



Mississippi County Water & Sewer Infrastructure Grant Program

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)

Applications Due: March 1, 2024



Introduction:

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law. Among many other provisions, ARPA provides direct funding to each county in the United States through what is called the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Relief Fund (CLFRF). For Mississippi County, Arkansas, this amount is \$7,895,980.00. Mississippi County has designated \$750,000.00 from its CLFRF to fund the “Mississippi County Water and Sewer Infrastructure” grant program.

These grants will fund innovative and effective water and sewer infrastructure projects designed to address the infrastructure needs of the County. Each grant will provide up to \$125,000 for cities/towns within Mississippi County and can only be used for Water and Sewer Infrastructure projects pursuant to Arkansas Constitution, Article 12, Section 5 as incorporated into Article 12 by Amendment 97. These grants will fund up to 75% of project costs, with 25% cost being matched by the applicant.

Eligible Applicants:

Applications for this grant may be submitted by cities/towns located within Mississippi County.

Grant Amount:

This grant offers a maximum of \$125,000.00 for each project, with a limit of one project per city/town being eligible for an award. Cities/towns that have received funding from the previous Infrastructure Grant Program are still eligible to apply. However, the total grant funding received by any one applicant must not surpass \$400,000.00.

Ineligible Uses:

- Activities that conflict with the purpose of the American Rescue Plan Act statute (e.g., uses of funds that conflict with COVID-19 mitigation practices in line with CDC guidance and recommendations).
- Violations of Award Terms and Conditions or conflict of interest requirements under the Uniform Guidance.
- Any illegal purpose or purpose against the interest of Mississippi County.
- Any uses not defined by the Arkansas Constitution. (Article 12, Section 5 as incorporated into Article 12 by Amendment 97)

Eligible Projects:

The funding allocated by Mississippi County for this grant program should be used to assist with Water and Sewer Infrastructure project planning or implementation with a priority for projects that address areas of greatest need and serve those most at-risk.

- Funds will be disbursed on a *reimbursement* basis.



Eligible Timing:

Implementation of the project should not extend beyond two (2) years of the date of the grant award.

Important Dates:

February 9, 2024	Applications posted on County website
March 1, 2024	Applications due to the County no later than 5:00 PM
March 19, 2024	Grant awards announced and recipients notified
March 29, 2024	Grant Agreement signed
October 31, 2024	Mandatory Spending Review
March 29, 2026	Any funds not expended by this date will be returned to the County



Mississippi County Water & Sewer Infrastructure Grant Program

General Information	
Date:	SAM UEI #:
Entity Name:	Federal Tax ID:
Main Contact Name:	Main Contact Title:
Position of person authorizing submittal:	Signature of person authorizing submittal:
Project Title:	
Applicant Type: (check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> County Agency <input type="checkbox"/> City/town located in Mississippi County	
Project Type:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Water & Sewer treatment	
Total project cost: \$ _____	Total Match Cost: \$ _____
Is this a phased in Project? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
If yes, how many phases? _____	
During how many years? _____	
Project is currently in phase: _____	



1. Applicant Contact Information

Authorized Representative Name:

Authorized Representative Title:

Mailing Address Line 1:

Mailing Address Line 2:

City/Town:

State:

Zip Code:

Physical Address Line 1:

Physical Address Line 2:

Physical Address City/Town:

Physical Address State:

Physical Address Zip Code:

Phone Number:

E-Mail Address:

2. Application Preparer Contact Information (If different from Applicant Contact Information)

Firm Name:

Contact Name:

Mailing Address Line 1:

Mailing Address Line 2:

City/Town:

State:

Zip Code:

Physical Address Line 1:

Physical Address Line 2:

Physical Address City/Town:

Physical Address State:

Physical Address Zip Code:

Phone Number:

E-Mail Address:

3. Partner City/Town Contact Information (if applicable)

Will this project be implemented with the assistance
of a partner City/Town? Yes No

Partner Agency Name:

Contact Name:

Mailing Address 1:

Mailing Address 2:

City/Town:



4. Project Description

Please be sure this description includes all major project components and clearly states what the project seeks to accomplish. *(If additional space is needed, please provide additional pages in your application response).*

Start Narrative here



5. Project Type. *Please describe how this project will address the water and sewer infrastructure needs in your community.*

Start Narrative here

6. Areas to be Served. *Please describe what areas of Mississippi County that will be affected by your project. Also describe how this project will promote growth of the population in your City/Town.*

Start Narrative here

7. Community Served. *Please describe what Community will be served by your project.*

Start Narrative here



8. Partner City/Town? Will this project be implemented in collaboration or partnership with another City/Town? If so, please explain the nature of the collaboration.

Start Narrative here

9. For Projects that have a construction component, please check all that apply from below. If applicable, please describe the details of the construction portion of this project.

- Engineering/design plans are in development
- Engineering/design plans are complete and approved
- Project has received applicable permits
- Construction on the project can begin within 1-6 months
- Construction on the project can begin within 6-12 months
- Construction on the project can begin within 12-18 months
- Construction on the project can begin within 18 months

Start Narrative here



10. Program/Project Budget			
Description of Expense	Mississippi County Grant Funding Requested	Other Secured Funding Source(s)	Total Cost Amount
<u>Program/Project Costs</u>			
Input Line-item 1	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Input Line-item 2	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Input Line-item 3	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Input Line-item 4	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Input Line-item 5	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Input Line-item 6	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>Program/Project Cost Subtotal:</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<u>Administration Costs</u>			
Input Line-item 1	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Input Line-item 2	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Input Line-item 3	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Input Line-item 4	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Input Line-item 5	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Input Line-item 6	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>Administration Subtotal:</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL PROJECT COST:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<i>Please describe how you will ensure funding will be allocated and spent by March 29, 2026.</i>			



SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

The application can be submitted electronically.

- **Electronic Submission:**

- An electronic copy of the application and supporting materials (e.g., project support letters from partner cities) in pdf format must be submitted to the County no later than 5:00 pm, on Friday, March 1, 2024. The emailed proposal must be less than 10 megabytes in size. Proposals will not be accepted by facsimile machine submission. Project proposals selected for awards will need to sign grant applications prior to receiving grant award.

Email proposal to: MississippiCountyARNOFA@gmail.com

Certification by Authorized Representative

The attached statements and exhibits are hereby made part of this application, and the undersigned representative of the Applicant certifies that the information in this application and the attached statements and exhibits is true, correct, and complete to the best of his/her knowledge and belief. By initialing each item and signature at the end of this application, he/she further certifies that:

- _____ 1. As Authorized Representative, he/she has been authorized to file this application
- _____ 2. The governing body agrees to provide any additional documentation or information requested regarding this proposed project/program;
- _____ 3. The Applicant has substantially complied with or will comply with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations and ordinances as applicable to this project/program;
- _____ 4. The project budget provided in this application form includes all funding requested from all sources of funding proposed for this project; and
- _____ 5. The Applicant acknowledges that all funds are subject to approval by the Quorum Court.



Application Completeness Checklist

*In addition to this application, **the following items should be included for a complete application package**; please initial that each item is included in this submittal if applicable.*

_____ **Provide documentation supporting any Partnership and/or Collaborative efforts**
Provide documents that support any partnerships or collaborative efforts that identified, planned, or are implementing the project.

_____ **Provide documentation and any project plans for the project/projects submitted for funding. This includes any planning studies, project construction plans, or any other documents that detail the components of the project.**

_____ **Provide documentation to support any Match funding sources**
For secured funding, you must attach a letter of support from the match funding source that:
• Specifies the dollar amount identified for this project,
• Equals the dollar amount shown in the “Amount/Dollar Value” column in the table below, and
• Describes the work to be accomplished through the match.

For pending resources, you must attach other written documentation showing a request for the matching funds. Documentation must:
• Include the project name,
• Note the date on which a future funding application will be submitted, and
• Identify the funding program from which funds are pending.

_____ **Provide any letters of support for your project. (If applicable)**

Submittal Information

For all programs, send one (1) **electronic copy** of the Application.

Email: MississippiCountyARNOFA@gmail.com *(Must be less than 10 megabytes in size.)*

Application Signature

Please note: Original signatures are required for each application.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

TYPED NAME

TYPED TITLE

DATE



Application Evaluation Process

The Mississippi County Water and Sewer Infrastructure Grant Review Team will be comprised of consultants with background and in-depth knowledge of Water and Sewer Infrastructure. The review team will be tasked with providing reviews and ratings of the submitted applications. In addition, the review team will provide recommendations for funding to the Quorum Court for review. The lists will include scoring criteria as well as the total score for each applicant.

County staff will review the recommendations and then submit the final list of recommendations for projects and funding amounts to the County Commissioners for approval. The Quorum Court shall have final approval of funding for projects. No monies shall be expended from the fund without approval of the Quorum Court.

Each project application will be reviewed based on information received and will include scoring in key priority areas identified in the table below. The scoring process will be used as a tool to assist in final project award decisions by the County.

Scoring Criteria	Project Points Available:
Detailed Project Information, including details about the project and to what extent does the project meet at least one of the following priorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water & Sewer treatment	25
Does the project address an infrastructure need, that has a direct correlation with growth of the population in the city/town the project will be located. Does this project promote growth of the population for Mississippi County.	15
Letters of community Support demonstrating that the proposed project is supported by other community organizations, partners, or stakeholders.	10
Does the project leverage other funding to implement the project? Does the project include a match contribution?	15



Project Readiness, how quickly can the project be implemented.	20
Project demonstrates collaboration with other cities/towns in Mississippi County.	10
Supporting Documentation: All supporting documentation has been submitted and supports information contained in the application. Including any supporting plans, studies, or construction plans for proposed project.	5
Total Points:	100

Application Process

Applications will be reviewed in the order received. The County anticipates eligible applicants should receive a decision no later than March 19, 2024.

If the County determines that an application is ineligible, or the documentation attached does not meet the requirements the applicant will be notified via email that the application has not been accepted for funding.

- ❖ **Grant funds will be distributed to projects in priority order and partial awards maybe considered for lower-scoring projects at the discretion of the County.**