

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY ADOPTS FINAL RULE FOR CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS (SLFRF)

The American Rescue Plan Act, signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021, provided direct relief to state, territorial, local, and Tribal governments. On January 6, 2022, the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) adopted a **final rule** implementing the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF). State, territorial, local, and Tribal governments must comply with the final rule when it takes effect, beginning April 1, 2022. Prior to April 1, 2022, recipients may take actions and use funds in a manner consistent with the final rule, and the Treasury will not take action to enforce the interim final rule if a use of funds is consistent with the terms of the final rule, regardless of when the SLFRF funds were used. (This means the Treasury will not take action to enforce uses of the interim final rule to the extent that the recipient wishes to change its planned uses of SLFRF funds in a manner consistent with the final rule.)

A press release, issued by the Treasury, including links to an overview of the final rule as well as the complete final rule text, is available here: <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy0550>.

Prior to April 1, 2022, the interim final rule remains in effect. Accordingly, recipients may obligate and expend funds in a manner consistent with the interim final rule prior to April 1, 2022.

The final rule includes additional information regarding these and other transitions. You may contact SLFRP@treasury.gov with additional questions.

The Planning & Government Services Division is available to assist with applications for state and federal funding opportunities resulting from the American Rescue Plan Act. For assistance, contact **Eva Kennedy, NEGRC PGS Director**, at ekennedy@negrc.org or **706-369-5650**.

ARC ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR SUMMER STUDY PROGRAMS IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND STEM FOR REGION'S MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) has opened applications for two summer opportunities: the Appalachian Entrepreneurship Academy (AEA) and the Appalachian STEM Academy at Oak Ridge. Both programs, planned for Summer 2022, are free intensive learning experiences specifically for the Region's high school and/or middle school students and teachers. Northeast Georgia students and teachers from **Barrow, Elbert, Jackson, and Madison counties** are eligible to participate.

The **Appalachian Entrepreneurship Academy (AEA)** prepares the next generation of regional entrepreneurial leaders and thinkers. High school students from across Appalachia will be selected to participate in an intensive learning curriculum designed to cultivate creativity, sharpen business acumen, and develop skills essential for entrepreneurial success. **AEA will be held from July 9-23, 2022. If COVID restrictions allow, the program will be held in person at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. More information and application materials are available at www.arc.gov/AEA.**

The **Appalachian STEM Academy** is a hands-on learning experience for Appalachia's middle and high school students, as well as high school teachers in STEM-related fields. Hosted by Oak Ridge Associated Universities in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, this program is a gateway to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) in the Appalachian Region. Working with award-winning scientists at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, high school and middle school students conduct guided group science, math, and computer science technology research projects, while high school teachers work with science practitioners to develop STEM-related curriculum. **This program will be held from July 9-22, 2022, for high school students and teachers and July 16-22, 2022, for middle school students. If COVID**

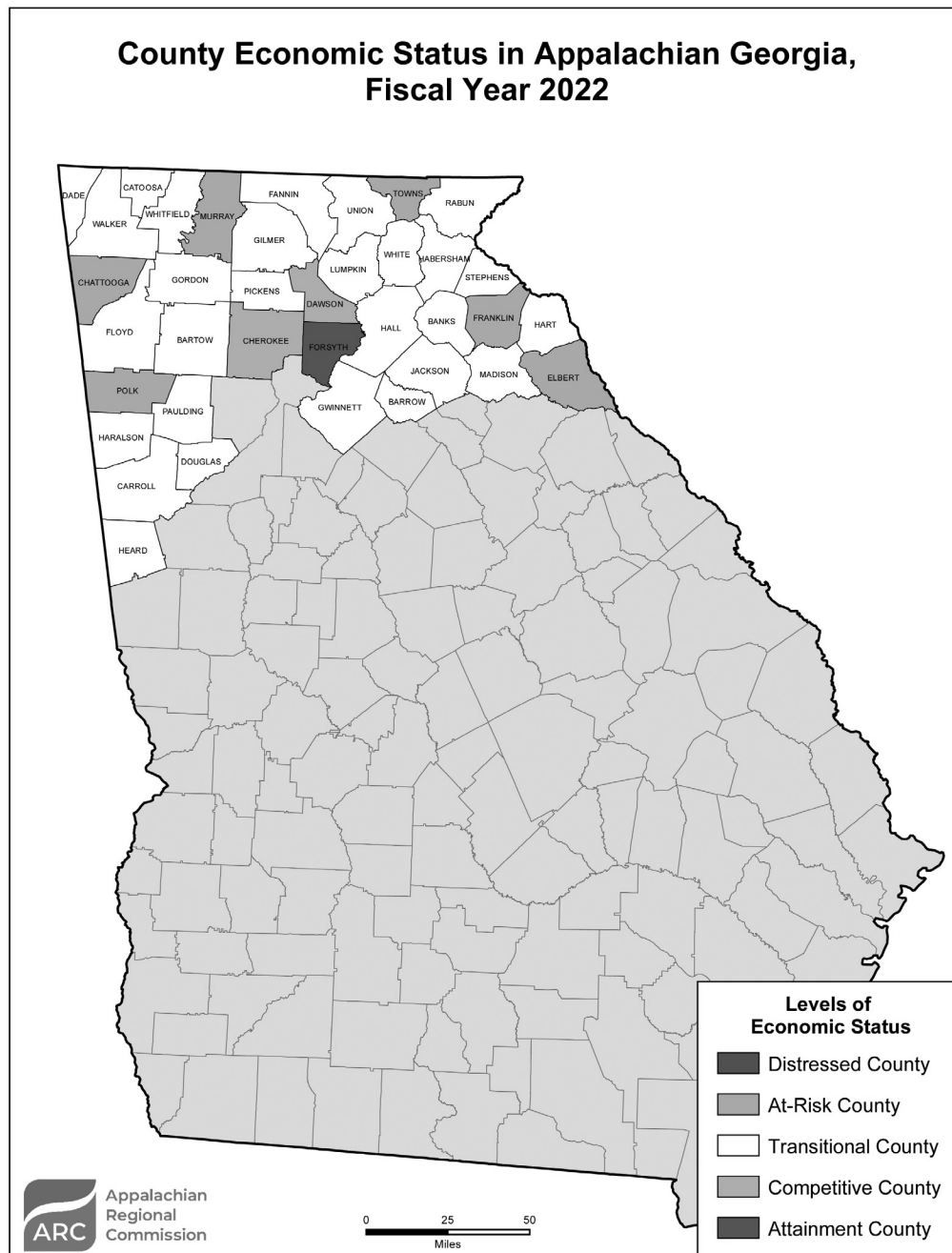
restrictions allow, the program will be held in person in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. More information and application materials are available at www.arc.gov/STEM.

Applications for both opportunities are due March 4, 2022.

“The future of our region depends upon the next generation of Appalachian leaders,” said **ARC Federal Co-Chair Gayle Manchin**. “The Appalachian Entrepreneurship Academy and Appalachian STEM Academy provide opportunities for students to not only nurture their existing skills, but to amplify their voices as catalysts for positive change in their communities.”

About the Appalachian Regional Commission

The **Appalachian Regional Commission** is an economic development agency of the federal government and 13 state governments focusing on 423 counties across the Appalachian Region. ARC’s mission is to innovate, partner, and invest to build community capacity and strengthen economic growth in Appalachia to help the Region achieve socioeconomic parity with the nation. Barrow, Elbert, Jackson, and Madison are the four Northeast Georgia counties located within the Appalachian Region.





Sherry Wilkerson

SUCCESS STORY

Walton County resident Sherry Wilkerson was among many employees laid off in 2020 as employers tried to manage the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. After hearing about a Department of Labor National Disaster Grant to assist displaced employees in gaining re-entry to the workforce, Ms. Wilkerson reached out to the NEGA Workforce Development Division to enroll. The grant provided funding for training and paid work experience opportunities with local non-profit agencies experiencing an increased demand for services due to the pandemic.

Career Advisor Kim Meadows connected Ms. Wilkerson with a work experience opportunity with the Walton County Senior Center's food distribution program; the grant paid her wages. She also enrolled in the Certified Nursing

Assistant (CNA) program with Athens Technical College to further her education and skills. CNA Program Administrator Debi Bartlett said, "Sherry Wilkerson is living proof that dreams are reachable, especially those inspired by God. Sherry is a very caring person and puts effort into connecting with others in a way that gives them a renewed sense of purpose and hope. She has been an excellent student with a final grade average of 100. She works diligently to understand the fundamentals and takes great joy in applying them correctly. She will be a blessing to the healthcare community."

Recently, Ms. Wilkerson passed the certification exam and became a licensed CNA, a high-demand occupation in this area. Ms. Wilkerson said she loves working with seniors and is excited to begin her new career in healthcare.



Prepared by
NEGRC Workforce Development Division
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Northeast Georgia WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021

Number served through Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Formula Funds

	# Served	\$ Spent
Adult	382	\$1,134,989
Youth	297	\$933,656
Dislocated Worker	94	\$213,727
Total	773	\$2,282,372

Northeast Georgia WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Performance Outcomes

[July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021]

Adult	
2nd Quarter Employment Rate	97.4%+
4th Quarter Employment Rate	97.6%+
Median Earnings Per Quarter	\$6,814
Credential Attainment	107.2%+

Dislocated Worker	
2nd Quarter Employment Rate	87.2%+
4th Quarter Employment Rate	101.4%+
Median Earnings Per Quarter	\$8,433
Credential Attainment	109.5%+

Youth	
2nd Quarter Employment Rate	110.5%+
4th Quarter Employment Rate	104.5%+
Credential Attainment	119.6%

Overall Program Performance*	
Adult	109.4%
Dislocated Worker	100.9%
Youth	120.1%

*Overall Program Performance calculated by averaging the individual indicators for each program
+ Exceeded negotiated percent
Source: TCSG Office of Workforce Development

Number served by county					
County	Adult	Youth	Dislocated Worker	Total	Employers
Barrow	37	32	9	78	3
Clarke	123	80	27	230	25
Elbert	11	21	2	34	2
Greene	8	13	1	22	3
Jackson	68	26	10	104	10
Jasper	5	14	3	22	0
Madison	15	20	5	40	3
Morgan	5	14	0	19	1
Newton	61	32	17	110	4
Oconee	10	6	3	19	13
Oglethorpe	4	11	1	16	1
Walton	17	25	8	50	6
Other [in-state]	18	3	8	29	67**
Other [out of state]					17***
Total	382	297	94	773	155

** Number of employers in other counties in Georgia hiring WIOA trainees

*** Number of employers in other states hiring WIOA trainees



305 Research Drive
Athens, GA 30605

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSR. STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ATHENS, GA
PERMIT NO. 502

Update

REGIONAL MEETINGS
FEBRUARY

17th

Noon

NEGRC Council Meeting

Trumps Catering