-economic-development-strategy-ceds.html>
- REDC's strategies/priorities: [https://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2023-12/STREDC\\_Strategic\\_Plan\\_2023.pdf](https://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/sites/default/files/2023-12/STREDC_Strategic_Plan_2023.pdf)
- **INSPIRATION**
  - ARC Roadshow: <https://www.arc.gov/roadshow/>