



ARPA Eligibility Analysis:

Assistance to Rio Grande Valley College Nursing Program (ARPA-22-110-072)

Issue

Are institutions of higher education eligible to receive State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds if are not located in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT) zone?

Analysis

The SLFRF program provides recipients great flexibility in the use of funds to address negative economic impacts. According to the Compliance and Reporting Guidance, funds may be used to assist individuals, households, small businesses, nonprofits, and other impacted industries, such as tourism, travel, and hospitality.

In order to qualify under category 2.36, the final rule states that industry may be designated as “impacted”:

1. If the industry is in the travel, tourism, or hospitality sectors, the industry is presumed impacted
2. If the industry is outside of travel, tourism, or hospitality sectors, the industry is impacted if:—The industry experienced at least 8 percent employment loss from pre-pandemic levels, OR—The industry is experiencing comparable or worse economic impacts as the tourism, travel and hospitality industries as of the date the Final Rule is published (12/6/2021)

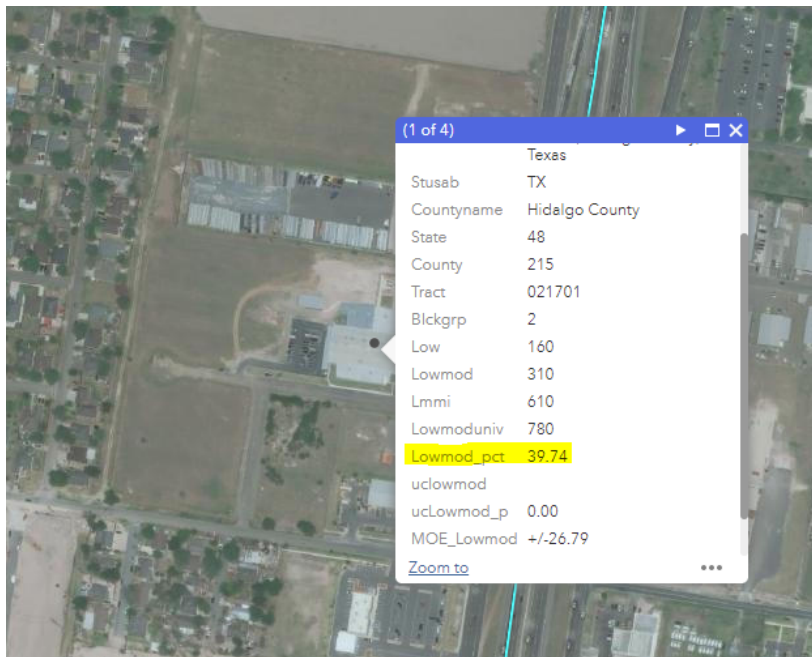
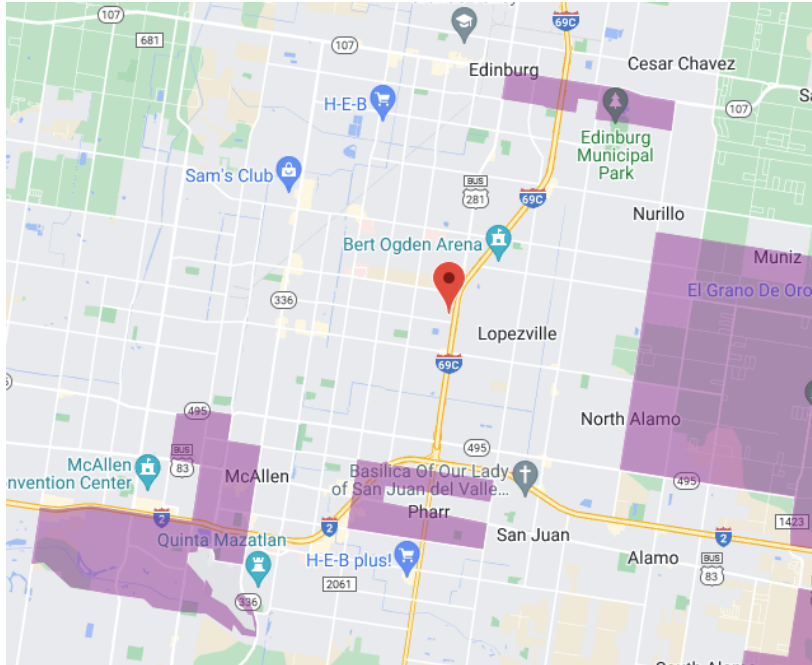
Moreover, the project **must** also assist an industry located in a Qualified Census Tract.

Currently, Rio Grande Valley College is located at 5419 N Cage Blvd, Pharr TX 78577. Below you will find that Rio Grande Valley College is not located in a Qualified Census Tract, nor in a low to moderate income area.



Hidalgo County • Department of Budget & Management

American Rescue Plan Act 2022





Hidalgo County • Department of Budget & Management

American Rescue Plan Act 2022

Conclusion

The project is not an eligible expense under the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) as Rio Grande Valley College is not primarily serving disproportionately impacted communities within a Qualified Census Tract Area nor in a low to moderate income area.