



## Phoenix ARPA Afterschool Grant Program Guidelines

In March 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 was signed into law providing the City of Phoenix with nearly \$396 million over the next two years. The first allocation of \$198 million was received in May 2021 of which \$28,800,000 has been dedicated to youth and education programs. This includes a one-time opportunity for expansion of the Parks and Recreation Department's Youth Sports League (YSL) and Phoenix Afterschool Center (PAC) programs. Additionally, there is a one-time opportunity for City of Phoenix schools to apply for grant funding to support afterschool programs.

A dedicated \$2.5 million has been designated for grant funding to City of Phoenix schools for afterschool programming efforts. Funded afterschool programming should provide youth with recreation and enriching programs creating a fun, supportive and educational atmosphere during the crucial afterschool hours. Please note, drop in/out afterschool programs will be considered, and programs are **not** required to be a licensed childcare facility under ARS section 36-882. All Phoenix school districts are invited to apply.

Applicants must meet the required criteria and adhere to the ARPA funds regulations below to be considered for afterschool program grant funding. The standardization of criteria results in a fair and equitable selection process for all interested parties further enhancing enrichment opportunities for youth in Phoenix.

### **Required Criteria: Title I / Free and Reduced Lunch Rate**

To be considered for this grant opportunity, the afterschool program must serve youth in Title I schools or schools that have a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) free and reduced lunch rate of 50% or higher.

### **Additional Criteria**

In addition to the Title I / free and reduced lunch rate requirement, the following criteria will be used to evaluate which applicants will be selected for grant funding. Not all criteria listed below is required, however priority will be given to afterschool programs that provide:

- A clear, detailed program plan including program components and outline, staff/organizational chart, program start/end time, safety plan, etc.
- A clear, detailed program budget outlining costs for staff, supplies, food/snack, safety equipment, etc.
- Adequate indoor program space for program participants
- Programming that does not duplicate services including similar day, times, age and program components, etc. within the same school campus or afterschool program site
- Willingness to formalize grant funding by an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for school districts

### **ARPA Funds Regulations**

Due to the nature of the funds, there are specific regulations associated with the allocation of the funds. The following is a list of ways the funds may/may not be applied:

- Funds are to be spent solely on afterschool programs only
- Funds can be spent on direct program materials, equipment, and staffing (i.e. arts and craft materials, recreation supplies, marketing materials, program site staff)
- Funds cannot be spent on organization administrative staffing and associated costs to manage/support afterschool program

- Funds must provide universal access to safe and reliable programming across the City of Phoenix (associated facilities must be ADA compliant).
- Program providers will be required to report their efforts to help close equity gaps in community's that need safe and reliable programming the most.
- All funds must be tracked to ensure legal use of funds and to support potential audits
- Financial, performance and compliance reporting will be required

Note: Full recipient compliance and reporting Guidance can be found below:

On June 17, 2021, Treasury released the [Compliance and Reporting Guidance](#) for this program. The guidance provides additional detail and clarification for each recipient's compliance and reporting responsibilities, and should be read in concert with the Award Terms and Conditions, the authorizing statute, the [Interim Final Rule](#) (IFR).

**ARPA Funds Tracking**

Part of the allocation of ARPA funds includes the requirement to track the funds to ensure all dollars are being spent on afterschool programs. Funds allocated to school districts will be monitored by Parks and Recreation department staff to guarantee that funds are allocated to appropriate uses. Monthly reports (standard reporting template to be provided) showing any expenditure of ARPA funds will be required of all awarded school districts.

**Application for ARPA Funds**

A submittal of a grant application and approval from the Parks and Recreation Department will be needed to receive APRA funds for afterschool programming. Offered as part of the submittal process will be two (2) scheduled pre-submittal meetings to discuss fund parameters and restrictions, program goals, and an opportunity to ask questions. Attendance to the pre-submittal is encouraged but not required. The meetings are scheduled for October 27 and October 29. For meeting details, visit [phoenix.gov/parks/arpa](http://phoenix.gov/parks/arpa)

**2021-2022 School Year:**

Quarter 3 Start	Application Due: November 8, 2021
Quarter 4 Start	Application Due: January 1, 2022
Summer Start	Application Due: March 1, 2022

**2022-2023 School Year:**

Quarter 1 Start	Application Due: March 1, 2022
Quarter 2 Start	Application Due: June 1, 2022

Note: Initial application review date will be 2 weeks after the due date.