

**SAMPLE WARRANT ARTICLE
TO APPROPRIATE ARPA FUNDS**
(For use in town meeting municipalities)

Municipal legislative body authorization is necessary in order to appropriate ARPA funds to the use(s) the municipality plans for the funds in the same way the municipality would appropriate and authorize expenditure of other municipal revenues. General warrant articles previously adopted by the town meeting to accept all grants are likely not sufficient to accept grants that include specific conditions limiting the use of funds, that include specific terms and conditions that the municipality must adhere to, and/or that include possible penalties or repayment of funds. See MMA Legal Services guidance, [American Rescue Plan: Considerations for Municipalities](#) (FAQs # 7, 8, 9) for more information.

The following warrant article may be used as a template for appropriation of funds toward a municipal project:

Art. ____. **“To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$_____ from Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (*aka* American Rescue Plan Act or ARPA funds) received by the Town from the federal government for the following project: (here describe project).”**

The article above must be modified to fit the municipality’s needs. For example, if your municipality plans to establish a grant program to assist local businesses or households, a more detailed warrant article or simple ordinance would be necessary. Basic parameters of the program would need to be addressed, including authorization for the selectboard to create an application and review process; the maximum amount that may be granted to a specific applicant; eligibility standards; criteria for approval; the entity authorized to approve grants and the information an applicant must submit to the town.

Need more information?

Members are encouraged to contact MMA Legal Services to discuss specific questions and concerns at 800-452-8786 or legal@memun.org