

Current ARRA Opportunities for Public Libraries | April 2009

[American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) aka Federal Economic Stimulus Package]

“Shovel-ready” Construction/Renovation/Energy Efficiency Projects

1. If your community is proposing other infrastructure projects for the town or village or county through that site, it is even stronger to have them include your request as part of a total local community proposal. Partnerships improve the probability of a sustainable effort.
2. Identify an appropriate federal program supporting the request. Look at the Recovery Handbook at:
http://www.economicrecovery.ny.gov/assets/pdf/030509_NYS_Recovery_Handbook.pdf on the NYS site for brief descriptions of each program.
 - a. Example: Construction Projects – Army Corps of Engineers; Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy – Department of Energy; Community Development Block Grant Program
3. Fill out the form at <http://www.recovery.ny.gov/system/proposal.cfm>

Broadband: Digital Literacy / e-Government

1. If another organization or company (BOCES, nonprofit, provider) is proposing other broadband, digital literacy projects for your community, it is even stronger to have them include your request as part of a total local community proposal. Partnerships improve the probability of a sustainable effort.
2. Identify an appropriate federal program supporting the request. Look at the Recovery Handbook at:
http://www.economicrecovery.ny.gov/assets/pdf/030509_NYS_Recovery_Handbook.pdf on the NYS site for brief descriptions of each program.
 - a. Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) or
 - b. Rural Broadband (RUS) / United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Distance Learning, Telemedicine and Broadband Program
3. Fill out the form at <http://www.recovery.ny.gov/system/proposal.cfm>

Senior Community Service Employment Program

ARRA includes a provision that can help senior citizens find jobs - by working at their local library. The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) provides community service jobs to older Americans at nonprofit and public facilities, including libraries. To express interest in having a program participant placed as an employee in your library at no cost to the library, contact:

Tim Kovarik, Aging Services Program Coordinator
New York State Office for the Aging, Title V Unit
Empire State Plaza, Agency Building #2
Albany, NY 12223
Ph: 518.474.7252; Toll-Free: 800.342.9871;
Email: t_kovarik@ofa.state.ny.us

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)

[Please note, these applications were due April 2.] "These recovery funds are intended "to focus on projects that preserve jobs in the arts."

