THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021 provides $1.9 trillion in economic relief through direct payments (stimulus checks to individuals), expanded child tax credits and unemployment benefits, small business loans, and aid to local and state governments.

ARPA allocates $350 billion in aid for state and local governments in addition to the aid previously allocated under prior coronavirus relief efforts (the CARES Act and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act). Unlike funds awarded under these two previous bills, ARPA funding to states and cities is largely unrestricted.

Pandemic-related funding to cities and states should be used to support individuals and communities who have been devastated by the coronavirus pandemic and the economic, housing, and health care crisis it precipitated—Black, Indigenous, disabled, and migrant communities; workers in health care, service, and other disproportionately impacted sectors, including workers in informal and gig economies.

These funds should NOT be used to fill police department coffers or reward individual cops and prison and jail guards who have systematically harmed these very same communities—including through discriminatory enforcement of pandemic-related public health orders and refusing to protect or release incarcerated people during the pandemic.

HOW CAN AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS BE USED?

ARPA FUNDS ARE DESIGNATED* FOR:

- Responding to the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, including through aid to:  
  - households,  
  - small businesses,  
  - nonprofits, and  
  - industries such as tourism and hospitality.

- Providing “premium pay” to essential workers or grants to their employers up to $13 per hour or $25,000 per worker over and above their regular wage;

- Providing government services affected by revenue shortfalls due to COVID-19; and/or

- Making necessary investments in water, sewer and broadband infrastructure.**

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* In order to receive ARPA funds, both state and local governments must submit a certification from the governor or other authorized officer of the state attesting that the state, or local government, needs federal assistance for these purposes to the Department of Treasury.

** Legislative analysis of the American Rescue Plan by Holland & Knight, available online: https://www.hklaw.com/en/insights/publications/2021/03/american-rescue-plan-act-of-2021-summary
HOW MUCH IS THE FUNDING?

- Counties will receive $198 per resident;
- Cities with more than 50,000 residents will receive an average of $200 to $300 per resident (the funding formula for this category takes into account city need);
- Cities with fewer than 50,000 residents will receive approximately $240 per resident.

For comparison, in a typical year, the federal government disburses about $250 per resident in aid to all local governments serving that resident (e.g., city, county), not including federal pass-through education aid. ARPA aid more than doubles that amount.***

To find out how much your city will receive, check the table at the end of this fact sheet — if your city is not there, you can find aid estimates for 20,000+ local governments in a searchable database created by Civilytics using these links for City Aid Estimates and County Aid Estimates.

WHEN WILL THE FUNDS COME?

HALF THE FUNDS WILL BE PAID BY MAY 10TH. The other half will be paid no sooner than 12 months later (May 10, 2022).

NO COVID-19 SUPPORT MONEY FOR COPS!

Cities and states must provide a full public accounting of how CARES Act funds were spent, including a detailed accounting of all funds provided to law enforcement.

Any remaining CARES Act funds should be used to:

- Provide personal protective equipment (PPE) to all health care, essential, and service workers;
- Provide for quality health care, vaccination, and medical release for people incarcerated in state and local facilities and immigration detention;
- Provide for public health education through community-based credible messengers;
- Provide for equitable, widespread vaccine distribution with a focus on disproportionately impacted communities;
- Provide no-cost face masks for all individuals using public transportation in accordance with the federal mask mandate.

The following demands relating to the America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and CARES Act funding were developed by the Community Resource Hub COVID-19 Policing Project in consultation with project partners.

- Provide personal protective equipment (PPE) to all health care, essential, and service workers;
- Provide for quality health care, vaccination, and medical release for people incarcerated in state and local facilities and immigration detention;
- Provide for public health education through community-based credible messengers;
- Provide for equitable, widespread vaccine distribution with a focus on disproportionately impacted communities;
- Provide no-cost face masks for all individuals using public transportation in accordance with the federal mask mandate.

NO COVID-19 SUPPORT MONEY FOR COPS!

CARES ACT FUNDS SHOULD BE USED FOR

- Provide for equitable, widespread vaccine distribution with a focus on disproportionately impacted communities;
- Provide no-cost face masks for all individuals using public transportation in accordance with the federal mask mandate.

Any remaining CARES Act funds should not be used for:

- Surveillance technology, military or law enforcement equipment;
- COVID-19 policing units;
- Police overtime coverage;
- General police department, prosecutor, court or jail budgets.

**ARPA FUNDS SHOULD BE USED FOR**

States and municipalities should engage in public participatory budgeting processes to determine how ARPA funds should be spent.

When allocating ARPA funds, the following direct supports to people and communities devastated by the coronavirus and economic crisis should be prioritized:

- Housing assistance, rent and mortgage cancellation or deferment;
- Long-term eviction moratoriums to address the looming and potentially deadly and devastating eviction and foreclosure crisis;
- Permanent, quality, accessible housing for all unhoused people;
- Direct cash assistance and income support for unemployed and underemployed people, including undocumented people, disabled people and caretakers;
- Summer youth employment, educational, and recreational programs;
- Equitable, widespread vaccine distribution with a focus on disproportionately impacted communities;
- Health care, vaccination, and medical release for incarcerated people;
- Non-profit and mutual aid programs—note that the ARPA specifically provides that the funds can be disbursed to provide assistance through non-profits;
- Resources for teachers and students to ensure safe, enriching, and supportive educational experiences during the pandemic, including appropriate and consensual mental health services as students return to in-person learning;
- Evidence-based violence interruption programs that do NOT involve law enforcement;
- Violence prevention and interruption through quality, accessible, and universal housing, health care, youth programs, education, employment, cash assistance, and income support;
- Safe, accessible, and ecologically sound transportation infrastructure;
- Library expansion and creation and maintenance of public spaces;
- Arts sector relief funding;
- Free universal high-speed broadband for everyone.

**ARPA FUNDS SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR**

- Police, prosecutors, and jail and prison guards should be excluded from any bonuses, income support, “premium payments” or wage supplements offered through ARPA funds;
- No ARPA funds should be used for police or correctional staff bonuses, overtime, recruit classes, equipment, or pensions;
- States and municipalities should not apply to the Public Benefit Guaranty Corporation for aid under the ARPA to cover shortfalls in police pension funds;
- No ARPA funding should be used to train police in mental health crisis response—these funds should go directly to accessible, voluntary, harm reduction based community mental health prevention and treatment services;
- No ARPA funding should be used to conduct sweeps of encampments of unhoused residents in direct violation of Centers for Disease Control guidance. Funding should be directed to long-term, quality, accessible housing for unhoused people;
- States and municipalities should not apply to FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund for funding for police departments (including transit police and school resource officers), prosecutor’s offices, jails, prisons or any place of detention.
# ARPA Aid Estimates for Selected Cities

Don’t see your city? Visit [www.civilytics.com/post/arpa-local-aid/](http://www.civilytics.com/post/arpa-local-aid/) to search over 20,000 jurisdictions to find it!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Senate Aid Estimate</th>
<th>Estimated Aid Per Capita</th>
<th>Population</th>
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