



STATE OF ARKANSAS  
**Department of Finance  
and Administration**

**C**  
**OFFICE OF BUDGET**  
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October 3, 2025

Senator Jonathan Dismang, Co-Chair  
Representative Jeffrey Wardlaw, Co-Chair  
Performance Evaluation & Expenditure Review Committee  
Arkansas Legislative Council  
State Capitol Building  
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: FY 26 American Rescue Plan Act Request

Dear Co-Chairs:

Pursuant to Section 35 (01) of Act 1006 of 2025, I am forwarding the attached American Rescue Plan Act request(s) that have received my approval as Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

1. Department of Commerce – Economic Development Commission – State Broadband Office – Broadband Capital Projects – Reallocation of Previously Approved Appropriation \$0
2. Southern Arkansas University – Tech – HIRED Grant Track 2 – Reallocation of Previously Approved Appropriation \$0

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JL', is written over a horizontal line.

James L. Hudson  
Secretary

Attachment(s)

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PROGRAM APPROPRIATION  
AND PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATION REQUEST  
SECTION 35 OF ACT 1006 OF 2025

Agency: ACOM - AEDC - State Broadband OfficeBusiness Area Code: 0790

Program Title: Broadband Captial Projects - CPF

Granting Organization: U.S. Department of TreasuryCFDA #: 21.029

Effective Date of Authorization: Beginning: 7/1/2025Ending: 6/30/2026

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):  
The U.S. Treasury awarded the state \$158,086,576 from the Capital Projects Fund authorized under the American Rescue Plan Act. CPF funding may only be used for broadband projects and related administrative expenses (salaries, personal services, maintenance & operating expenses, professional fees, and sub grants. This request reallocates appropriations to align the operating budget with anticipated training expenditures. Training will be provided to subrecipients of grant funds to ensure accountability in the use of federal funds. The training will cover federal requirements, uniform guidance, proper documentation, and audit requirements.

American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding

Func. Area: COMMFund Code: FRP7905Direct Funding: X

unds Center: CA9Internal Order/WBS Element:Continuation: State:

	Program Funding Amount	
Regular Salaries		
Extra Help		
Personal Services Matching		
Operating Expenses		
Conference & Travel Expenses		40,000
Professional Fees		
Capital Outlay		
Data Processing		
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	\$	(40,000)
Other:		
Other:		
Total	\$	-

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds: 6/30/2026

State Technology Plan Approval

Date

Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted.

Positions to be established: (list each position separately)

\* unclassified positions only

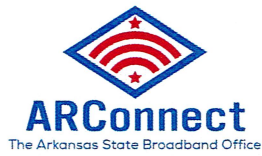
Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.

Approved by: [Signature] 9/4/25 Cayce Raney 09/30/25

Cabinet Secretary/Agency DirectorDateOffice of BudgetDateOffice of Personnel MgmtDate

KDR 09/08/2025



**Arkansas State Broadband Office – Plan Updates, SFY 2024  
Detailed Plan Updates**

**Capital Project Fund-Broadband  
CA9 FRP7905**

U.S. Treasury awarded the State of Arkansas \$158,086,576 from the Capital Projects Fund (CPF) authorized under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Funding from the CPF is separate from the \$1.6 billion in funding awarded under the ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program. Unlike the SLFRF program, which may be spent in a variety of authorized categories, the CPF award from Treasury specifies that it may only be used for broadband projects and related administrative expenses (regular salaries and personal services matching for staff; fees for management consultants and strategic program design advisory services and program management support; costs related to project engineering design and review; legal expenses related to project management support; media and communications expenses, educational related expenses to educate and teach citizens how to use and utilize broadband services; payroll for extra help staff or contract labor). Treasury allocated \$15,236,576 to be used for broadband projects with the balance of \$7,850,000 to be used for broadband administrative expenses through 2026. This broadband project funding was awarded to 22 projects across the state in the October 2022 ARC funding round, approved by ALC and JBC in December 2022 and February 2023, respectively. The availability and use of funds is subject to all applicable State and Federal laws including guidance from Treasury regarding CPF established by Section 604 of the Social Security Act, as added by Section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Supplementary guidance may be published at any time by Treasury and/or the State. Capital Projects must invest in capital assets designed to directly enable work, education, and health monitoring. The CPF grant program has been designed to address the critical need for high-speed, reliable connectivity that was highlighted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

**PLAN UPDATES:**

- Broadband infrastructure projects awarded, awaiting agreement execution and construction initiation:

Awardee	County/Location
CableSouth Media, LLC	Ashley
NEXT, Powered by NAEC	Baxter
Hometown Internet, LLC	Boone-B
Ashley-Chicot Electric Cooperative, Inc.	Chicot
South Central Connect, LLC	Clark
Connect2First Internet	Cleburne-A
Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	Cross
Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	Faulkner-B
Wave Rural Connect, LLC	Franklin
South Central Connect, LLC	Garland
South Central Connect, LLC/Central Arkansas Telephone Cooperative Inc.	Hot Spring
Farmers Rural Connect, Inc	Jackson
Wave Rural Connect, LLC/Cox Com, LLC	Logan-A
Wave Rural Connect, LLC	Logan-B
Connect2First Internet	Lonoke
Four States Fiber	Montgomery-A
South Central Connect, LLC	Montgomery-B
Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	Pulaski-A
Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	Pulaski-B
Petit Jean Electric Cooperative Corp	Searcy-B
Woodruff Electric Cooperative Corporation dba Enlightened	St. Francis

- A proposed awardee change for the Columbia County project.
- Utilizing allowable administrative funding, funding of four staff positions and personal services matching within the state broadband office. Two of the four proposed positions would serve as reclassifications of existing broadband office employees, while two other positions would offer additional capacity for the office.



Arkansas State Broadband Office

2024 Project Status Capital Projects Fund (CPF)

Currently, there have been 21 grants awarded for a value of \$136,812,351.82 They are at varying stages of project operations. Subgrant awards are as follows:

Project ID Number	Project Name	Internet Service Provider	Grant Award Amount
CPF-001	Ashley County	CableSouth Media III, LLC	\$7,921,193.22
CPF-002	Baxter County	NEXT, Powered by NAEC	\$2,151,269.00
CPF-003	Boone County-B	Hometown Internet, LLC	\$7,402,407.00
CPF-005	Clark County	South Central Connect, LLC	\$1,677,136.16
CPF-006	Cleburne County-A	Connect2First Internet	\$4,593,610.56
CPF-007	Columbia County	Walnut Hill Telephone Company	\$4,081,255.56
CPF-008	Cross County	Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	\$5,230,990.25
CPF-009	Faulkner County-B	Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	\$7,717,919.12
CPF-010	Franklin County	Wave Rural Connect, LLC	\$4,756,000.00
CPF-011	Garland County	South Central Connect, LLC	\$11,504,013.40
CPF-012	Hot Spring County	South Central Connect, LLC	\$2,660,631.50
		Central Arkansas Telephone Cooperative, Inc, now	
CPF-12A	Hot Spring County	South Central Connect	\$1,919,080.00
CPF-014	Logan County-A	Wave Rural Connect, LLC	\$5,749,999.37
CPF-14A	Logan County-A	CoxCom, LLC	\$8,502,452.00
CPF-015	Logan County-B	Wave Rural Connect, LLC	\$9,000,000.00
CPF-016	Lonoke County	Connect2First Internet	\$10,947,298.10
CPF-017	Montgomery County-A	Southwest Arkansas Telecommunications and Technology, Inc dba Four States Fiber	\$11,009,162.57
	Montgomery County-B		
CPF-21	B	South Central Connect, LLC	\$8,716,204.80
CPF-18	Pulaski County-A	Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	\$3,884,359.41
CPF-19	Pulaski County-B	Comcast Cable Communications, LLC	\$1,574,886.53
CPF-20	Searcy County-B	Petit Jean Electric Cooperative Corp	\$6,137,177.37
CPF-22	St Francis County	Enlightened by Woodruff Electric, LLC	\$9,675,305.90
			\$136,812,351.82

We have contracted with Michael Baker International to be our third-party administrator managing all subgrant operations.

Agency:Southern Arkansas University TechBusiness Area Code:0115

Program Title:HIRED Grant Track 2

Granting Organization:Office of Skills DevelopmentCFDA #:

Effective Date of Authorization:Beginning:7/1/2025Ending:6/30/2026

Purpose of Grant / Reason for addition or change (include attachments as necessary to provide thorough information):

SAU Tech is requesting to modify our MOU Budget for the HIRED Grant Track 2 awarded in November 2024. We wish to modify the following areas: Professional Fees from \$575,529.00 to \$287,765.00; Capital Outlay from \$3,336,936.00 to \$3,274,700.00; Other from \$500,000.00 to \$850,000.00. All other line item remain the same as previously approved. Attached is the revised budget.

American Rescue Plan Act Program Funding

Func. Area: UNIVFund Code: 217ARP1Direct Funding: X  
Funds Center: D51Internal Order/WBS Element: State:   
Continuation:

	Program Funding Amount
Regular Salaries	-
Extra Help	
Personal Services Matching	-
Operating Expenses	-
Conference & Travel Expenses	-
Professional Fees	(287,764)
Capital Outlay	(62,236)
Data Processing	
Grants and Aid (CI: 04)	
Other:	-
Other: Trainging Cost Share (CI: 46)	350,000
Total	\$ -

Anticipated Duration of Federal Funds:12/31/2026

State Technology Plan Approval

Date

Items requested for information technology must be in compliance with Technology Plans as submitted to the Division of Information Systems.

Positions to be established: (list each position separately)

\* unclassified positions only

Org Unit	Pers Area	Pers SubArea	Cost Center	Position Number	Cmnt Item	Position Title	Class Code	Grade	Line Item Maximum *

State funds will not be used to replace federal funds when such funds expire, unless appropriated by the General Assembly and authorized by the Governor.

Approved by: 9/15/2025

Cabinet Secretary/Agency DirectorDate

Office of BudgetDate

Office of Personnel MgmtDate



## Consolidated HIRED Grant Budget

Revised 9/15/2025

<u>Category</u>	<u>Total Project Amount</u>
Personnel/Stipend	\$ 351,400.00
Travel	\$ 20,000.00
Equipment	\$ 1,954,700.00
Materials & Supplies	\$ 216,135.00
Professional Services	\$ 287,765.00
Construction	\$ 1,320,000.00
Area Workforce Training	\$ 850,000.00
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	\$ 5,000,000.00