



INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE ARC/GOA PRE-APPLICATION

IMPORTANT: THE MAXIMUM GRANT REQUEST IS CURRENTLY \$250,000, NOT TO EXCEED 50% OF THE PROJECT COST. SINCE HOLMES COUNTY IS CLASSIFIED AS A COMPETITIVE COUNTY BY ARC, PROJECTS IN HOLMES COUNTY CANNOT EXCEED 30% OF THE TOTAL PROJECT COST. WITH PASSAGE OF THE BI-PARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE BILL, THE MAXIMUM GRANT MAY BE INCREASED TO \$500,000 FOR MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR PROJECTS PENDING FORMAL APPROVAL BY THE OMEGA EXECUTIVE BOARD AND NOTIFICATION THAT THE ADDITIONAL FEDERAL FUNDS FROM ARC ARE AVAILABLE.

THE ARC/GOA PROGRAM IS GAP FINANCING AND OTHER FUNDING SOURCES MUST BE COMMITTED OR IN PROCESS OF BEING COMMITTED. ACTUAL FUNDING, IF AWARDED, MAY BE LOWER THAN THE AMOUNT REQUESTED.

OMEGA is currently accepting pre-applications for funding from the Appalachian Regional Commission and the Governor's Office of Appalachia. As a reminder workforce development is a priority for both the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and the Ohio Governor's Office of Appalachia (GOA). Applicants are welcome to submit workforce development projects in this round of funding using the ARC/GOA pre-application forms. Workforce development projects will be scored based on Scoring Criteria developed for the Regional Job Training Program that was available in 2018 and 2019.

The FY 2022-2026 ARC Strategic Plan identifies Goals and Objectives for the ARC and GOA funding. Based upon recent guidance from the Appalachian Regional Commission, projects requesting federal funding need to focus on economic opportunities and development or providing a ready workforce.

Applicants need to identify the Economic Impact of a proposed ARC Project, such as the number of businesses that will be improved by a project, or the number of jobs that will be created by a project. For example, a community replacing a water storage tank would need to identify the number of businesses that will be impacted by that new water tank. The ARC is also interested in funding projects that will leverage private sector investment. Applicants for ARC funding should identify any private sector funding, and provide supporting documentation, such as a letter of commitment from the businesses. Projects that do not assist businesses, create new jobs or include private sector investment will still be considered for funding through the Governor's Office of Appalachia (GOA) funding.

Pre-application Instructions:

1. **Project Title:** Self explanatory
2. **Project Grantee:** Legal Name of Applicant Organization
3. **Contact Person:** name, address, phone, and e-mail
4. **Engineer:** name, organization, address, phone, and e-mail
5. **Counties served:** List the county(ies) in which the project is located or that the project will serve and the number of people who will benefit from the project. Please also list the Economic Status for each county in the project's service area. The Economic Status of counties in the OMEGA region is as follows:

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| • Belmont County | Transitional |
| • Carroll County | Transitional |
| • Columbiana County | Transitional |
| • Coshocton County | At Risk |
| • Guernsey County | At Risk |
| • Harrison County | At Risk |
| • Holmes County | Competitive |
| • Jefferson County | At Risk |
| • Muskingum County | Transitional |
| • Tuscarawas County | Transitional |

Example: A waterline project in Cadiz would only list Harrison County. A career center or community college requesting funds for new equipment needed for a specific program, such as lab equipment or CNC machines, would list the Appalachian counties from which they draw students.

Basic Agency: OMEGA will complete.

6. **ARC Investment Goal/Strategy (objective):** view the document "*ARC Strategic Plan FY 2022 - 2026*" on the Appalachian Regional Commission website <https://www.arc.gov/investment-priorities/> or the OMEGA website www.omegadistrict.org. Pick only one goal and one objective each. If your project fits more than one goal and strategy, pick the one that seems the most applicable.
GOA Investment Goal/Strategy: view the document "*GOA Goals and Strategies*" on the OMEGA website www.omegadistrict.org. Pick only one goal and one objective each. If your project fits more than one goal and strategy, pick the one that seems the most applicable.
7. **Purpose:** What is the primary purpose? Your answer should tell why you picked the goal and strategy that you did. For example: Replacement of the 200,000-gallon water storage tower in the village of XYZ will provide adequate and safe drinking water for 200 households and ten businesses.

8. **Funding:** List your type, amount (**nearest \$100**), percent of the total, source, and status. Briefly describe the status of obtaining the other funding sources. ARC/GOA funds cannot be more than 50% of the total project cost (30% for projects in Holmes County). Proposed leverage sources must be one of the following:

- **Committed:** Grant Agreement has been issued or local funds committed
- **Pending:** Application/Nomination has been submitted, but not approved or funding from the Ohio Water Development Authority will be used for construction.
- **Potential:** Application will be submitted after April 28, 2023.

Following is an example:

| Type | Amount | Percentage | Source | Status |
|--------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------|----------------------|
| ARC or GOA | \$200,000 | 8% | Area Development | This Pre-Application |
| Federal | \$400,000 | 16% | USDA RD Grant | Committed |
| State | \$200,000 | 8% | OPWC Grant | Pending |
| Local | \$1,600,000 | 64% | USDA RD Loan | Committed |
| Local | \$50,000 | 2% | General Fund | Committed |
| Private | \$50,000 | 2% | Jones Foundation | Potential |
| Total | \$2,500,000 | 100% | | |

10. **Project Description:** Describe what you are doing, where you are doing it. For construction projects describe outputs, such as 2,000 l.f. of 8” water line will be installed. Provide status of project and milestone schedule (month and year) to include (as applicable) design, environmental, right-of-way acquisition, permitting, bidding, and construction.

11. **Strategic Rationale:** Briefly describe the problem that the project will address, and how this problem and solution impact the applicant/project area. Why must it be done? If you have a local plan with which this project aligns, cite the plan.

12. **Collaborative Partners:** Identify local, regional, and/or state partnerships that will support the project. Letters of support from federal and state legislators are **not** required for the pre-application. If your project is selected for a full application, then these letters of support would be beneficial.

13. **Project Sustainability/Capacity:** Briefly describe how the project will be sustained once ARC/GOA assistance is no longer available. Describe previous experience with similar projects.

Example: For our wastewater treatment plant improvement project, our sewer rates are sufficient to operate and maintain the improvements as well as to establish a replacement fund. In addition, we have two Class III certified operators who have the technical skills needed to operate the new facility.

14. **Impact Measures:** View the attached document “ARC Guidance for Performance Measures” to determine how to identify quantifiable Outputs and Outcomes.

Output/Outcome: *Please use bullet points only, no sentences.*

Example A: Water System Improvement

Output

- 5,000 linear feet of water line
- 0.2 million gallon water storage tank
- 5 businesses served
- 100 households served

Outcome

- 5 businesses improved
- 100 households improved

Example B: Workforce Development

Output

- One 3-D Printer
- One CNC Machine
- 200 students/workers served
- 10 businesses served

Outcome

- 180 students/workers improved
- 5 businesses improved

Required Attachments

- Signed and Sealed Certified Engineer’s or Architect’s Cost Estimate for construction projects only
- Minimum of one vendor quotation for equipment projects only
- Documentation on commitment of other funds to include a letter signed by the Chief Financial Officer on local share or other evidence of commitment (i.e. grant agreement, approval letter)
- Service Area Map
- Other Documentation to support pre-application.
- Support Letters are **not** required for the pre-application.

Questions

Contact Alan Knapp, OMEGA’s ARC Program Manager at alank@omegadistrict.org or at (740) 439-4471, ext. 211.

**Submit the GOA/ARC pre-application, with attachments, by April 28, 2023 to:
alank@omegadistrict.org (preferred), or mail copies to:**

OMEGA
326 Highland Avenue, Suite B
Cambridge, Ohio 43725
Attn: Alan Knapp