



IMPACT! Grant Program Guidelines

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 established the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF), which delivers \$350 billion in COVID-19 relief to state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments. Special-purpose units of local government did not receive funding allocations. However, state, territory, local, and Tribal governments may transfer funds to a special-purpose unit of government. Franklin County (County) was allocated \$30,112,177 in federal funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) through the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF).

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners has sponsored funds to be used for grants to assist municipalities, municipal authorities and non-profit organizations that are located and operating within Franklin County. Currently, \$10 million has been allocated to fund the County's IMPACT! Grant Program (IMPACT!) to fund eligible expenditures through eligible applicants.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS:

Eligible applicants are non-profits organizations, municipalities, and municipal authorities. For profit businesses are not eligible to apply.

FUNDING LIMITATIONS:

There is a minimum grant request of \$25,000 and maximum grant request of \$500,000. For municipal and municipal authority applicants, there is a 50% matching funds requirement. Matching funds can be in the form of other local, state, or federal grant funds or local/private cash. In-kind contributions are not accepted as match funding.

ELIGIBLE USES:

If IMPACT! funding is awarded, eligible expenditures must be incurred no earlier than March 3, 2021, obligated no later than December 31, 2024, and expended by December 31, 2026.

The costs to be covered by this grant must meet the requirements as outlined below:

- Provide general governmental services that were impeded, delayed, or otherwise affected by the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Revitalize Franklin County communities that were negatively impacted by COVID-19 pandemic; and/or
- Support key infrastructure projects such as water, sewer, and broadband.

The County has highlighted some key eligible activities that may fit into the above outlined requirements which include, but are not limited to: (1) creating affordable housing; (2) providing resources for disadvantaged communities; (3) enhancement of public infrastructure; (4)



improvement of outdoor space; (5) improvement of green infrastructure projects; (6) funding vocation education programs; (7) funding mental health programs, (8) funding physical health programs, and (9) expanding/improving broadband.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners will appoint an IMPACT! Evaluation Team. The Evaluation Team will evaluate and prioritize applications. It will provide recommendations to the Franklin County Board of Commissioners for its review and final grant award decisions.

The Evaluation Team will review each application to ensure it aligns with the requirements as outlined above in the “Eligible Uses” section. To further assess each application, the Evaluation Team will focus on the below outlined evaluation criteria:

- Has the applicant demonstrated an economic harm that has occurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and does the proposed initiative reasonably respond to that impact?
- Has the applicant demonstrated a strong likelihood that the proposed initiative will be sustainable long-term after all subsidy has been expended?
- Has the applicant demonstrated that the proposed initiative will have a substantial impact on Franklin County’s economy or community?
- Has the applicant received funding from other sources, either as direct recipient or as a sub-recipient?
- What level of local or private matching funds is being proposed, if any?
- Has the applicant demonstrated an achievable timeline for completion/implementation?

HOW TO APPLY:

The grant application is available under the County Grant Opportunities section of www.franklincountypa.gov. Applications are being accepted for the IMPACT! Grant Program from Friday, July 1, 2022 to 4:30 p.m. EST on Wednesday, August 31, 2022. All applications must be submitted online using the link provided above. No paper submissions will be accepted.

PROCEDURES FOR ACCESSING FUNDS:

Successful applicants will be notified by the County in fall 2022. An official award letter and grant agreement will be emailed to the applicant for review and execution.

Successful applicants will receive 25% of their IMPACT! grant award upon receipt of a fully executed grant agreement. The remaining 75% of the grant award shall be provided on a reimbursement basis as funding requests with associated paid invoices and proof of payments are received by the County. Applicants will be allowed one reimbursement request per quarter. ***Please note that financial and status reporting requirements as well as federal funding procurement processes will be outlined in the IMPACT! grant agreement.***