AGENCY OVERVIEW
The ARC is a federally funded development agency committed to improving the economic potential and resiliency in the Appalachian region. The ARC primarily provides assistance through grants to fund a variety of difference projects and programs. For Alabama, these funds are administered through ADECA, and applications are typically due in October.

COUNTY DESIGNATIONS
The economic status of a county helps determine the final match rates that will be required from ARC grant applicants. The ARC has a total of five designations, as described below:

ATTAINMENT: INELIGIBLE
Counties ranking above the top 10% in the region; ineligible for ARC funds
Regional County: Shelby

TRANSITIONAL: 50% MATCH
Counties ranking between the worst 25% and best 25% of all counties
Regional Counties: Blount, Jefferson, St. Clair

AT RISK: 30% MATCH
Counties at risk of becoming distressed, ranking between the worst 10 percent and 25 percent of all counties
Regional County: Walker

REQUIRED CRITERIA
To qualify for ARC funding, the proposed project must meet at least one Strategic Goal:

1. ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES
Invest in entrepreneurial & business development strategies that strengthen Appalachia's economy.

2. CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE
Invest in critical infrastructure, like broadband, transportation, and water & waste systems.

3. LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY
Build the capacity & skills of current & next-generation leaders & organizations to advance development.

4. READY WORKFORCE
Increase the education, knowledge, skills, and health of residents to work & succeed in Appalachia.

5. NATURAL & CULTURAL ASSETS
Strengthen community & economic development by leveraging the region's natural & cultural assets.

For more information about ARC projects and applications, contact Jesslan Wilson at jwilson@rpcgb.org.