

# AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) INTRODUCTION

*For a brighter tomorrow in Colchester*

## WHAT IS ARPA?

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021, also called the COVID-19 Stimulus Package, is a \$1.9 trillion economic stimulus bill passed by the 117th United States Congress and signed by President Joe Biden on March 21, 2021, to speed up the United States' recovery from the economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Connecticut towns and cities are anticipated to receive \$2.55 billion statewide, with \$1.56 billion to general government, and an additional \$995 million to boards of education. Colchester has \$4.68 million available through this federal program. Half of the funds have been received. The second half of the funds will be received within one year.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE / WHO CAN REQUEST FUNDS?

The ARPA grant is open to the Colchester community at-large, including, but not limited to: local businesses, non-profits, youth services, senior services, mental health agencies, town services, recreational staff, public safety officials, religious organizations, community-based programs, agencies providing support for health disparities, programs addressing capacity building efforts, and town departments. If the request falls within the ARPA guidelines, the request will be considered.

***Recipients must demonstrate that funding use directly addresses a negative economic impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency, including funds used for economic or workforce development.***

## HOW DO I SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR ARPA FUNDING?

Click [HERE](#) to download the application from the ARPA town webpage. Once completed, email the application to [ARPA@ColchesterCT.gov](mailto:ARPA@ColchesterCT.gov) or drop off a copy at the First Selectman's office in the Colchester Town Hall. Ask about paper applications if needed. You are encouraged to submit your application as soon as possible to be considered for funding. You will be contacted when your application is received and you may be invited to join the ARPA Committee meeting when your application is being reviewed.

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**Questions? Contact Us!**

[arpa@colchesterct.gov](mailto:arpa@colchesterct.gov)

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## WHO IS THE ARPA COMMITTEE?

The ARPA Ad-Hoc Committee is comprised of members of the Long-Term Recovery Committee, the First Selectman and liaisons from the Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, Planning and Zoning, and the Deputy Chief Financial Officer. The Colchester ARPA Ad-Hoc Committee will be reviewing and providing ARPA funding recommendations to the Board of Selectmen.

## WHAT IS THE ARPA COMMITTEE'S OBJECTIVE?

To objectively review, assess and make funding recommendations to the Colchester Board of Selectmen based on submitted ARPA Recovery Funding Requests from the Colchester community.

## HOW WILL THE COMMITTEE MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS?

The ARPA Committee is committed to a fair and impartial review process. To help with this mission, we are utilizing an assessment tool to help assess applications with consistency and reliability. Along with the assessment tool, the team will be using a committee voting approach to ensure all ARPA Committee members have a voice in all decisions. Once recommendations are made, they will be sent to the Board of Selectmen to make final funding decisions. You will be contacted after a final funding decision has been made.

## EXAMPLES OF ELIGIBLE USES:

- Support Public Health Response
- Address Negative Economic Impacts
- Investments in Water and Sewer
- Broadband Infrastructure
- Municipal Infrastructure
- Providing Government Services
- Building Stronger Neighborhoods
- Healthy Childhood Environments
- Payroll / Benefits: Front Line Workers
- Public Health / Safety Employees
- Small Business Start-Ups With Costs Associated with COVID-19 Mitigation

## FUNDS CANNOT BE USED FOR:

- Paying down unfunded pension liabilities
- Applying as matching funds toward other federal grants; and
- Paying interest or principal on outstanding debt, or for consent decrees/legal settlements.

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