



POWER 2018 Implementation Application Preview

The Application for POWER 2018 Implementation grants has four sections: project classification (including impact, budget and matching funds forms); project narrative; required additional forms (including ARC MOU, SF 424); and a final section for additional uploads. This worksheet previews the questions required for the project narrative section of the ARC POWER 2018 Implementation Application.

The narrative section of the POWER 2018 Implementation grant applications will have eight separate tabs: Goals and Objectives; Project Description; Project Rationale; Collaborative Partnerships; Project Sustainability and Capacity; Impact Measures; In-Kind Match Info; and Additional Documentation.

Answer all questions posed in each tab. In some questions, a distinction is made between construction and non-construction projects.

As per the POWER 2018 Initiative [Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#) the narrative section of this application is limited to 10 pages. This does not include budget and other supporting documents. Anticipated range for POWER 2018 Implementation awards is \$400,000–\$1,500,000.

1. Goals and Objectives

- a) Identify the goals and objectives of the proposed project in reference to [The Appalachian Regional Commission's Five-Year Strategic Plan for Capitalizing on Appalachia's Opportunities, 2016–2020](#).

Tip: Contact ARC [state alternates](#) and/or [program managers](#) to discuss how the goals and objectives of the proposed projects aligns with state economic development priorities.

2. Project Description

- a) Description—Provide a robust and detailed description of the proposed project. Discuss how this proposal addresses the goals, objectives and priority areas of the POWER Initiative identified in the 2018 POWER RFP.
- b) Work Plan—Provide a detailed work plan (what will be done, who will complete each activity) and timeline for each activity described in the Description section.
- c) Project Counties—Identify the counties to be served.

Tip: List the counties that will primarily benefit by the proposed project.

- d) Marketing/Business Plan—If relevant to the proposed scope of work, describe approaches to marketing the project to potential users and beneficiaries, including strategic sectors to be

pursued. Also use this section to describe the preparation of any business plans, proformas or related financial assessment that addresses the financial stability of the project.

3. Project Rationale

- a) Rationale – Provide a sound rationale for the project as proposed. Discuss the project’s efforts to diversify the economies of coal-impacted communities, its focus on economic restructuring, and its alignment with previously funded POWER projects. Also consider the project’s overall return on investment (ROI) and its ability to leverage additional resources.
- b) Regional Strategy/Plan – Explain how the proposed project represents progress toward addressing a regional strategy, such as a comprehensive economic development strategy or a local visioning process. Also describe any specific planning efforts, research, and analysis that have directly led to the development of this proposal or have been used to inform this proposal.
- c) Coal Impact – Identify the region that will be used as a basis for eligibility under coal-impacted communities. Provide a narrative that demonstrates direct or in-direct coal impact tied to data on coal employment decline, coal production decline, or supply chain job losses. In the narrative describe how the proposed project will benefit the impacted region.

Tip: See ARC’s research series [An Economic Analysis of the Appalachian Coal Industry Ecosystem](#) for reference data that may be useful in determining coal-impact. Watch the ARC webinar [Understanding Appalachia’s Coal Industry Ecosystem](#) for more information.

4. Collaborative Partnerships

- a) Describe any partnerships or collaborations with other local community, state, regional, and federal partners in the development of the proposal.

5. Project Sustainability and Capacity

- a) Organizational Qualifications – Describe the organizational qualifications of the lead applicant and any project partners. Discuss the organization’s ability to manage a federal grant, its uniquely qualified staff and its capacity and resources.

Tip: Describe the relevant skills, job experience, and background of the lead applicant in narrative form. Resumes and/or CVs can be uploaded in Section 4 of the application.

- b) *For construction projects only:*
Owner of Improvements – Describe who will be responsible for maintaining the infrastructure after the project is completed.

For non-construction projects only:

Consultant Qualifications – Describe the qualifications of the consultants and subcontractors, if any, and describe the competitive procedures used to select them.

- c) Project Sustainability – Describe strategy for ensuring the project’s long-term financial and operational sustainability. If applicable, upload a plan and timeline of efforts to secure other sources of support for future operations.

6. Impact Measures

- a) Outputs and Outcomes – Verify that the project’s impact measures entered in Section 1 are correct.

Tip: The application portal will automatically populate projected outcomes and outputs reported in Section 1 of the application portal. Verify that the projected outcomes and outputs are the same as reported in that section.

- b) Impact Measure Methodology – Describe the methodology used to estimate each impact measure, including how the measures will be tracked and verified. Projects that include “jobs created”, “jobs retained”, or leveraged private investment as impact measures should provide documentation and/or letter of commitment.

7. In-Kind Match Information

- a) In-Kind Valuation Methodology – If any in-kind resources are part of the project's match, describe the methods used to determine their value.
- b) Property Appraisal – If any in-kind resources are part of the project's match, describe the methods used to determine their value.

Tip: Watch ARC’s webinar [Finding the Right Match to Meet the 2018 POWER RFP Match Requirements](#) for more information about match requirements.

8. Additional Documentation

- a) Additional Documentation – Upload any additional pertinent supporting materials that will provide a better understanding of the proposed project.

For construction projects only:

- b) Sustainability Documentation - include financial audits or utility rate structure information if they are needed to demonstrate project sustainability. Summarized financial statements or pro forma financial projections are preferred.