

Staying Abreast of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funding Opportunities

While federal agencies are making every effort to provide information to the public regarding the status of ARRA funding opportunities, the news often comes out piecemeal, and the shape of some programs continues to change on an almost daily basis. Following are some suggestions for keeping informed about funding opportunities that could be of the greatest value to your department or organization:

- On a regular basis, monitor the main federal site with information on ARRA funding www.recovery.gov, along with the sites of the federal agencies that are relevant to the goals of your department. (To locate the section of an agency's web site with information about the ARRA, add "/Recovery/" to the address for the web site--for example ARRA information for the Department of Labor can be found at www.dol.gov/recovery/)
- Use the SAVE function in eCivis Grants Network Research to select specific ARRA-supported funding opportunities that you are interested in. eCivis has been providing regular updates on the status of programs funded by ARRA, and you'll automatically receive these by e-mail once you've Saved a specific grant.
- Take advantage of the research and advocacy work being done by regional, state and national organizations to get additional information about a specific area of funding. The California League of Cities (www.cacities.org) and the National Conference of Mayors (www.usmayors.org) are two good sources of general information on how cities can benefit from the ARRA. In addition, many national associations (for example, the National Recreation and Park Association www.nrpa.org) have a section of their web site devoted to the impact of the ARRA on their areas of advocacy.

- Use the web to take part in public information meetings hosted by the different federal agencies in order to get the most up to date information about funding amounts, release dates for RFPs, etc.
- Finally, take the opportunity to participate in the public comment process that some federal agencies are using to determine the final form of the funding opportunity. You may be able to influence final version of the Request for Applications in a way that is beneficial not only for your application, but for all applicants.

Using eCivis for ARRA Funding Research

eCivis continues to be an immensely valuable source of current information on regarding potential ARRA funding. Updates on the status of specific opportunities are provided on the site on a daily basis.

To obtain the full list of state and local grants impacted by the ARRA on eCivis Grants Network, click on the following link, which will take you to a [downloadable pdf document](#) (last updated on March 23) that includes links to more detailed grant descriptions, organized by the federal agency providing the funding.

To obtain a list that includes only the local government grants, select "Search for Grants" on Grants Network Research, enter the Keyword "ARRA", select "Federal" under Type and "Local Government" under Eligibility in Additional Search Criteria.

Finally, the following [page in eCivis' KnowledgeBase](#) provides detailed analyses of the ARRA, including updated information on the impact on individual federal departments and agencies. Knowledgebase is another valuable component of eCivis that will continue to provide the most current information available about the status of the Stimulus Bill and its impact upon funding for local government.