



Appalachian Regional Commission in partnership
with the U.S. Department of Energy

Advance Welding Workforce Initiative

FAQs

- 1) Must applicants be based in the ARC Region?
 - a. No. They must provide the training services to residents of the Region but may be based anywhere.
- 2) How much funding is available for this program in total?
 - a. \$1,000,000
- 3) How many grants will be awarded?
 - a. A total of three to six awards is anticipated.
- 4) Is this initiative is focused more on pipe or flat plate welding?
 - a. The focus will include joining a range of components and geometries, including but not limited to pipe, tube, assemblies of membrane walls, rotor discs, valves, turbine airfoils.
- 5) Are there more specific alloys other nickel involved?
 - a. Yes, the full suite of high-temperature materials present in existing and new-build fossil power generating units, not just alloys with nickel are of interest. As an example, this would include but not be limited to the ferritic and austenitic stainless steels. It would also include compositions used for joining and coating various components as well.
- 6) Are only vocational schools eligible for this program or can other institutes of higher education apply?
 - a. All institutions of higher education are eligible to apply. As per the RFP:

Eligible ARC applicants are the following:
 - Local development districts
 - Indian tribes or a consortium of Indian tribes
 - States, counties, cities, or other political subdivision of a state, including a special purpose unit of a state or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions
 - Institutions of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education
 - Public or private non-profit organizations or associations, including unions with non-profit status

- 7) How can I determine the required minimum match rate for my county?
 - a. Please see [County Economic Status and Distressed Areas by State, FY 2021](#), scroll down and select your state for Fiscal Year 2021.

- 8) Do all projects need to budget expenses for two-in-person training as listed in section 5.1?
 - a. Yes.

- 9) Is the purchase of equipment an eligible cost?
 - a. Expenses that are directly related to and necessary for training in the advanced welding skills are allowable. This would include essential equipment.