

1. The Governor's budget incorporates an estimated \$5.183 billion over two fiscal years in federal stimulus funding provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. According to a table on page 42 of the Governor's abbreviated budget, the State will use \$3.074 billion (\$854 million in FY09 and \$2.220 billion in FY10) from ARRA for budget relief. In addition to these funds which will offset revenue shortfalls, \$2.109 billion will be used for new or expanded programs or initiatives. The ARRA allocates funds to states both by formula and by competitive awards. Most executive departments anticipate stimulus funding in FY 2009, FY 2010 or both.

- Question:** Please itemize the federal stimulus funding, if any, other than portions of the \$3.074 billion allocated for budget relief, included in the department's budget, by fiscal year and federal program, setting forth program goals and eligible uses together with the amount for state administrative expenses and the amount for allocation to local public and private recipients, respectively. Please identify intended and actual recipients and the process by which the department determines recipients and funding awards. Are there ARRA funds that flow through your department for which the State has no discretion? Please also set forth the timetable for obtaining federal approval of funding, obligation and allocation of funding to recipients, and use by recipients. Could any of this funding be used to offset other State appropriations, and if so, what programs and in what amount? What additional positions, if any, have been and will be hired with these funds? If this money is being used for new or expanded activities, will the new or expanded activities be continued in FY 2011? If so, how will they be funded?
- Question:** In addition to funding incorporated in the FY 2010 budget, what specific competitive grant opportunities has the department identified that it is eligible to pursue, has applied for, and has been awarded, respectively?

Fiscal Year	Federal Program	State Program	Amount
2010	National Endowment for the Arts	New Jersey State Council on the Arts	\$336,900
2009 - 2010	Corporation for National and Community Service	New Jersey Commission for National and Community Service	\$839,218

New Jersey State Council on the Arts (The Council)

New Jersey State Council on the Arts anticipates \$336,900 in funding from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and will distribute all funding through a staffing preservation program for permanent positions and contracted positions at arts organizations. None of the funding is available for State administrative expenses and it is anticipated that this will be a one-time opportunity of support.

Funding is only available to preserve jobs in nonprofit arts organizations that are 1) in danger of being eliminated, 2) in danger of hours being reduced or, 3) have been eliminated or reduced in hours since July 1, 2008, as a result of the economic climate, and 4) for which a qualified candidate is already in place or has been identified and can begin no later than September 1,

2009. Funding is not available through this program for new positions or expansion of a position beyond the hours or salary in place as of July 1, 2008.

In order to be eligible to apply to the Council for ARRA support, organizations must:

- be current FY09 General Operating Support (GOS) grantees of the Council
- have submitted an FY10 GOS application to the Council, and
- NOT be eligible to apply directly to the National Endowment for the Arts or to the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation for federal stimulus staffing preservation support. Groups that are eligible to apply for ARRA funding directly from the NEA and/or eligible to apply to the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation are not eligible to apply to the Council program, and are strongly encouraged to seek support through these other agencies.

Proposals from eligible organizations were due to the Council on Thursday, April 6, 2009. Those applications will be reviewed beginning April 8, 2009 through May 2009 by discipline-specific peer panels.

The panel findings will be presented to the Council's Grants Committee. The recommendations of the Committee will be forwarded to and voted upon by the full Council in public session at its Annual Meeting tentatively scheduled for July 28, 2009. The grant period will run July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010.

New Jersey Commission on National and Community Service

The New Jersey Commission on National Community Service (AmeriCorps) received \$839,218 in formula funding under the Recovery Act. The ARRA funding may only be used to enhance current AmeriCorps-funded programs, either for additional AmeriCorps members, or to assist organizations in meeting federal matching requirements, or both. None of the funding is available for State administrative expenses.

The Formula selection process gives preference to the following activities: employment and training skills; tutoring and literacy; financial literacy; home foreclosures and housing assistance; housing rehabilitation and access; including weatherization and other energy efficiency techniques; health care access and delivery; nonprofit capacity building and volunteer generation and management.

The Department was notified of the grant opportunity by the Corporation for National and Community Service in early March. All potential grantees were notified of the federal guidelines. The Commission requested that interested programs provide a letter of intent by March 17, 2009 and the applications were due to the State on March 26, 2009. All grant applications were reviewed and evaluated by a panel on March 30 and 31, 2009. Recommendations were provided to the Commission Officers on April 1, 2009. The New Jersey Commission for National and Community Service voted to accept the panel recommendations. The application was submitted to the federal Corporation for National and Community Service on April 3, 2009. We expect to have funding decisions from the National Corporation on April 26, 2009 for the Formula category of the ARRA funding. All grant contracts will be executed by June 1, 2009.

There is also a separate federal AmeriCorps Recovery category, called National Competitive, which will be decided at the national level. While all New Jersey grantee were eligible to apply only one organization has applied in both the Formula and Competitive categories. Should that

organization receive National Competitive funding, it will then be removed from the State's Formula group. If the organization is removed there is the potential of freeing additional Formula money, which can then be allocated to the lower ranked applicants. The Department expects to hear the results of the National Competitive funding on May 7, 2009.

Are there ARRA funds that flow through your department for which the State has no discretion?

The Department did not received ARRA money for which the State has no discretion.

Could any of this funding be used to offset other State appropriations, and if so, what programs and in what amount?

None the ARRA funding for the Department of State can be used to offset other State appropriations.

What additional positions, if any, have been and will be hired with these funds?

The ARRA funding cannot be used hire additional employees for the Department.

If this money is being used for new or expanded activities, will the new or expanded activities be continued in FY 2011? If so, how will they be funded?

The department does not anticipate receiving funding for continuation of these programs in FY 2011.

- *Question:* In addition to funding incorporated in the FY 2010 budget, what specific competitive grant opportunities has the department identified that it is eligible to pursue, has applied for, and has been awarded, respectively?

New Jersey State Museum

The New Jersey State Museum's Fine Arts Bureau intends to apply to the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for a Visual Arts: Access to Artistic Excellence grant for either Conservation or Public Programs. The application deadline for this category is August 13, 2009. Grant awards in this category range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

Also, the Museum's Bureau of Archaeology/Ethnology intends to apply for a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH): America's Historical and Cultural Organizations Planning grant. The deadline is August 26, 2009, for projects beginning April 2010, with awards of up to \$40,000.

New Jersey's Office of Faith Based Initiatives

New Jersey's Office of Faith Based Initiatives (OFBI) intends to apply for \$500,000 in federal dollars from the Office of Faith Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. The funds will be used by faith and community based organizations to provide programs designed to help NJ residents become economically self-sufficient. A deadline has not been set for this grant.

New Jersey State Council on the Arts

The New Jersey State Council on the Arts has applied and expects to receive from the National Endowment for the Arts Annual Partnership Grant for \$940,600. The federal money will be used for the Council's administrative operations and grants.

New Jersey's Commission on National and Community Service

New Jersey's Commission on National and Community Service has submitted the following applications for funding to the Corporation on National and Community Service in Washington DC:

- AmeriCorps - \$2,793,815. This AmeriCorps grant focuses on placing volunteers in New Jersey to work on K-12 education, human services, the environment and dropout prevention.
- Learn and Serve America -\$640,000. The Learn and Serve grant will promote community service among K -12th grade students, as well as infuse community service into the school curriculum.

New Jersey's Commission on National and Community Service plans to submit an application by May 22, 2009, for a *Volunteer in Service to America* (VISTA) grant to the Corporation for National and Community Service in Washington DC for \$201,000. The Grant will expand the current Vista program, which focuses on assisting children of incarcerated parents and prisoner reentry.