Key AmeriCorps Grant Terminology and Concepts

A presentation for AmeriCorps grant applicants

Webinar #2 of 5

Overview

★ Briefly Review AmeriCorps Grants

★ Explain Basic AmeriCorps Grant Concepts &Terminology

★ Review Additional Resources

★ Session Evaluation

AmeriCorps State and National Grants

★ Provide funding to high-quality programs

★ Programs are developed by applicants who design a set of activities that demonstrate an <u>evidence-based approach</u> to creating community impact

★ Provided to organizations that want to solve community problems by engaging individuals in service as AmeriCorps members.

AmeriCorps Terms and Concepts

Evidence-Based approach/ Evidence Basis: This refers to a program's demonstration of why it is proposing a particular intervention to address the identified community problem.

Evidence for the intervention (member service activities) could be supported by:

➢ documented success,

➢ research studies,

➢ performance data, or

➢ by describing a successful program model being replicated that is making significant community impact.

AmeriCorps Terms and Concepts

★ **AmeriCorps Program**: An organization that has received an AmeriCorps grant and operates a service program.

★ **Grantee**: The direct recipient of the grant funds.

★ **Single-State**: An AmeriCorps Program operating solely within one state. This program receives an AmeriCorps grant from a State Service Commission.

★ **Multi-State:** An AmeriCorps Program operating in two or more states. This program receives an AmeriCorps grant directly from CNCS.

AmeriCorps Terms and Concepts

★ **Subgrantee**: The local organizations which implement the grant activities on the local level.

★ **Operating Sites and Service Locations**: Operating sites and service locations are terms used to describe the place where a member completes the service activities.

State Service Commissions

★ Provide Corporation funding to single state AmeriCorps programs.

★ Multi-state AmeriCorps programs must consult with commissions in the states where they place or plan to place AmeriCorps members.

★ Provide feedback to CNCS on programs operating within their state

http://www.americorps.gov/about/contact/statecommission.asp

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Performance Measures

Performance Measures: required for programs, tracked and reported on a bi-annual basis. Focus on the primary service activity and describe impact on the beneficiaries of the service.
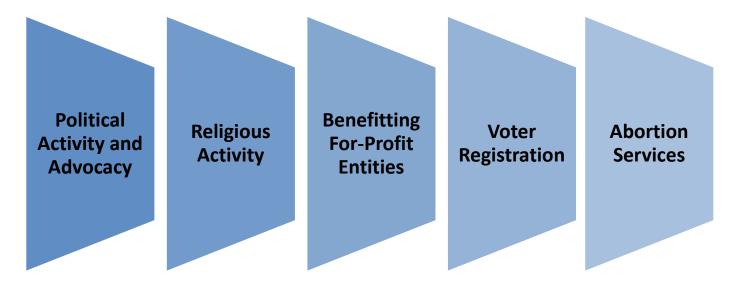
- ➲ AmeriCorps performance measures consist of **<u>outputs</u>** (amount of service beneficiaries reached, projects completed or services delivered by a program) and **<u>outcomes</u>** (changes or benefits experienced by service beneficiaries and/or the results achieved).

- ➲ Applicants must select from Corporation created National Performance Measures if their program design aligns with the outcomes or they may create their own performances measures.

What Cannot be done with AmeriCorps

Prohibited Activities: Activities that staff, members, and volunteers <u>may not</u> engage in while charging time to the AmeriCorps program, accumulating service or training hours, or otherwise performing activities supported by the AmeriCorps program or CNCS

| Political Activity and Advocacy | Religious Activity | Benefitting For-Profit Entities | Voter Registration | Abortion Services |

AmeriCorps Member Terminology

★ **AmeriCorps Member:** An individual enrolled for a specific term of service with an approved AmeriCorps program. *There is a specific webinar that provides much more detail about AmeriCorps members.*

★ **Member Service Year (MSY):** One member service year is equivalent to one full-time AmeriCorps member. AmeriCorps funds are contingent on the number of MSYs requested by the program.

★ **AmeriCorps member term/slot type**: There are five types of AmeriCorps member terms or slots: full time, half time, reduced half time, quarter time, and minimum time. The total MSYs a program requests depends on the number and type of slots/AmeriCorps member positions included in a particular program design.

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Cost per MSY

Cost per MSY =   <u>Total $ requested from AmeriCorps</u>
Total MSY requested

★ Maximum amount is published annually in the Notice of Funding Opportunity

★ Varies depending on the type of AmeriCorps grant

★ Programs designed and operated by Indian Tribes may request a cost per MSY higher than the maximum amount appearing in the Notice of Funding Opportunity.

Cost per MSY

For Example:

★ $266,000/20 full-time (FT) members = $13,300 is the cost per MSY (20 FT members = 20 MSY.)

★ $266,000 /40 half-time (HT) members = $13,300 is the cost per MSY because 40 HT = 20 MSY. (1 HT = 0.5 MSY)

★ Cost/MSY is a competitive factor in the grant review process.

★ PLEASE NOTE: Cost per MSY is not the same thing as the member living allowance. The member living allowance is an individual program budget expense. **Cost per MSY is an overall program price calculation.**

Additional Resources

Webinar Series:

Intro to AmeriCorps State and National

Key AmeriCorps Terms and Concepts

Intro to AmeriCorps Members

Categories of AmeriCorps Grants

AmeriCorps Program Management and Design

Applicant Resources available online: coming soon

Live Topical Calls:

AmeriCorps State & National hosts Q&A calls with potential applicants. You can find the call schedule here: http://www.americorps.gov/for_organizations/funding/nofa_detail.asp?tbl_nofa_id=98

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Session Evaluation

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ACwebinarEval

If you have questions

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