

Pandemic Grants: Making Progress and Closing Out

**Hilary Atkin, ONAP HQ Grants Management Director for
Pandemic Programs**

Amber Hunter, ONAP HQ GE Director

Agenda

- Background
 - Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act
 - American Rescue Plan (ARP)
- Status of Pandemic Grants
- Expenditure Encouragement
 - ONAP outreach and assistance
 - Technical Assistance and Training
 - ARP Clinics
- Amendments
- Closeout
- Resources

Background

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act

- CARES, Public Law 116-136, provided funding to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19. It included the following:
 - \$200 million for the IHBG program
 - \$100 million for the ICDBG program.
- Please visit the [ONAP-CARES Act](#) website for specific program details, guidance and resources.

Background

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP)

- ARP, Public Law 117-2, provided additional funding to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19. It included the following:
 - \$450 million for the IHBG program
 - \$280 million for the ICDBG program
 - \$10 million to provide technical assistance for these specific programs
- Please visit the [ONAP-ARP 2021](#) website on Codetalk for specific program details, guidance and resources.



Status of Pandemic Grants



ICDBG-ARP: 31% of grant funds undisbursed

IHBG-ARP: 37% of grant funds undisbursed

ICDBG-CARES: less than 10% undisbursed

IHBG-CARES: 11% of grant funds undisbursed

Expenditure Encouragement

A top goal for ONAP this year is to encourage progress on pandemic grants

- **Keeping an eye on expenditures:** If grantees have a significant balance or grants appear to be stalled, ONAP will be reaching out.
- **Scheduling planning calls and meetings**
- **TA**
- **Training**
- **Clinics**

Planning Call with ONAP

If you are having trouble spending down funds, consider a change in plans.

- **Should you change your plans to your housing operations, or other typical IHBG activities?** Must prevent, prepare or respond to COVID
- **Do you need additional information about what is eligible for the pandemic grants, or to succeed at a particular activity?** You can consult with ONAP or get one-on-one technical assistance through ONAP's TA providers.
- **Would training help you take a next step?**

Eligible Activities

- IHBG programs – Keep in mind housing operations
- Needs that are unmet and can be implemented quickly
- Notice PIH 2021-11: IHBG-ARP Implementation Notice
- Notice PIH 2021-22: ICDBG-ARP Implementation Notice

Grantees must demonstrate that their grant activities are geared towards preparing, preventing, and responding to COVID-19 pandemic.

What did you do that got results for your community, and got the funds spent?

Onsite Training and Technical Assistance

- Please contact your Grants Management (GM) Specialist to discuss Onsite Training and TA opportunities. Available TA may include:
 - Procurement and Preparing a Request for Proposal (RFP). This might be helpful for improving your procurement process and, more specifically, RFP writing.
 - Project Development TA. This might be useful for meeting project goals and maintaining development timeline.
 - Please complete the [TA Request Form](#) on ONAP's [Training](#) website.

Virtual and In-person Training

Visit ONAP's [Calendar of Events and Training Opportunities](#) website to view current and upcoming training opportunities. Available Training Events include:

- Force Account Training- provides overview and guidance you might find helpful when developing and managing force account labor teams for construction, rehabilitation, and infrastructure projects.
- Financial Management- training will provide participants with an understanding of fund types, basics of accounting, differences between Governmental Fund versus Proprietary Fund Accounting and financial statement components.
- Environmental Review- provides the necessary skills to ensure full compliance with the requirements of 24 CFR Part 58.

HUD ARP Implementation Clinics

- HUD has tasked one of our TA Providers with delivering ARP Implementation Clinics to assist grantees to fully expend funds through program implementation, reporting, and closeout.
- This is very much in progress.

Amendments

- Grantees can request **time extensions** to finish their project if they encounter delays while implementing their projects.
- Grantees can also request **budget modifications** if they need to change their budget item lines.
- If project scope changes, grantees can **amend their planned activities**

IHBG CARES/ARP Amendments

- Guidance on the pandemic website
- Abbreviated IHP form

There are only two instances when an Abbreviated IHP amendment must be submitted to HUD for review and determination of compliance:

- (1) When the recipient is adding a new activity that was not described in the current IHBG-CARES IHP that was determined to be in compliance by HUD; or
- (2) When the recipient is reducing the amount of funds budgeted to protect and maintain the viability of housing assisted under the 1937 Act.

The recipient is not required to submit an amended Abbreviated IHP to HUD:

- If the revision simply alters the IHBG-CARES budget, including moving funds among planned tasks, or
- If it deletes a planned activity, *unless* the re-programmed funds from the budget amendment or task deletion will be used for a new task not currently in an IHP determined by HUD to be in compliance, *or unless* the change is to reduce the budget supporting 1937 Act units.

ICDBG CARES/ARP Amendments

- Guidance on the pandemic website in [PIH Notice 2022-12](#)

ICDBG CARES/ARP Amendments

- Addition of activities, projects, or programs that were not in the grantee's approved ICDBG-CARES/ICDBG-ARP award;
- Deletion of activities, projects, or programs that were included in the grantee's approved ICDBG-CARES/ICDBG-ARP award;
- Proposed budget adjustments that exceed twenty (20) percent of the total ICDBG-CARES/ICDBG-ARP grant among activities, projects, or programs that were approved in the award;
- The re-budgeting of costs to a new budget category not already approved in the ICDBG-CARES/ICDBG-ARP award, regardless of percentage (e.g., reimbursement of allowable COVID-19 costs when reimbursement was not originally identified in the grantee's ICDBG-CARES/ICDBG-ARP application, the proposed change of use of funds to hire a contractor when such costs were not originally approved, etc.); and
- Time extensions: All timeline extensions will be considered significant amendments. (See examples of justified reasons for timeline extensions below).



Required Documents for Amendment

- Amendment request
- Updated project summary
 - Include justification for the amendment
- Updated Implementation schedule (HUD 4125): [HUD-4125.pdf](#)
- Updated Cost Summary document (only for budget modification): [HUD-4123.pdf](#)

Closeout

- ONAP will be reaching out based on the POP end date, and the grant balance
- If you are done, we can close the grant at any time

Closeout Process

- **ONAP will send a reminder of closeout 90 days before the POP End date**
- **ONAP will send initiation Closeout letter 60 days before the POP end date.**
- **For closeout, Grantees need to submit Final SF-425 & Final Report (Abbreviated APR or ASER).**
- **ONAP will reach out as needed.**
- **ONAP will Issue Final Closeout letter**
- **ONAP will close the grant.**

Resources

- [CodeTalk - Pandemic Programs](#)
- ICDBGARP@hud.gov



Questions ???