

ARPA SLFRF Grant Award Notification and Funding Review Packet FAQs

Questions and Responses

Please note that this FAQ was developed as a broad public resource and is intended to be strictly informational. The Answers contained in this FAQ will not include complete information as the questions posed do not provide complete information. This document may be consulted as a reference but should not be relied on for a complete assessment. The OBO encourages potential applicants to consult their legal counsel in finding answers to these questions.

Updated: 3:00 p.m. CT, February 9, 2024

1. When is the GAN due?

Friday, Feb. 23.

2. Will ISPs need to submit multiple GANs with one per project?

Yes, ISPs will need to submit one GAN per project.

3. How are these documents different than what ISPs already submitted with the grant proposal?

While the funding review packet is largely similar to the previously submitted information, the funding review packet should reflect only the project and project locations that were awarded by the OBO. If your project was modified between the time of application and the time of award your funding review packet should reflect the project at the time of award, which would be different from the project information at the time of the application. So, please be sure the information submitted in the funding review packet is updated to reflect the project at the time of award.

4. How should an ISP that received a partial award prepare a budget schedule and network diagrams to substantiate the partial award?

The budget schedule and network diagrams would be prepared for the partial award area only.

5. Can ISPs use an Excel document for the budget instead of the Word document?

ISPs can use Excel for the budget template but must also fill out the funding review packet in Word.

6. How is in-kind matching addressed in the funding review packet?

In the budget table, please note any items that will be provided as matching in-kind contributions. If the match is for funds, please outline how those funds will be applied in the budget narrative.

7. Should ISPs still submit GANs without signature on Feb 23?

Yes, the Grant agreement along with all the GANS will be completed and ultimately circulated for final signature once the grant agreement, funding review packet and risk assessment have been completed.

8. What is the process on project expenses incurred from March 2021 - current? Can ISPs be reimbursed for this and operate off the controlled advance policy (if approved from risk assessment)?

Please consult the rules for SLFRF, but certain administrative expenses are allowable as far back as March 2021. For these Broadband projects awarded through the SLFRF portal, allowable costs may include administrative costs incurred preparing the application at the time of the portal. These costs will be deducted from your total award amount. There will not be any additional funding awarded.

9. What are the necessary details to include in the description regarding the matching disbursements?

Details should include the use of the match. For example, is it equipment, fiber, labor, or funds? Then, please provide the appropriate detailed documentation to demonstrate the match.