

EDA and the
American
Rescue Plan
Act



What is the American Rescue Plan Act?



- Signed into law March 11, 2021.
- Intended to address the COVID-19 Pandemic's impacts.
- Complements 2020 stimulus legislation- such as the CARES Act.
- Nearly \$2 trillion in estimated spending.

Economic Development Administration Funds



- US Commerce Department.
- Tasked with “promoting innovation and competitiveness” in American Regions.
- Through the MEDD-
Montachusett is one of these regions.
- Allocated \$3 billion to accelerate the economic recovery from the Pandemic and build local economies.



Funding Opportunities

- Seven NOFAs released Thursday, July 22nd:
 - Build Back Better Regional Challenge;
 - Good Jobs Challenge;
 - Economic Adjustment Assistance;
 - Travel, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation;
 - Statewide Planning, Research and Networks;
 - Indigenous Communities;
 - and Coal Communities Commitment.



Eligible Applicants

- Statewide Grants- Invite Only
- Competitive Grants:
 - EDA-designated Economic Development Districts*;
 - Indian Tribes or a consortium of Indian Tribes;
 - State, county, or city/town governments;
 - A consortium of governments;
 - Institutions of higher education or a consortium of institutions;
 - Public or private non-profit organizations or associations acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State.
- Individuals or for-profit entities are **not** eligible.

*The Montachusett Economic Development District (MEDD) approved by the EDA in 2003.

Build Back Better Regional Challenge



- Assist communities accelerate economic recovery and...
- Increase local resilience to future economic shocks.
- Will provide 20 to 30 grantees the opportunity to grow new regional industry clusters or scale existing ones through:
 - planning,
 - Infrastructure investments,
 - innovation and entrepreneurship programming,
 - workforce development,
 - access to capital,
 - and more.

Build Back Better Regional Challenge- Phase I



- Fifty to 60 awardees will be selected.
- **Awards:** ~\$500k
- **Uses:** Technical assistance to identify and develop 3 to 8 projects which grow a regional industry cluster.
- **Application Deadline:** October 19, 2021

Build Back Better Regional Challenge- Phase II



- Twenty to 30 finalists selected from Phase I grantees.
- **Awards:** \$25m to \$75m (possibly up to \$100m).
- **Uses:** Implementation of projects identified in Phase I.
- **Application Deadline:** March 15, 2022.

Build Back Better Regional Challenge- Contact Info



- **Grant Info:**
<https://eda.gov/arpa/build-back-better/>
- **Email Inquiries:**
BuildBackBetter@eda.gov

- Build & strengthen partnerships that bring together employers and key entities.
- Train workers with in-demand skills that lead to good-paying jobs.
- Three phases, as applicable to regional needs:
 - System Development,
 - Program Design, or
 - Program Implementation.



Good Jobs Challenge

- EDA anticipates funding 25 to 50 grants.
- **Awards:** \$1m to \$25m.
- **Uses:** Create & implement regional, employer-driven training programs led by a System Lead Entity or Backbone Organization which helps workers find and keep quality jobs.
- **Application Deadline:** January 26, 2022.



Good Jobs Challenge- Application Details

- **Grant Info:**

<https://eda.gov/arpa/good-jobs-challenge/>

- **Email Inquiries:**

GoodJobsChallenge@eda.gov



Good Jobs Challenge- Contact Info



Economic Adjustment Assistance

- EDA's most flexible program.
- A total of \$500 million in funding,
- But \$200 million set aside for the million Coal Communities Commitment.



Economic Adjustment Assistance- Application Details

- **Awards:** \$100k to \$10m
- **Uses:** A wide range of projects, including...
 - Technical assistance,
 - Planning,
 - Workforce development,
 - Entrepreneurship support,
 - Public works,
 - Infrastructure projects.
- **Suggested Submission:** March 15, 2022.



Economic Adjustment Assistance- Contact Info

- **Grant Info:**
[https://eda.gov/arpa/
economic-adjustment-
assistance/](https://eda.gov/arpa/economic-adjustment-assistance/)

Travel, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation



- Focused on accelerating the recovery of the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors.
- \$750m of EDA's ARPA funds are being directed towards this effort...
- With \$510 million in **non-competitive** awards to states and DC for tourism related investments in:
 - marketing,
 - infrastructure,
 - workforce development,
 - and other projects.

Travel, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation- Competitive Grants



- Remaining \$240m directed to competitive grants.
- **Awards:** \$100K to \$10m.
- **Uses:** Flexible and similar to state grants. Tourism related investments in...
 - marketing,
 - infrastructure,
 - workforce development,
 - and other projects.
- **Suggested Submission:** March 15, 2022.

Travel, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation- Contact Info



- **Email:**
TravelandTourism@eda.gov
- **Grant Info:**
<https://eda.gov/arpa/travel-tourism/>



Statewide Planning, Research and Networks

- Promote equity.
- Develop local economies that are resilient to...
 - future economic shocks,
 - and climate change.
- \$59m allocated to statewide planning grants.
- Another \$31m in competitive “Research and Network Grants”.



Statewide Planning, Research and Networks- State Grants

- Identify or grow industry clusters-
 - And facilitate future applications to EDA's ARPA Build Back Better Regional Challenge;
- Coordinate disparate local and regional plans;
- Decrease income disparities between regions and communities;
- Develop statewide broadband deployment and TA plans;
- And promote entrepreneurship or workforce development.



Statewide Planning, Research and Networks- Research Grants

- Evaluate and scale evidence-based economic development efforts.
- Develop the capacity to evaluate the EDA ARPA programs described above in real-time.
- Findings would be published and shared with other economic development practitioners.



Statewide Planning, Research and Networks- Networks Grants

- Create “Communities of Practice” that connect and provide TA to existing EDA grantees.
- Nationwide groups of EDA grantees with specific subject matter focuses- including:
 - Build Back Better Grantees,
 - Better Jobs Challenge Grantees,
 - Revolving Loan Funds, and
 - Economic Development Districts.



Statewide Planning, Research and Networks- Application Details

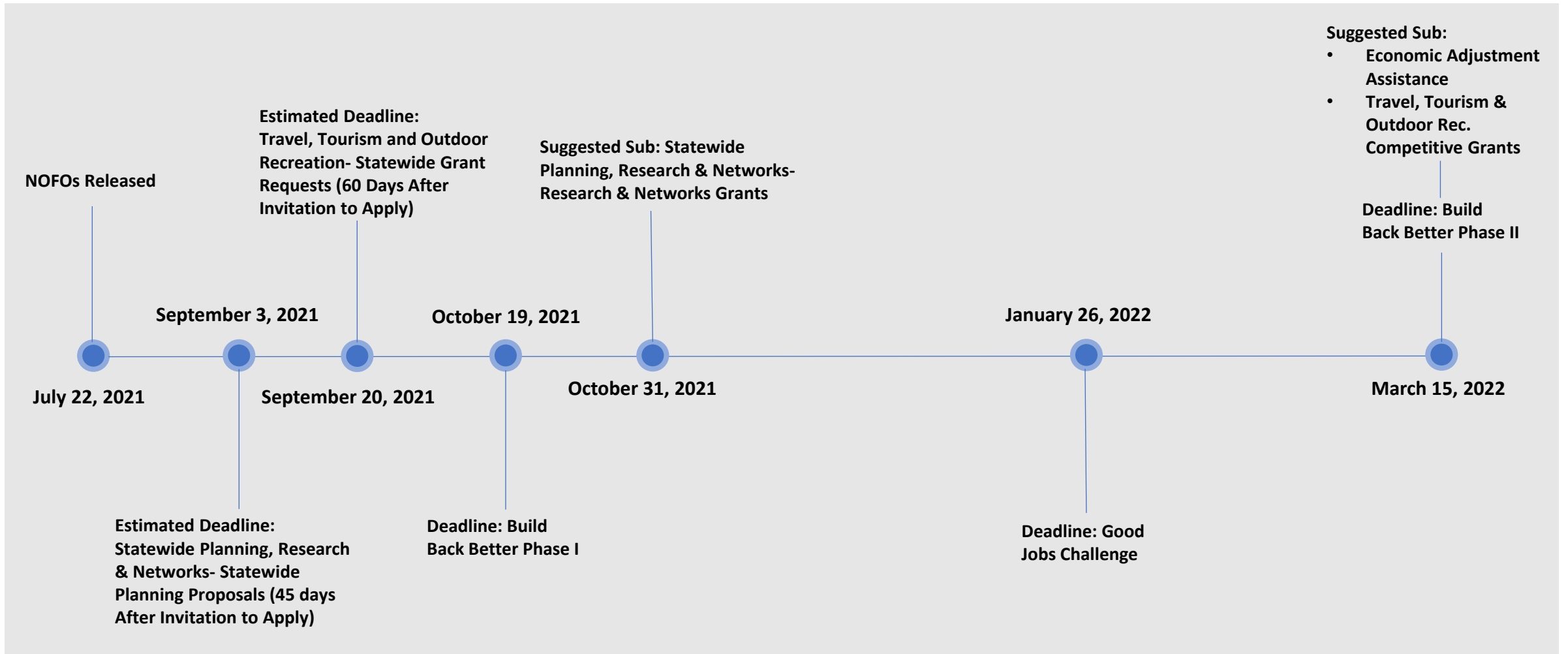
- **Awards:** \$200,000 to \$6 million
- **Uses:** Real time EDA-ARPA program evaluation and practitioner networking.
- **Suggested Submission Date:** October 31, 2021



Statewide Planning, Research and Networks- Contact Info

- **Email- Research Grants:**
research@eda.gov
- **Email- Networks Grants:**
networks@eda.gov
- **Grant Info:**
<https://eda.gov/arpa/planning-grants/>

EDA ARPA Grants Application Timeline



Questions and Discussion

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