

To Social Service Agencies and Civic Organizations serving Coles County:

As you are probably already aware, Coles County received two allotments of \$4.9 million dollars from the Federal Government's American Rescue Plan Act in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Coles County Board is charged with the responsibility of allocating these funds, following Federal guidelines. Your agency may be eligible to receive ARPA funding.

After two previous rounds of ARPA funding awards, grant applications are now being accepted for expenditure of the remaining ARPA funds. Applications are due by 4:30pm on December 1st, 2023. Applications received by 4:30pm, November 17th, 2023, will be reviewed for completeness, and the applicant will be notified of any deficiencies.

The application form can be found online

at: https://www.colesco.illinois.gov/static/ARPA/ARPA_Application.pdf

The application form provides an overview of the ARPA funding received by Coles County, as well as instructions for completing and submitting the grant application. Because Coles County has received less than \$10 million in ARPA funds, many of the original regulations regarding the allocation of and reporting on funds have been waived. However, members of the Coles County Board's ARPA committee are taking into consideration the original purpose assigned for the use of this funding in evaluating grant requests.

A fairly concise listing of the original qualified categories for the use of ARPA funding can be found in Appendix 1: Expenditure Categories, pages 42-46, of "The Compliance and Reporting Guidance for State and Local Recovery Funds" issued by the U.S. Treasury. This document is available online at: <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRF-Compliance-and-Reporting-Guidance.pdf>

I hope this information is of use. If you have questions, please contact the Coles County Treasurer's Office at 217-348-0511.

Thank you for the services your agency or organization provides for the citizens of Coles County,

Michael Watts
Coles County Board, District 3
ARPA Committee Member

cc: George Edwards, Coles County Treasurer; Darrel Cox, ARPA Committee Chair; Carla Swinford, Coles County Treasurer's Office