
System Leaders: NYS IMLS/ARPA Plan Overview

July 28, 2021

New York State Library

America Rescue Plan Act and NYSED: The Big Picture

IMLS GUIDELINES

FY 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant Award

Purpose

To achieve the American Rescue Plan Act's purposes with respect to Grants to States, this funding is to be used by September 30, 2022, in helping communities respond directly and immediately to the pandemic, as well as to related economic and community needs through equitable approaches.

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Spending priorities

- First, to support digital inclusion efforts to enable libraries to reach residents such as through internet hotspots, accessible Wi-Fi, and digital content and related resources, particularly in support of education, health, and workforce development needs. The following types of data, among others, can inform efforts to reach underserved populations:
 - Poverty/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
 - Unemployment
 - Broadband availability;

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- Second, to provide rapid emergency relief to libraries across the country, allowing them to safely respond to the pandemic and implement public health protocols;
- Third, to support library services that meet the needs of communities throughout the U.S., including costs such as personnel, technology, training, materials, supplies, equipment, and associated indirect costs; and
- With respect to (1), (2), or (3), reach tribal and museum partners best positioned to assist with pandemic response efforts, in addition to traditionally eligible library entities, where appropriate.

IMLS and Congressional Intent:

- Focus on internet access for community members
- Spend this money quickly

State Library Goals:

- Increase digital equity
- Demonstrate ability of libraries to deliver critical services
- Demonstrate ability of library systems to efficiently deliver complex projects that serve communities
- Support collaboration across cultural institutions
- Support NYSED's Digital Equity Collaborative Goals and Regents' priorities

Digital Equity Collaborative Goals:

- Prioritize and fund digital inclusion work (access, devices, skills, support)
- Nurture digital equity ecosystems
- Apply digital justice mindset to work in this area

NYS/IMLS ARPA Subaward Program

Funding, Priorities and Allocations

The State Library will allocate over \$5.5 million in ARPA subawards to the nine Reference and Research Library Resources Systems to implement three priority programs in their regions:

- Digital Inclusion (with PLS) - \$4 million
- Library/Museum Partnerships - \$964,315
- SLS Digital Resources - \$550,000

From NYSED leadership....

Chancellor Young

“Libraries are critically important to communities, playing a crucial part in New York’s recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. There is a moral and an economic imperative to remove the inequities that stand in the way of success for whole segments of our student population, as highlighted when school buildings were shut down and many students had little or no access to remote learning. Staff at libraries statewide stepped up to help students and families during the crisis and are doing so again by helping provide more equitable access to digital services.”

Commissioner Rosa

“These funds will support collaborative efforts to find real and sustainable solutions to address the digital divide in New York State. This significant investment represents meaningful progress in achieving our vision of digital equity and inclusion for our students and their families. Our libraries will continue to develop bold, creative and critical ways to serve communities during recovery from the pandemic.”

NYS/IMLS ARPA Subaward Program

Guidelines

- A Work In Progress – two advisory sub teams
- CARES Act Guidelines are similar; but different priorities for ARPA
- ARPA – one application to the State Library from each 3Rs
- Tentative Program Year – September 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022
- Subawards from the 3Rs to others - optional for Digital Inclusion and Library/Museum Partnerships; depends on proposed project
- Subawards from the 3Rs to the 40 SLS - pre-determined formula
- Applications, IMLS assurances and final reports are required for all subawards, including ARPA funds granted by the 3Rs to other libraries and library systems
- Advice – Keep It Simple! Spend funds quickly!

NYS/IMLS ARPA Subaward Program (cont'd)

(Very) Tentative Timeline

2021

Sept – ARPA Subaward Guidelines Available

Oct – Online Application Open

Nov – 3Rs Application Due to State Library

2022

Jan – 3Rs Application Approved by State Library

June 30 – Project activity end date

July 31 – Final Expenditure Report due

Next Steps

- NYSL/ARPA Guidelines sub teams for Digital Inclusion and Museum Partnership programs
- Look for SED/State Library Official ARPA Announcements
- Work with your 3Rs and your member libraries on project plans and ideas.
- Regional collaboration is encouraged!

For More Information, Please Contact

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Resources

- New York's America Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Plan: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/funding/arp-esser/>
- Summary of Education and Related Provisions of ARPA: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/psc/aboutcharterschools/lawsandregs/american-rescue-plan-21.pdf>
- IMLS ARPA Award to New York State Library: <https://www.imls.gov/grants/awarded/ls-250228-ols-21>
- Achieving Digital Equity in New York: An Outline for Collaborative Change: <https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/DigitalEquityNY.pdf>
- New York State's Digital Divide: Examining adoption of internet and computers for the state and its library districts: <https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/documents/HorriganReportNY.pdf>
- NYSL America Rescue Plan Act Library Program (2021-2022): <https://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/arpa/>

Thank you being here and for helping us make these projects successful. Together we can use this opportunity to improve the lives of New Yorkers and establish models for effective collaboration.