



2022

Laurens County

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT GRANT APPLICATION

Applications must be received by 4/1/2022

“Late Applications shall not be considered.”

Return applications to: *Laurens County*
Attn: Administration
100 Hillcrest Square
Laurens, SC 29360

Or email to: ARPA@co.laurens.sc.us

Amount you are requesting:	\$ 300,000
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SECTION I: ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Name of Organization:	Laurens County School District 55	
Contact Name and Title:	Jody Penland, Assistant Superintendent	
Mailing Address:	301 Hillcrest Dr.	
Street Address (if different)		
Phone Number:	864-984-3568	
City, State and Zip Code	Laurens, SC 29360	
Fax Number:	864-984-8118	
Email Address:	jpenland@laurens55.org	
Website:	www.laurens55.org	
How long has your organization been in existence?	Since 1951	

NOTE: Attach a list of your organization’s governance body: Board of Directors, Chief Officers and Executive Director.

Tax Status (check one)

- Tax-exempt charitable organization (501(c)(3))
- Other Tax-exempt (specify status)
- Church/Religious organization
- Other (specify) _____
- Governmental unit
- Federal State Local
- Unincorporated association

Please attach a copy of your organization’s IRS tax status determination letter (not applicable to government agencies or religious congregations). A tax exempt identification number is not sufficient.

Federal Employer Identification Number:	57-6001517
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FOCUS AREA: (check one)

- Arts
- Education
- Health and Wellness
- Human Needs
- Community Development
- Environment
- Public Safety
- Youth Development

PROGRAM SERVICES (check one)

- Children Families Youth Senior Citizens
- Other (Specify) _____

Geographic area served:	Laurens School District 55
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Percentage of service delivered to the <u>Citizens of Laurens County</u>	65 %
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SECTION II FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Applicant’s overall operating budget: \$ 74,947,751 Fiscal Year 7/1/2020 to 6/30/2021
M/D/YY M/D/YY

Please list the history of funding to your agency from the Laurens County:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2018	\$ 0 beyond tax collections
2019	\$ 0 beyond tax collections
2020	\$ 0 beyond tax collections

GIVE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF NEED FOR AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDS.

This section is limited to 2900 characters including spaces, which is approximately 400 words.

As a result of discussions and consultation with stakeholders, the team found poverty and COVID disruptions to school operations have resulted in gaps in coordination of resources and poor student achievement. With a district poverty rating of 75.2%, 4093 of our total student population struggles with a lack of resources within their homes.

Students in all schools and their communities have been adversely affected. Students need support to meet the demands of a competitive job market. They must master world-class skills, knowledge, and characteristics listed on the SC Graduate Profile. Poverty and rural isolation cause a lack of opportunities to learn and limited background experiences. These conditions require access to rigorous academic instruction and meaningful enrichment activities.

In a response to the COVID-19 impact on our community, Laurens 55 will focus these funds to enhance our community's first responder workforce which include EMS, Fire Fighters, and Health Care providers. Laurens 55 will utilize funding to prepare students to become prepared for the emergency management workforce. The funding received will be utilized to implement Career and Technology Education (CATE) programs by developing Emergency Medical Services and Emergency & Fire Management course offerings. Laurens 55 will also utilize this funding to expand and update equipment for the expansive Health Science course offerings which include CNA certification and Project Lead the Way Biomedical Science.

Laurens County School District 55's vision is to prepare students for success in learning and careers through engaging, challenging, and personalized learning experiences. The utilization of the funds will allow for more career-focused curriculum and opportunities for students, and a continued focus on the Profile of a South Carolina Graduate. L55 is committed to providing the opportunity for all students to have equitable opportunities to develop skills and achieve content and learning priorities.

PLEASE LIST OTHER CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT (CARES ACT) / PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM (PPP) AND OR AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDING YOUR ORGANIZATION RECEIVED (INCLUDING FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS), THE AMOUNTS AND WHAT IT IS WAS USED FOR:

TYPE OF FUNDS RECEIVED CARES ACT/PPP AND OR ARPA	YEAR RECEIVED	DESCRIPTION OF WHAT FUNDS WERE USED FOR	AMOUNT
Homeless - ARP	2021-2023	To support students effected by homelessness	\$ 24,904
CARES Funding	2020-2023	See attached ESSER Summary	\$ 1,600,000
ESSER II Funding	2021-2023	See attached ESSER Summary	\$ 6,900,000
ESSER III/ARP Funding	2021-2024	See attached ESSER Summary	\$ 16,000,000
Medicaid Provider Relief	2020	Therapy for students	\$ 13,390
			\$
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PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING BUDGET BREAKDOWN SECTIONS ON THESE PAGES (NO ATTACHMENTS.) You may get these figures from your most recently submitted IRS Form 990, or you may simply use your overall operating budget.

1. CONTRIBUTIONS, GIFTS, GRANTS & OTHER SIMILAR AMOUNTS

SOURCE	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Government Grants			
Municipal Capital/Bond repayments	\$ 5,050,359	\$ 6,204,725	\$ 6,079,771
County (Property Taxes/FILO	\$ 14,252,290	\$ 16,165,837	\$ 16,456,498
State (Funding model allocation/grants)	\$ 38,887,522	\$ 37,317,477	\$ 38,570,224
Federal other than COVID-19 Funds	\$ 8,735,057	\$ 9,013,661	\$ 10,048,454
Foundation Grants	\$	\$	\$
Contributions/Federated Campaigns	\$	\$	\$
Membership dues	\$	\$	\$
Fundraising events	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL CONTRIBUTED INCOME	\$ 66,925,228	\$ 68,701,700	\$ 71,154,947

2. PROGRAM SERVICE REVENUE

SOURCE	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Fees / Sold Services			
Services	\$	\$	\$
Tuition / Fees	\$	\$	\$
Workshops, Seminars, Lectures, etc.	\$	\$	\$
Other (specify)	\$	\$	\$
Other (specify)	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES REVENUE	\$	\$	\$

3. OTHER REVENUE

SOURCE	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Publications (Newsletters, etc.)	\$	\$	\$
Concessions and/or Merchandise	\$	\$	\$
Advertising	\$	\$	\$
Space Rental Fees	\$	\$	\$
Other (specify)	\$	\$	\$
Other (specify)	\$	\$	\$
TOTAL EARNED INCOME	\$	\$	\$

TOTAL COMBINED INCOME (1+2+3)	\$ 66,925,228	\$ 68,701,700	\$ 71,154,947
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4. **EXPENSES**

	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Program Services	\$ 34,453,808	\$ 36,763,140	\$ 41,281,819
Fundraising	\$	\$	\$
Administration, Management, General	\$ 16,023,920	\$ 15,186,622	\$ 14,919,474
Other (Specify)	\$ 10,817,242	\$ 11,420,539	\$ 12,221,837
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 61,294,970	\$ 63,370,301	\$ 68,423,130

If your organization receives "in-kind" support, please list below:

SOURCE	TYPE OF IN-KIND SUPPORT
None reported/calculated	

List funds already committed for the project for FY 2022 and the sources of these funds.

SOURCE	AMOUNT
ESSER III	\$ 92,689
	\$
	\$
	\$
TOTAL	\$

Who in your organization is responsible for fundraising?

- Staff
 Board of Directors
 Consultants
 Members/Volunteers

5. Will your organization's 2022 budget be significantly different than 2021 and prior years?

- Yes (if yes, explain in the box below)
 No

This box is limited to 880 characters including spaces, which is approximately 125 words

6. FUNDING REQUEST FOR BUDGET YEAR 2022

Please provide breakdown by categories:

CATEGORY	PROGRAM SERVICES FY 2022	ADMINISTRATIVE/ GENERAL FY 2022
Supplies	\$ 150,000	\$
Equipment (specify)	\$ 145,000 *see #3 below	\$
Travel/Training	\$ 5,000	\$
Personnel	\$	\$
Marketing / Promotions	\$	\$
Other (specify)	\$	\$
TOTAL REQUESTED	\$ 300,000.00	\$

SECTION III: ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. Briefly state the history and purpose of your organization.

This box is limited to 1400 characters including spaces, which is approximately 200 words.

Founded in 1951, Laurens County School District 55 serves approximately 5,500 students from diverse backgrounds. The staff of approximately 800 teachers and support personnel at Laurens County School District 55 is devoted to developing the full potential of every child. LCSD55 has 9 schools including one high school, two middle schools, two kindergarten through eighth grade schools, and four elementary schools. The district also sponsors the Laurens District 55 Preparatory Academy, an at-risk program for middle and high school students. Based on current local data relating to students eligible for subsidized meals, the district has an overall poverty rating of 78.93%. The demographic breakdown for the district is 53% white, 29% African American, 14% Hispanic, and 4% other races. Our district’s vision is “Empowering and Inspiring All to be Educated and Informed.” The purpose and vision of our school district is to prepare students for success in learning and careers through engaging, challenging, and personalized learning experiences recognizing that students are curious, confident in their abilities, and competitive in local, national, and global environments when these factors are present. We want our students to feel safe, valued, and supported in their learning by highly effective staff, families, and community.

2. Describe in detail how the pandemic has affected your organization.

This box is limited to 1400 characters including spaces, which is approximately 200 words.

The pandemic has created a heightened awareness of how Laurens School District 55 serves our students through educational resources. In all facets of our programs, we have had to adjust to students needs, demands of the pandemic, and the social, emotional, and physical changes that have occurred based on the last two years of the COVID-19 pandemic. Student safety has always been a priority in our school district; however, it took on new meaning with new guidelines and pressure on our students and their families brought on by the pandemic. Our instructional focus shifted during the pandemic and as we continue to reshape how we provide high-quality instruction to all of our students to prepare them for college and careers, we are faced with a new educational landscape. It is important that we are able to give students the necessary tools and skills, such as those we request in this grant, to be productive citizens and workers to give back to our community after what they have experienced over the last two years of the pandemic.

3. How will any funding awarded be utilized?

This box is limited to 1400 characters including spaces, which is approximately 200 words.

Funds from this project will be used to support the costs of training Laurens 55 students and community partners in skills required for Fire and Emergency Management, Health Science, and EMT CTE classes. The goal of this training is to provide a constant stream of trained emergency management professionals for the county. Specific items to be purchased from the course include durable supplies, equipment and curriculum. World class instructional materials include a Non-Clinical LUCAS 3.1 Training Unit, LIFEPAK CR2 Fully Automatic WIFI Defibrillator with QUIK-STEP electrodes, LIFELINKcentral AED Program Manager Basic Account (\$1966), Ambu Res-Cue Mask First Responder Kit (\$35), LIFELINKcentral Pro License (\$91), Code Blue® III Adult medium skin tone adult resuscitation and emergency care simulator package with OMNI® 2 Control Interface*, charger, accessories, user manual (\$9,400) and Mobile Virtual Monitor (\$3,145). Full details on these items and other items to be purchased with this funding are included in the budget narrative. Funding will also be used to provide attendance at the PRISMA EMS / USC School of Medicine (Greenville) Swamp Rabbit Prehospital Medicine Conference (\$50/participant). Funding would also be utilized for turnout gear (\$5000 each), used fire truck (\$60,000), EMS/EMT simulator, and other devices/ equipment. Without this funding world class training opportunities will not be possible.

4. State your organization’s ability to continue operations (i.e. current staffing levels, staff qualifications, prior experience, etc.)

This box is limited to 1400 characters including spaces, which is approximately 200 words.

Laurens District 55 has over 3 decades of experience in providing public education including the development and implementation of sustainable CTE courses designed to prepare Laurens County students to find meaningful gainful employment here in Laurens County. Through careful use of state and local funding, the district sustains programs similar to this project in diverse fields including automotive technology, HVAC, building and construction, computer science, agriculture, robotics and bio-medical applications. The district works with Piedmont Tech, community leaders, local business and industry to operate programs that promote the development of a workforce that is well trained and motivated to serve the communities of Laurens County. Laurens 55 will combine funds from this project with state CTE funding to purchase the instructional equipment and durable supplies needed to start courses for students in Fire and Emergency Management. The materials will also be used in cross training opportunities with local Fire and Emergency Management agencies. This project will be sustained past the grant period because funds will be coordinated with state funds without duplication or supplanting to purchase non-consumable equipment, durable supplies and to cover training costs for students and partnering organizations within the county.

5. Discuss your organization’s relationship with other programs in the community designed to meet the same or similar needs, especially those that provide services/assistance to those most impacted by the pandemic. Describe collaborative partnerships that may result.

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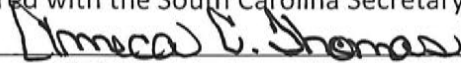
Laurens District 55 has a decades’ long positive working relationship with local businesses, industries, law enforcement and medical services providers. The district also has partnerships with District 56, Piedmont Tech and other organizations providing emergency management training within specific sectors of the county. The idea for this project to provide training without duplication or supplanting existing programs was developed using input from community EMS providers. The pandemic has caused a shortage in qualified applicants to fill existing and expected positions in local organizations responsible for EMS services. Additional information from partners identified the need for continuing education and training opportunities for current service providers. This project will provide opportunities for existing county employees choosing to stay with EMS professions and secure a steady stream of qualified recruits to fill expected positions as Laurens County grows. Supporting this project is investment in the students of Laurens District 55, current EMS providers and the future employees of Laurens County Fire and Emergency Management agencies.

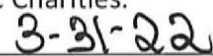
6. What is your plan for continuing your program(s) in the future, including funding sources?

This box is limited to 1400 characters including spaces, which is approximately 200 words.

This project will be continued as part of the Career and Technical Education content offered by Laurens District 55 High School. Because the funding from the project will be used for training, durable instructional supplies and non-consumable equipment, the project is sustainable. Laurens District 55 High School will provide space for classes and arrange for qualified instructors. All equipment and durable supplies will become part of the permanent inventory of the CTE Fire and Emergency Management instructional team. Funding for CTE teachers and consumable supplies will be covered by the school district. Community partners will assist with managing a cross training schedule that fits with the school schedule and provides opportunities for networking with local Fire and EMS professionals at all levels of certification. Building on successful partnerships with local business, industry and government agencies this project will become the cornerstone for providing the county with a steady stream of trained Fire and EMS professionals well into the future.

I hereby certify that the applicant organization complies with all Americans with Disabilities Act requirements, and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, sex, religion, sexual orientation, physical disability, or national origin, and that all funds that may be received by applicant organization from Laurens County will be solely used for the purposes set forth in this application and will comply with all laws and statutes. In particular, organizations receiving Community Assistance Funding will comply with state regulations requiring organizations to be registered with the South Carolina Secretary of State's Division of Public Charities.



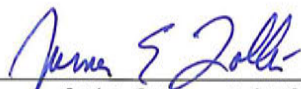


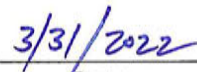
Signature of Chief Executive Officer or Executive Director

Date

Dr. Ameca Thomas, Superintendent

Name and Title (please print)





Signature of Chief Financial Officer or Board Chairperson

Date

Jim Lollis, Chief Financial Officer

Name and Title (please print)

Make sure your application includes the following:

- your IRS Letter (if applicable),
- a list of officers, staff and board members,
- Completed application with all required signatures.
- a copy of your confirmation letter of registration from the SC Secretary of State's Division of Public Charities



*Empowering and Inspiring all
to be Educated and Informed*

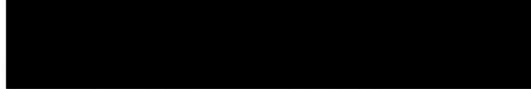
Laurens County School District #55

301 Hillcrest Drive Laurens, South Carolina 29360
Phone 864-984-3568
Ameca C. Thomas, Ph.D., Superintendent

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

12/20

Mr. Todd Varner – Seat 1



December 2020-November 2024

Mrs. Cathy Little – Seat 2



December 2018-November 2022

Mr. Neal Patterson – Seat 3



December 2020-November 2024

Mr. Mike Hughes – Seat 4



August 2020-November 2022 (fulfilling unexpired term)

Mr. Anthony Carpenter – Seat 5



December 2020-November 2024

Mrs. Susan Calhoun-Ware – Seat 6

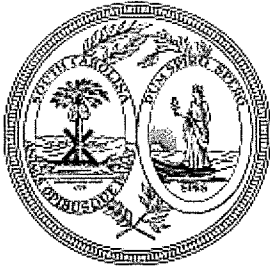


December 2018-November 2022

Mr. Bubba Rawl – Seat 7



December 2020-November 2024



State of South Carolina
Office of the Secretary of State
The Honorable Mark Hammond

10/18/2021

Laurens County School District 55
Mr James E Lollis
301 Hillcrest Drive
LAURENS, SC29360-2654

RE: Exemption Confirmation

Charity Public ID: P27008

Dear Mr James E Lollis :

This letter confirms that the Secretary of State's Office has received and accepted your Application for Exemption. **If you submitted your Application for Exemption using the Charities Online Filing System, this letter of confirmation has been issued pending further review by Division of Public Charities staff.**

The exemption for your charitable organization will expire on 11/15/2022. If any of the information on your Application for Exemption form changes throughout the course of the year, please contact our office to make updates. It is important that this information remain updated so that our office can keep you informed of any changes that may affect your charitable organization. Additionally, if at any time your charitable organization no longer qualifies for an exemption, the organization must immediately register with the Secretary of State's Office. Please note that failure to comply with the registration provisions of the Solicitation of Charitable Funds Act may result in fines of up to \$2,000.00 for each separate violation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please visit our website at www.sos.sc.gov or contact our office using the contact information below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Wickersham", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Kimberly S. Wickersham
Director, Division of Public Charities

CARES/ESSER Summary of Fund Utilization

ADDRESSING LEARNING LOSS - A local educational agency that receives funds under this section shall reserve not less than 20 percent of such funds to address learning loss through the implementation of evidence-based interventions, such as summer learning or summer enrichment, extended day, comprehensive afterschool programs, extended school year programs, or other evidence-based interventions, and ensure that such interventions respond to students' academic, social, and emotional needs and address the disproportionate impact of the coronavirus on the student subgroups described in section 1111(b)(2)(B)(xi) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.6311(b)(2)(B)(xi)), students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care.

	Afterschool Academic Recovery Salary/Benefits (32 weeks, 80 teachers, 3 days per week, 2 hours per day)
	Academic Recovery Interventionists (6 per year x 3 years)
	Academic Recovery Supplies/Materials/Resources /Instructional Support of online resources for academic recovery)
	Multi-Tiered Systems of Support MTSS Coaches (3 FTE * 3 Years)
	Individual to lead, oversee, and direct intense academic recovery efforts - Director of Academic Recovery (1.0 * 3 years Salary/Benefits/Supplies/Travel)

1. Any activity authorized by the ESEA of 1965, including the

- a. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.) ("IDEA"),
- b. Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.),
- c. Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.) ("the Perkins Act"), and
- d. subtitle B of title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.)

	CATE Programs (Emergency Medical Services & Emergency and Fire Management) - Mobile ambulance, classroom supplies or fire and EMS management
	Health Science Pharmacy Tech (includes PassAssured Pharmacy Technician Training Program, and other supplies materials needed to do a program start up.
	Expand special education course offerings at the high school to include an expansive print shop to offer workbased learning opportunities for the print layout, printing, binding, assembly of orders throughout the district
	Family Literacy Countdown to Kindergarten, Reading Buddies, Back to School Backpack
	Servies for Early literacy and summer literacy support
	Media Centers building literacy access for all students (\$10 per student per year, approx 6000 students
	Classroom libraries - Building literacy access for all studnets \$15 per student to be distributed to schools for purchases books for classrooms.

2. Coordination of preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies with state, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments, and other relevant agencies, to improve coordinated responses among such entities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus.

	No funding allocated for this section. Laurens 55 will continue to work with SCDHEC, Prisma Health, Self Regional Hospital, and other health officials regarding the current mitigating guidelines for the safety of students and staff. On-going communication will continue with the SCDE, Laurens County Emergency Management Agency, Laurens County Chamber of Commerce COVID-19 Task Force, LCSD 55 Stakeholder Task Force, and others as deemed appropriate.
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3. Activities to address the unique needs of low-income children or students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and foster care youth, including how outreach and service delivery will meet the needs of each population.

	Laurens 55 will allocate 2% of the ARP funding to address the Arts. Activities and uses will include: Artist in Residency, Art supplies for summer arts camp include both contracted services and supplies, professional development travel. Professional learning for arts teachers and academic coaches, Artist in residence, Arts supplies that help teachers address learning loss, COVID related materials to not share, Technology and software, facility upgrades to purchase a kiln, partnerships with local arts providers, performances, fieldtrips, supplemental arts and arts interation materials, Arts integrated Read to succeed camps.
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4. Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of local educational agencies.

	Laurens 55 will utilize ARP funding to address response efforts communication to stakeholders by employing a communications coordinator for 3 years. Expenses include salary, benefits, supplies, and travel..
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5. Training and professional development for staff of the local educational agency on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases.

	Embedded in other areas
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6. Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the facilities of a local educational agency, including buildings operated by such agency.	
	Supplies will be purchased for cleaning and PPE. Additional funds will be used for any additional needed plexi glass dividers, hand sanitizer, hand sanitizer stations, deep cleaning floor machines, cleaning supplies to include hydrostatic sprayers, cleaning supplies for classrooms, and additional PPE for nurses.
7. Planning for and coordinating during long-term closures, including for how to provide meals to eligible students, how to provide technology for online learning to all students, how to provide guidance for carrying out requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.) and how to ensure other educational services can continue to be provided consistent with all federal, state, and local requirements.	
	Contracted services will be utilized to provide teachers tools for providing online/virtual and elearning resources to students.
8. Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students who are served by the local educational agency that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including low-income students and students with disabilities, which may include assistive technology or adaptive equipment.	
	Student devices will be purchased/replace/updated for students. Devices will complete the 1 to 1 initiative for all students to have devices. Devices will include laptops for 9th-12, 2-in-1 devices for 4K-5K students, and Chromebooks to be able to serve all 1st -8th graders. The funds will also be utilized to continue to update the eLearning platform. These funds also include the update of teacher, administrator, and other computers that are needed to facilitate virtual/distance/eLearning.
9. Providing mental health services and supports.	
	Laurens 55 will utilize ARP funding to extend services another year from ESSER II for the addition of 2 mental health counselors. These funds will also add one additional mental health counselor for 3 years. These funds included salary and benefits along with supplies and travel to support 6 total mental health counselors professional learning and supplies needed to provide services. Supplies will also be provided for guidance counselors to support the mental health of students. An online warning system will be purchased to help with mental health awareness and notifications to schools. An SEL curriculum will also be purchased.
10. Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs , including providing classroom instruction or online learning during the summer months and addressing the needs of low-income students, students with disabilities, English learners, migrant students, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care.	
	Included above in Learning Loss Section
11. Addressing learning loss among students, including low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care, of the local educational agency, including by	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Administering and using high-quality assessments that are valid and reliable, to accurately assess students' academic progress and assist educators in meeting student's academic needs, including through differentiating instruction. b. Implementing evidence-based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students. c. Providing information and assistance to parents and families on how they can effectively support students, including in a distance learning environment. d. Tracking student attendance and improving student engagement in distance education.
	Included above in Learning Loss Section
12. School facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs.	
	Additional classroom space will be created to allow for spacing of students. Numbers in building has not changed much but due to the age of buildings and the small square footage of classrooms in some buildings, additional classroom space is needed to provide ample spacing of students.
13. Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities, including mechanical and non-mechanical heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, filtering, purification, and other air cleaning, fans, control systems, and window and door repair and replacement.	
	Funding will be utilized for replacement of ventilation and air conditioning systems. Units will be prioritized based on age and efficiency and filtration most of which are units that are 15-25 years old. Roofing areas where moisture is causing possible air quality issues and carpeted areas that cause air quality issues will also be addressed.
14. Strategies and Public Health Protocols: Developing strategies and implementing public health protocols including, to the greatest extent practicable, policies in line with guidance from the CDC and prevention for the reopening of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff.	
	No funding allocated for this section. SCDHEC recommendations will be followed for contact tracing to determine isolation and quarantine criteria for students and staff.

15. Any other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services in local educational agencies and continuing to employ existing staff of the local educational agency.

	Laurens 55 will utilize ARP funding for any loss of revenue due to COVID-19, lower enrollment, and the indirect cost of managing the APR ESSER III grant.
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APPLICATION GUIDELINES

American Rescue Plan Act

Program Purpose

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021, and provides direct relief to cities, towns and villages in the United States through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF). The U.S. Department of the Treasury is responsible for overseeing this program. CSLFRF provides that states and other governments may spend these funds to **“respond to the pandemic and its negative economic impacts, including assistance to ... nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality.”** Laurens County will be awarding grants to non-profits or similar organizations from the CSLFRF to help address critical financial needs of those organizations. **For profit-businesses and individuals are not eligible for these County grants.**

Applications must be received by:
04/01/2022

Questions should be emailed to:

ARPA@co.laurens.sc.us

INSTRUCTIONS

- 📎 **All applications must be received by 04/01/2022**
- 📎 Applications received after this time and date may jeopardize your organization's ability to receive funding.

- 📎 **One original** copy of the application should be mailed to:
 - Laurens County
 - Attn: Administration
 - 100 Hillcrest Square
 - Laurens, SC 29360
 - OR hand delivered to 100 Hillcrest Square, Administration**
 - or emailed to: ARPA@co.laurens.sc.us**

- 📎 Complete all questions using 11pt font or larger. **Use only the space provided on the application form.**

- 📎 Section II Financial Information must be completed on the form. **An attached financial statement or budget will not be accepted.**

- 📎 Applicants must be registered with the SC Secretary of State's Division of Public Charities. Nonprofit organizations need to include a copy of their confirmation letter of Secretary of State's Official Web site <http://www.scsos.com/> or call 803-734-1790.

- 📎 Before submitting your application, please check to ensure that you have included the following:
 - your IRS Letter (if applicable),
 - a list of officers, staff and board members,
 - Completed application with all required signatures.
 - a copy of your confirmation letter of registration from the SC Secretary of State's Division of Public Charities

No other attachments will be accepted.

This application is available on the County's website at www.laurenscounty.us.