



## **Missouri 911 Service Board ARPA 2023 NG911 Funding Cycle -**

### Program Guidelines

Link to [grant webpage](#)

Missouri 911 Service Board

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### **Program Description**

In 2023, the Missouri General Assembly approved an appropriation of \$11 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for Next Generation 911, as well as last year's reappropriation of \$10 million in NG911 funding. In total, the Missouri 911 Service Board has been charged with the award and management of \$21 million in funding dedicated to NG911. These funds are in addition to the \$8 million being spent on the Board's Geographic Information System (GIS) project.

The Board's existing framework for its grant process will be used for the management of the applications, review, and reporting for this project. This process was established in

state statute, and codified in the state's rules and regulations. In 2018, Missouri established the Missouri 911 Service Trust Fund in statute to improve 911 services, especially in the most underserved areas. The Missouri 911 Service Board is charged with establishing and administering a financial assistance program that provides grants and loans from the Fund to help finance 911 communications service projects. Fund administration will follow an updated process and reporting will differ this round from previous rounds in order to comply with ARPA requirements.

### **Fund Restrictions & Match Requirement**

Funds for this cycle are limited to projects and expenditures that support Next Generation 911. All aspects of project funding and reporting must adhere to American Rescue Plan (ARPA) billing and auditing requirements (visit the Board's [grant webpage](#) for full list of requirements.), and all payments will be remitted directly to the vendor through the state's ARPA portal. Successful applicants will be required to engage with the Missouri 911 Service Board's NG911 Implementation Manager and provide requested project updates to the Board.

The \$21 million in NG911 will have a required match of 90/10 as required by the State of Missouri. For example, a \$100,000 project would require a \$10,000 hard or in-kind match. Waiver of a match requirement will be determined on a case by case basis. All applicants should consider how they can meet 90/10 match requirements on their individual projects. All matching funds must be documented with invoices, confirmed payments, and payment dates, and will be subject to approval. In-kind matches may not have been utilized to fulfill match requirements on any other Federal grant.

#### Match Examples:

- In-kind matches, payment towards anything in the applicant's jurisdiction that is NG911 compliant and improves 911 services. In-kind contributions include all funding spent from March 2020 to present and can be applied retroactively.
- Payments made to an NG911 vendor that is otherwise not being funded through the Board's grant program.

### **Approved purchases:**

Below is a non-exhaustive list of approved NG911 purchases. If you have questions about a specific purchase, please contact the Board at [grants@missouri911.org](mailto:grants@missouri911.org)

- Equipment used in 911 call handling and caller locating and that are at least NG911 compatible (able to process NG911 calls)

- Emergency Medical Dispatch systems
- NG911 compatible CAD systems
- Virtual consolidation amongst jurisdictions with NG911-compliant data or ESInet capability

The NG911 GIS Grant Program will provide funding for NG911 GIS data creation and remediation. This grant program has a separate application process which can be found on the Board's [grant webpage](#). Local jurisdictions will request a PAQ quote from vendors to provide the GIS services, funding for GIS projects is NOT included in this Grant.

### **Project Requirements & Funding Priorities:**

Priorities and funding for the NG911 2023 ARPA Funding Cycle are informed by the project funding objectives and award priority areas outlined in state statute ([RSMo 650.330](#) - [650.335](#)) and codified in the Board's rules and regulations.

### **Project Requirements:**

All projects must meet the following criteria:

- Achieve text to 911 for all participating jurisdictions
- Achieve minimum training requirements for all telecommunicators hired within 120 days of project completion ([RSMo 650.340](#))
- Include NG911 compatible purchases that meet the NENA i3 Solution Standard for Emergency Services IP Network

### **Funding Objectives:**

- Implementation of 911 services in counties of the state where services do not exist
- Improve existing 911 systems
- Promotion of consolidation of PSAPS
- Ensuring primary access and texting abilities to 911
- Implementation of initial emergency medical dispatch services, including prearrival instructions in counties where those services are not offered as of the date the application is submitted
- Development or connection to an emergency services internet protocol network

### **Additional Considerations:**

- Projects that address award priority areas in the most cost-efficient way possible
- Projects with outcomes focused on call-taking and citizen locating
- Projects that address the highest-need areas

- Projects that help in moving the state forward as a whole
- Projects that help in addressing staff shortages

### **Eligibility**

Eligible Applicants established under section 650.330, RSMo include the governing bodies include the following entities:

- Any county;
- The cities of St. Louis City and Sikeston;
- Any Elected Emergency Services Board (ESB) established pursuant to 190.335 or 190.292;
- A Regional Planning Commission (RPC) as defined in section 70.515 that provides 911 services to multiple counties

Please note, 911 entities such as PSAPs may complete the application and submit it on behalf of an eligible applicant (i.e. county, ESB, or RPC), so long as they have the necessary signature from the eligible applicants governing or oversight body (i.e. county commission, ESB or RPC).

Applications may be submitted by any one or more eligible applicants. Joint applications are encouraged and will receive higher/priority consideration.

### **Additional Eligibility and Application Requirements:**

- Completion of the Board's annual PSAP survey for each participating entity (as required by section 650.330.13, RSMo);
- Description of the applicant's ability or plan to operate and sustain 911 services beyond the life of the loan or grant;
- Participation in the Board's state GIS project if GIS data is not NG911 compliant
- MOU among all participating entities and jurisdictions (if applicable)
- Signature from applicant's governing body to acknowledge and approve application submission.
  - Any county or the cities of St. Louis City and Sikeston; will require signatures from the governing body (e.g. County Commission)
  - Any Elected Emergency Services Board (ESB) established pursuant to 190.335 or 190.292 will require signature from qualified signer for your ESB
  - A Regional Planning Commission (RPC) as defined in section 70.515 that provides 911 services to multiple counties will require signature from qualified signer for your RPC

### **Number of Applicants**

The Board's grant software is currently set up for a maximum of eight applicants. If you have more than eight applicants, please contact the board at [grants@missouri911.org](mailto:grants@missouri911.org).

### **Project Manager & Applicant Project Leads**

All projects will require a designated Project Manager who will oversee the project and all applicants and points of contacts. Applicants may designate a primary point of contact (e.g. PSAP Director) that is different from the applicant's signer. Project managers, applicants, or designated points of contacts will be required to complete the Board's ARPA training, responsible for ARPA compliance, and compliance with the Board's project agreement. The Project Manager will also be required to comply with the Board's reporting requirements, maintain a grant file, and serve as the project's key point of contact for the Board.

### **Project Duration**

Applications must be approved by the governing bodies of the applicants, where applicable. Applications must demonstrate that project implementation activities will begin promptly after award notification and a project agreement has been executed. The project must be able to be completed within one year of the date the project agreement being executed. An approved applicants' 911 entity may request an extension of the project completion deadline of up to six (6) months. Extension requests must be received by the Board at least forty-five (45) calendar days before the expiration of the most current project completion deadline. Second and subsequent extension requests will be granted only in limited circumstances. All funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024, and all projects must be completed and project funds expended by December 31, 2026.

### **Project Agreements & Administration**

For approved applications, 911 entities and their governing bodies must enter into a project agreement with the Board that contains the terms and conditions of the financial assistance approved by the Board. The Board will not remit any financial assistance from the Fund until a project agreement has been fully executed and the Board has received a written certification of approval of all applicants' governing bodies, except where such approval is not required. No material changes may be made to an approved project until the approved applicants' 911 entity, if any, has obtained the Board's prior written approval. The Board will conduct audits as it deems appropriate. The Board reserves the right to reduce, suspend, or terminate the provision of financial assistance at any time due to a lack of money in the Fund, misrepresentations on the application, a

failure to comply with the project agreement or applicable laws, or other conduct deemed inappropriate by the Board.

All applicants will be required to complete an ARPA compliance workshop as a condition of the project agreement.

A sample copy of a project agreement can be found on the 911 Service Board [website](#).

### **Application Deadline:**

The Board will accept applications on a rolling basis between September 1, 2023 & September 1, 2024 until all funds have been obligated. All funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024 and expended by June 30, 2026.

### **Application Review and Decision**

All applications will be initially reviewed for completeness. Applicants submitting incomplete applications will be notified in writing by the Board and given fourteen (14) days to provide the information and documents necessary to complete their applications. Complete applications meeting the minimum requirements will undergo a technical review for NG911 compatibility and to ensure project requirements can be adequately achieved by the proposed project. Applicants that fail to pass the technical review will be allowed the opportunity to make project modifications with assistance from the Board. Complete applications that pass a technical review will be scored. Scored applications will be ranked based on their score to aid the Board in deciding which applications to approve, and the amount and type of financial assistance to award for approved 911 communications service projects. The scoring will be as provided in 11 CSR 90-2.030(2) and informed by NG911 ARPA requirements. Final Board decisions on project funding awards will be made on a case-by-case basis, based on the Board's determination, at its sole discretion, of which proposed projects best promote the purpose of the Fund set forth in section 650.330(16) (a)-(f) and additional provisions required for NG911 and specific to ARPA funding. The Board or its designee will notify applicants, if applicable, in writing of its final decision on each application.

### **Protest**

Applicants may protest any adverse action taken by the Board relating to their application or project agreement as per 11 CSR 90-2.050 as found on the Board's website under Governing Documents. Protest requirements are listed in 11 CSR 90-2.050 and protest must be submitted to the Board within fourteen (14) calendar days after the date of the adverse action.

**OTHER INFORMATION:**

To receive updates announcements regarding upcoming award cycles, subscribe to the 911 Board's email list at the bottom of the Board's [homepage](#).

**Questions?**

Please review FAQs on the Board's [website](#). If you still have questions, please contact the Board at [grants@missouri911.org](mailto:grants@missouri911.org)