

AmeriCorps Grants: Leveraging Environmental Support

Broadening resource opportunities
using EPA funds

AmeriCorps Grants: Opportunity

- Over \$3 million dedicated to supporting Tribal communities each year (1% set-aside in AmeriCorps Appropriations)
- AmeriCorps provides support for Tribes
 - Community projects can involve tribal members as AmeriCorps members
- In 2007-2008, more than 130 Federally-recognized tribes were supported in some way by the Corporation for Community and National Services (CNCS), including AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps Grants: Eligible Activities

AmeriCorps grants can be used to address:

- Assisting elders
- Preserving tribal culture
- Educating and mentoring youth
- Health and family services
- Job training and economic development
- Disaster preparedness and response

AmeriCorps : Environmental Focus

- CNCS has identified Environmental Stewardship as a focus area for selecting AmeriCorps projects
- EPA Grants, including the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program (GAP) can help support and benefit from a participation with AmeriCorps.
- EPA GAP grants assist tribes in developing the capacity to manage environmental regulatory programs, and to develop and implement solid and hazardous waste programs in accordance with individual tribal needs and applicable federal laws and regulations.

AmeriCorps: EPA Grants as Match

- AmeriCorps grants require grant recipients to provide a gradually increasing match from 24% in the first year of operation to a 50% match of total project costs by the tenth year of operation
- AmeriCorps statutory authority allows other Federal grants to be used as match
- To use EPA grant funds as match for AmeriCorps grants:
 - The EPA grant funds **MUST** be for activities eligible under the EPA grant
 - Any EPA grant funds used as match for AmeriCorps grants must be identified and tracked for both programs

AmeriCorps: GAP Grants as Match

- GAP Grants may be used as match for AmeriCorps grants
- There are many types of projects and activities that are eligible to be funded by both AmeriCorps and GAP:
 - Environmental Education/Outreach
 - Technical Capacity
 - Baseline Assessment

AmeriCorps-GAP: Project Ideas

In conjunction with GAP, AmeriCorps members can help:

- Conduct Environmental Education
- Perform assessment of Indoor Air Quality risks or household pesticide usage
- Assess baseline environmental conditions
- Build technical skills and documentation necessary to manage environmental programs

...and more!

AmeriCorps Grants: Current Opportunities

January 2012 Requests For Proposals

- Currently 3 AmeriCorps grant funding opportunities with proposals due 1/18/2012
 - Planning Grants: up to \$50,000 to assist tribes in developing competitive program proposals
 - AmeriCorps State and National Grants are also due 1/18/12
- Review existing GAP Grants for activities that coordinate well with AmeriCorps program
- Develop a proposal for AmeriCorps funding that clearly identifies the GAP-supported activities.

AmeriCorps Grants: Future Opportunities

- Modify existing or develop GAP workplan that includes activities to be carried out through AmeriCorps
 - Example: Environmental health assessments
 - Example: Water quality studies and assessments
- Include assistance with these GAP-supported activities in AmeriCorps program proposals
 - Example: Environmental education and training
 - Example: Air and water baseline assessments
- Go to work!

AmeriCorps Grants: Next Steps

Other EPA grants provide implementation opportunities:

- Review eligible EPA Grant programs
- Identify areas of overlap between EPA and AmeriCorps project Activities.
- Integrate your EPA and AmeriCorps funding

Grant Resources

- AmeriCorps:
 - [The National and Community Service Act of 1990](#) [as amended by the Kennedy Serve America Act of 2009]
 - [The Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973](#) [as amended by the Kennedy Serve America Act of 2009]
 - [AmeriCorps Indian Tribes Planning Grants FY2012](#)
- EPA
 - [Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Act](#) (42 U.S.C. 4368b)
 - [GAP Guidance](#)
 - [EPA Tribal Portal: Grants & Funding](#)
<http://www.epa.gov/indian/grantsandfunding/index.htm>

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