The State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF) of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) articulated that expenses incurred that relate to public health needs arising out of the pandemic are eligible for coverage under the SFRF.

Eligible expenses public health expenses must:

- Identify a need or negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Identify how the program, service, or other intervention addresses the identified need or impact; and
- Be a cost is incurred between March 3, 2020, and December 31, 2024.
  - Note, a cost incurred means that the costs paid for using SFRF are incurred after March 3, 2021 (note, it is acceptable for the project to have been planned before this date) and the funds are obligated by December 31, 2024. The period of performance, however, extends until December 31, 2026.
Criteria for a Healthcare Capital Expenditures

Criteria for a healthcare capital expense includes expenses that:

• Address areas of public health negatively impacted by COVID-19 pandemic including mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence, and decline in preventative health measures. For instance, guidance states that “new or enhanced government services may be needed to meet behavioral health needs exacerbated by the pandemic and respond to other public health impacts.

• Address disparities in public health outcomes along racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic lines.

• Provide services “to facilitate access to resources that improve health outcomes, including services that connect residents with health care resources and public assistance programs and build healthier environments” in populations in QCTs or other communities that are evidenced to have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.