

## 2024 Formula Q&A

### Question:

How exactly should a Commission communicate the amount of funds that they want to include under an Option 3 to AmeriCorps? The Excel workbook includes a line (16 for Cost Reimbursement and line 74 for Fixed grants) for a dollar amount of ARPA funds to be transferred from the ARPA prime to either the Fixed or Cost Reimbursement prime. Is this the dollar amount for the sitting on the prime funds, "Option 3?"

For example, if I have \$8 million in my ARPA placeholder, and I will be using \$3 million for specific subapplicants, I will include that \$3 million between columns F, G, and H in either the Fixed or Cost Reimbursement portion of the worksheet. Would I include the remaining \$ 5million in line 16 or 74?

The worksheet is due on 5/17, however, the options outlined on page 5 of the instructions state that information for Option 3 must be shared with AmeriCorps by 9/30. If a commission doesn't know by 5/17 how much they would like to move from their ARPA placeholder to stay on the prime (cost reimbursement/fixed), how should that be communicated? Would they submit this form twice? Or is there a separate form/method of communication for Option 3 funds to be identified?

**Answer:** Yes, this is the Option 3 "sitting on the prime" scenario. This amount is entered into rows 16, 74, and/or 132. (Note: line numbers may change if lines are added/deleted.) Please fill in worksheet answers. If including them in the application, must do so by 5/17 or the extended due date, if applicable. The transfer of ARP funds to 2024 primes is one-time. Commissions should provide their best estimate when submitting the formula request. Commissions can ask for an extension within the parameters of the guidance.

### Question:

You heard this request for more information on the call. Any additional information you can provide now on how commissions can identify the ARP funds that are "sitting on the prime" moved by 9/30/24 to their formula prime(s) would be appreciated. Is this for ARP-specific funds only or is this something that will be available in the future?

**Answer:** See [FY 2024 Formula Guidance Instructions ARP Option 3 onto Prime](#) for additional information for how funds can "sit on the prime." At this time, AmeriCorps is limiting funds "sitting on the prime" to ARP option 3 only. The vehicle for similar flexibility for annual funds is currently offered via the placeholder subapplication.

### Question:

What happens to the funds that are not moved off the ARP prime by 9/30/24 to a regular formula prime? If commissions don't request those funds be moved by the



date they submit their formula prime (5/17 or the date they get an extension), can those ARP funds go into a supplemental pool for commissions to request? We would like to do everything possible to mitigate potential funding cuts to programs in FY24.

**Answer:** Funds that are not moved off the ARP Prime by 9/30/2024 will be deobligated at closeout. There will not be an ARP supplemental process.

**Question:**

For commissions that want to do multi-year funding for formula programs, we assume they should do what AmeriCorps did with competitive multi-year funding and put the 2nd year funding in a line item under "other operating expenses." We also assume they should not include any slots in the budget and would wait to add those in year 2. Can you confirm there will be no eGrants submission error related to cost per MSY related to this?

**Answer:** AmeriCorps will consider the permissibility of subgrant multi-year funding in the future. Regardless, State Commissions may not use ARP funding to forward fund subgrants at this point because this would extend the awarding of ARP funds past the 2024 program year limit. Awarding ARP Formula funds are limited to 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 program years only.

**Question:**

For placeholders, we encourage AmeriCorps to reconsider the 25% cap on placeholder for regularly appropriated formula and have no cap in FY24. Given the desire to maximize ARP funds and the unexpected change in approach with the ARP prime, allowing flexibility for regularly appropriated funds in placeholder will ensure commissions can spend any remaining ARP first.

**Answer:** The subapplication placeholder cap of 25% for annual funds is the threshold AmeriCorps set to balance flexibility for State Commissions to utilize funds with agency funds management risk mitigation. AmeriCorps is not reconsidering the 25% cap at this time.