



WEST VIRGINIA

Economic Development

WestVirginia.gov

- 
- **West Virginia ARC Program**
 - **The Basics of Applying**

WWW.WVCAD.ORG/RESOURCES

Application Basics

ARC Program is very competitive

Eligible application \neq competitive application

ARC is a partnership between the federal government and the 13 states that are in the Appalachian Region

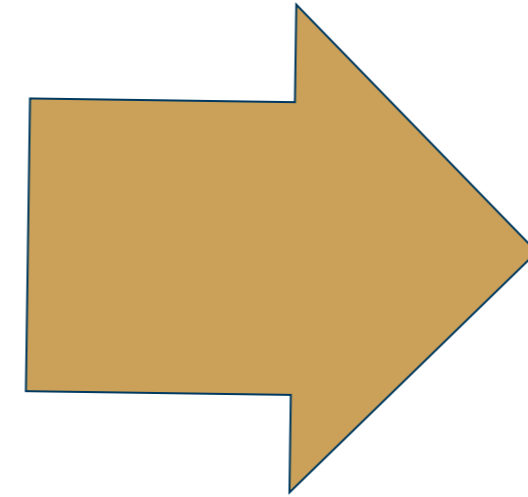
States know their needs and assets - States set their own priorities, application process, and basically generate projects

Applicants submit their applications to the State where they are reviewed

Application Basics

APPROVAL PROCESS FOR APPLICANTS IS A 2-STEP PROCESS

WV Department of Economic Development staff review project applications & recommendations are made to the Governor for approval



Projects recommended by the Governor are forwarded to ARC Headquarters for final approval

Area Development Application Timeline (Estimate)

**January 31,
2023**

- Submit application to WV Department of Economic Development

**Winter/Spring
2023**

- WV Department of Economic Development staff reviews applications and makes recommendations to Governor

Summer 2023

- The Governor's recommendations are sent to ARC federal headquarters – ARC federal staff reviews and approves projects

Who is Eligible

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS INCLUDE:

Local Governments

Community and Economic Development Agencies

Regional Planning and Development Councils

Non-Profit Organizations

- Applicant must demonstrate adequate capacity to manage the project

What is Eligible

ARC CAN FUND:

Projects that have public purpose

**Construction
Projects**

**Non-Construction
projects (program
services)**

Planning Grants



What is Eligible

Eligible project activities must be consistent with FY 2023 ARC/WV Goals, Objectives, Strategies

The strategies can be found in the WV ARC Technical Assistance Guide



What is Eligible

ELIGIBLE PROJECT COSTS INCLUDE:

Construction

Material and Supplies

Administration

Programming

Indirect Costs



Match Requirements

ALL ARC PROJECTS REQUIRE MATCHING FUNDS FROM NON-ARC SOURCES

Match Sources Include:

- Applicant
- Partners
- Public Sector
- Foundations
- Private Sector

Types of Match:

- Cash
- Loans
- In-Kind – land, property, services, etc.

County economic designations will determine your project match rate:

- The West Virginia ARC Technical Assistance Guide provides a list of WV counties and their economic designation

Match Requirements

MATCH RATES AND COUNTY ECONOMIC STATUS

Distressed (counties that are the most economically depressed)

At-Risk (counties at –risk of becoming economically distressed)

Transitional (counties transitioning between weak and strong economies)

Competitive (counties able to compete in the national economy)

Attainment (counties that are economically strongest)

County Designation	Max ARC Contribution	Min Match Contribution
Distressed	80%	20%
At-Risk	70%	30%
Transitional	50%	50%
Competitive	30%	70%
Attainment	0%	100%

For multi-county projects involving a mix of distressed, at-risk, transitional, or competitive counties, the level of ARC participation will vary. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE FOR ASSISTANCE AS YOU PLAN YOUR MULTI-COUNTY PROJECT

What is NOT Eligible

ARC WILL NOT FUND:

Government buildings

General government or agency expenses

Public safety project (police, fire)

Political activities (lobbying, advocacy)

Individuals and businesses are not eligible for direct ARC assistance

Residential Service Policy

ARC will provide grants for basic residential infrastructure projects only for communities in *ARC designated distressed counties*, except that such assistance may be provided in a transitional or at-risk county upon a special showing of compelling need, such as the location of the project in a distressed area of the county or as disaster relief or to address a mandate of the Federal EPA or a state health or environmental



Project Guidelines

ARC is the last dollar in

All other funding must be secured – the project application needs to show there is secured matching funds

Match can be cash or in-kind

In-kind match must be realistic

Applicant must show, in detail, how the value of the in-kind match was derived

No maximum limit for a grant request (no floor or ceiling)

West Virginia ARC Highest Priorities

Infrastructure Projects (water & wastewater)

- Projects can be rehab or serve new customers
- Projects should be tied to economic development (serve businesses, important economic development anchors)
- Projects can be tied to community development (serve important community anchors such as schools, hospitals, medical clinics, etc)

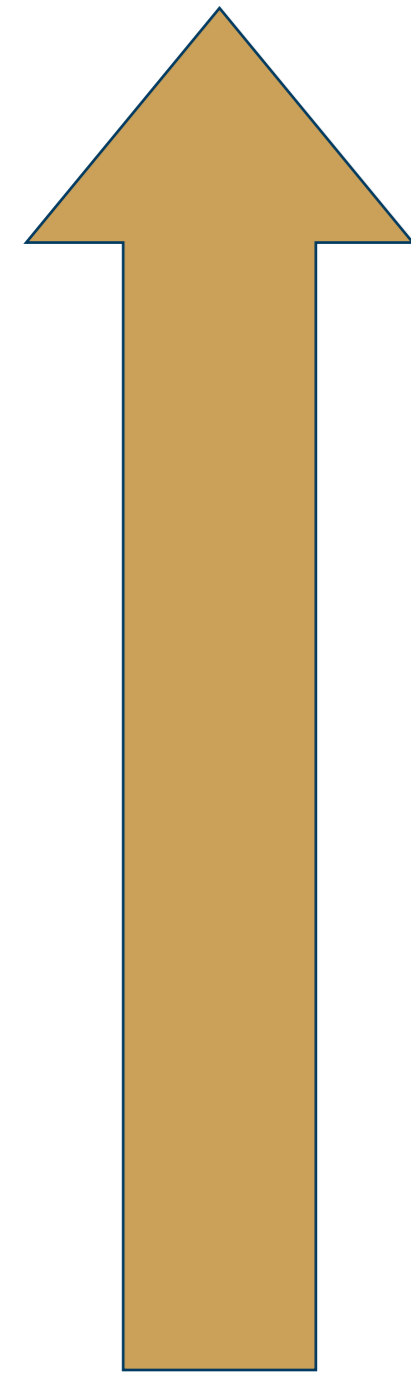
Substance Abuse/Opioids

- Substance abuse projects must focus on transition back into the workforce
- Projects requesting funding for substance abuse treatment or prevention activities will most likely not be funded

Brownfields/Abandoned & Dilapidated Buildings

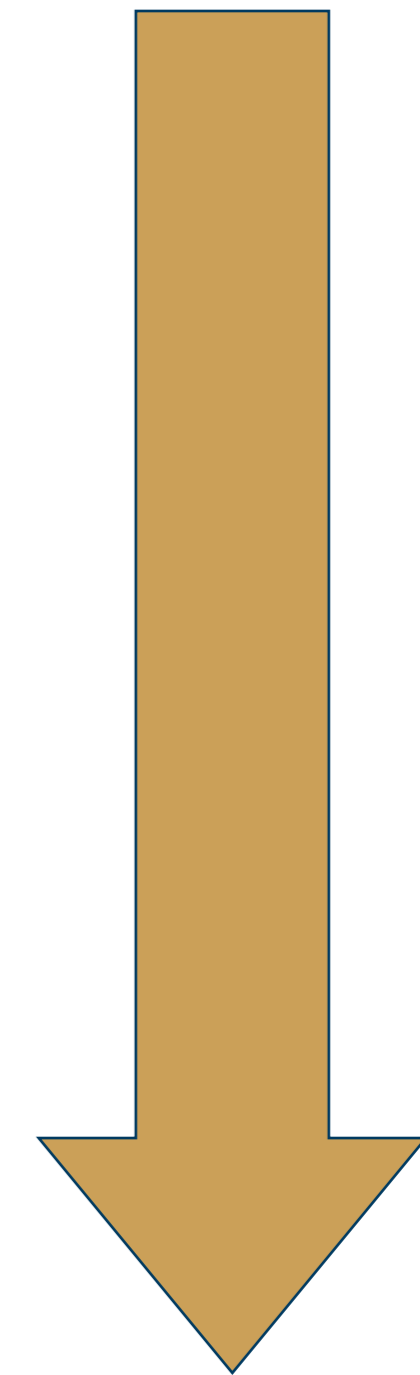
- ARC can fund planning, feasibility studies, clearance, cleanup, debris removal, construction, abatement, renovation
- ARC funds must be used for public benefit
- Structure to be cleared and reused must be either publicly owned or owned by a non-profit organization/agency
- Any type of request for clearance of structure should include a full plan for reuse of the area
- Weak project applications would request funds simply to tear down buildings (and nothing else)

West Virginia ARC Highest Priorities



Projects with one of the previously listed priorities and located in an ARC distressed county will receive the highest priority

Projects outside the highest priorities must focus on economic development (should have outcomes such as jobs created, businesses created, number of people trained and placed into positions)



Developing an application

FIRST STEPS IN DEVELOPING AN APPLICATION

Follow the Checklist for ARC Construction or Non-Construction Project Application

It is important to arrange your project information as specified in the checklist – the checklist will specify exactly what forms are needed and what questions to address

For planning requests, use the non construction checklist



Developing an application

BOTH PROJECT CHECKLISTS, NON-CONSTRUCTION AND CONSTRUCTION, HAVE 4 SECTIONS:

Section 1: Executive Summary

- See Executive Summary template at www.wvcad/resources

Section 2: Required Application Forms

- Each form has detailed directions for completing
- Follow the non-construction or construction checklist to see which forms are needed.
- The forms can be found at www.wvcad/resources

Section 3: Project Narrative

- Use statistical evidence to support data for project
- For the application, there must be projected number or target number for your outcomes
- Project outputs are activity-based
- Project outcomes are result-based
- Project outcomes: what was the result of your project activities?

Section 4: Budget

- Make sure the project budget numbers are consistent throughout the application
- Have letters of commitment for all matching funds- letter of commitment should specify amount of match

Tips for Developing a Competitive Application

West Virginia Evaluation Criteria

- Pay close attention to the evaluation criteria listed in the WV ARC Technical Assistance Guide for ARC Projects

Strategic & Impactful

- Look at the investment impact criteria in the West Virginia ARC Technical Assistance Guide

Sustainable

- Does your project have multiple and lasting benefits for the community or area?
- How will your project be sustained once the grant funding ends?

Collaborative

- What relationship does your project have with other community/economic development efforts in the area?
- What is the linkage between your project and those efforts?

Tips for Developing a Competitive Application

What is the added value that ARC funding will bring to what you are already doing?

ARC Funds should enhance or expand what you are already doing, not allow you to merely maintain your project.

How will your project be sustained once ARC funding ends?

Outcomes should be aimed at number of customers served, jobs/businesses created, individuals trained and placed in employment, etc.

Tips for Developing a Competitive Application

COMPETITIVE APPLICATIONS, IN ANY CASE, WILL FOCUS ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

EXAMPLES OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCLUDE:

**Infrastructure
(water, sewer, storm
water)**

**Capitalizing business
loan funds**

**Providing training
services to business
and entrepreneurs**

**Workforce
development (job
training)**

Site Development

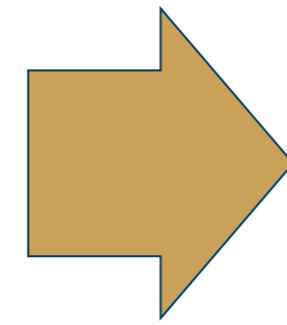
**Brownfields (reusing
contaminated
properties for
commercial or
industrial uses)**

**Economic
development plans
for a community or
region**

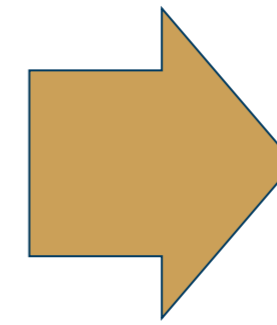
Submitting an application

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS IS JANUARY 31, 2023

Submit one original and one copy of your application to the WV Department of Economic Development – address can be found in the WV ARC Technical Assistance Guide



Do not staple your application or use notebooks or binders – use only binder clips



Submit your application in order specified on checklist

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- **For assistance with the application contact:**
 - **Krista Cox**
 - Krista.K.Cox@wv.gov
 - **West Virginia Department of Economic Development**
 - **Community Advancement and Development**
 - **1900 Kanawha Blvd East**
 - **Building 3, Suite 700**
 - **Charleston, WV 25305**
 - **304-558-2234**



**West Virginia Department of
Economic Development**

State Capitol Complex
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Building 3, Suite 600
Charleston, WV 25305

(304) 558-2234

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