**American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 - Updated**

[**(Full Text)**](https://www.congress.gov/117/bills/hr1319/BILLS-117hr1319enr.pdf)

[**(Title by Title Summary)**](https://www.democrats.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/ARP%20-%20Title-by-Title%20Summary.pdf)

Summary

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 is the latest Coronavirus relief package adopted by congress and signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021. The Act provides an estimated $1.9 trillion in mandatory funding, tax policies, and program changes aimed at mitigating the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Funding for which CACs may be eligible:**

* **$350 billion** in direct aid is included for states, counties, cities, and tribal governments. These funds may be used to replenish lost revenue, cover increased expenditures, and mitigate economic hardships. *(May cover costs incurred by December 31st, 2024.)*
	+ **$195.3 billion** to states *(May be subject to legislative appropriation or executive discretion. Chapters should explore circumstances that may be unique to their state.)*
		- **$500 million** base amount to each state and DC
		- **$169 billion** allocated based on states’ share of unemployed workers between Oct. and Dec. 2020.
	+ **$120.2 billion** to local governments
		- **$65.1 billion** to counties [(Funds by County)](https://www.naco.org/resources/featured/state-and-local-coronavirus-fiscal-recovery-funds#table)
		- **$45.6 billion** to metro cities (over 50,000 people) [(Funds by Municipality)](https://www.nlc.org/resource/estimated-local-allocations-in-the-american-rescue-plan/)
		- **$19.5 billion** to towns (less than 50,000 people)
		- **$20 billion** to tribal governments(allocations to be determined)
	+ State and local government funding may be used for a wide range of items tied to the public health emergency from COVID-19 or its negative economic impacts (including assistance to households, small businesses, nonprofits, and impacted industries); premium pay for essential workers; revenue loses tied to COVID-19; and necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.
	+ It will be up to each individual state and locality to determine how the funds are received, by whom they are administered, and to whom they are distributed. Chapters and CACs should consult with state and local leaders for specific information on administering entities and processes.
* **$350 million** for CAPTA, in addition to regular appropriations. (*Funds will carry forward until October 1, 2023 and the portion of new funding will not be subject to match requirements.)*
	+ **$100 million** **Title I** for states’ response to child abuse including investigations and child welfare agencies
	+ **$250 million Title II** for community based child abuse prevention (CBCAP). *(Distribution will be based on states’ populations of children under the age of 18.)* Funds flow through a governor’s designated agency/entity and may be spent flexibly to encourage community-based prevention, collaboration with CPS and other agencies, workforce development, technology enhancements, training, and promoting access to services.

**Program guidance for the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund will be released in the coming weeks. Please continue to check this** [website](https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/state-and-local-fiscal-recovery-fund) **for further updates.**

**Allowable Uses of ARPA – and Addressing Current CAC/Chapter Unmet Needs**

**ARPA – Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**

* Support public health costs
* Replace lost revenue
* Provide support to serve the hardest hit communities and families
* Provide premium pay for essential workers, including public health and safety staff, as well as social service and human services staff

**State/Local governments can use funds for (among other items):**

1. Mental health
2. Crisis intervention
3. Services/outreach to promote access to health/social services
4. Community violence intervention programs
5. Enhanced services for child-welfare involved families;
6. Premium pay for essential workers
7. Revenue losses tied to COVID-19

Each individual state/locality can decide how funds are received, distributed and administered. Chapters and CACs should consult with state and local leaders for specific information on administering entities/processes.

**Dollars CAN’T be used to lower taxes or replenish pension and rainy day funds.**

**ARPA - CAPTA Supplemental Funding –**

**Title I Allowable Uses:**

* Intake, assessment, screening, and investigation of reports of child abuse or neglect
* Creating/improving an MDT and interagency report to enhance investigations
* Case management
* Technology to track report of child abuse and neglect

**Title II Allowable Uses:**

* Developing, operating, expanding and enhancing community-based and prevention focused programs and activities designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect
* Foster development of a continuum of preventive services for children and families, including unaccompanied homeless youth
* Maximizing funding through leveraging of funds for financing, planning, community mobilization, collaboration, assessment, information/referral, training and technical assistance, information management, reporting (among other thigs, that is designed to strengthen and support families to prevent child abuse and neglect

**Talking points to highlight the need for accessing these dollars:**

**COVID Impact on CACs:**

* Discuss the caseload numbers – increases and strains on current resources
* Explain that CACs have remained open during the pandemic and saw emergency cases. Also explain any cases where action was postponed or rescheduled, and why they were rescheduled, and then explain the impact of working through this backlog.
* Explain how much $ your CAC/State CACs lost in revenue in 2020 due to the pandemic

**Current CAC Staffing needs – fill in for you CAC or State:**

* In X state, our #of CACs need at least X additional Forensic Interviewers (average salary of $50K), $X is needed.
* In X state, our #of CACs need at least X additional staff to perform medical exams (average salary of $70K), $X is needed.
* In X state, our #of CACs need at least X additional mental health therapist (average salary of $50K), $X is needed.
* In X state, our #of CACs need at least X additional victim advocate (average salary of $40K), $X is needed.
* Additional staffing needs to ensure you are able to meet the needs of the communities. – Describe specific needs to your state or CAC – i.e. admin, coordinator, other needed positions

**VOCA/CVF** has made a big difference for CACs!

* CACs in X state have gone from $X to $X in VOCA funding. (But the CVF that funds VOCA grants is expected to be at $0 by 2022.
* And here in X, we are currently facing X% cuts. With VOCA in such a dire situation, states are already making significant cuts, with even more coming to CACs and other service providers, with another X% next year. Congress is working on a fix for VOCA, but replenishing the Fund will take time. For this reason, CACs and Chapters need emergency dollars to help bridge this gap.