

Introduction to AmeriCorps Members



*A presentation for AmeriCorps grant
applicants*

Overview

- ★ Definition of AmeriCorps Members
- ★ AmeriCorps Member Eligibility Requirements
- ★ AmeriCorps Member Terminology
- ★ Terms of AmeriCorps Member Service
- ★ Your Role in Member Recruitment, Training and Supervision
- ★ Prohibited Activities
- ★ Webinar Series Reminders
- ★ Session Evaluation



AmeriCorps Members



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AmeriCorps Members

- ★ Individuals enrolled for a specific term of service with an AmeriCorps program
- ★ Members are not volunteers or employees
- ★ Some members receive a living allowance, health insurance and child care assistance
- ★ AmeriCorps members receive the Segal Education Award upon completing a term of service



Member Eligibility

Members must be:

- ★ U.S. Citizens, U.S. Nationals or Lawful Permanent Residents of the United States
- ★ At least 17 years of age – no upper age limit
- ★ High school graduates or GED recipients (or working towards this goal)
- ★ Subject to criminal history checks
- ★ AmeriCorps Programs may add program-specific requirements

http://www.americorps.gov/for_individuals/ready/eligibility.asp



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Member Terminology

- ★ Living Allowance
- ★ Segal AmeriCorps Education Award
- ★ Member Terms of Service or Slot Types



Living Allowance

- ★ The stipend an AmeriCorps member receives during a term of service
- ★ CNCS publishes a maximum and minimum living allowance for all member positions
- ★ Is not a wage, not allocated on an hourly basis
- ★ Only full-time members are **required** to receive a living allowance



Segal AmeriCorps Education Award

- ★ A benefit provided for completing a term of service in AmeriCorps
- ★ Can be used to pay education costs, educational training, or to repay student loans
- ★ Maximum amount of the education award depends on the type of member position



Segal AmeriCorps Education Award

- ★ **Funding for education awards comes from the National Service Trust and will not be part of your submitted budget**
- ★ Can be used for up to seven years after a term of service has ended
- ★ Is transferable to an eligible child, grandchild or foster child of a member who is 55 years of age or older



AmeriCorps Member Terms of Service/Slot Type

The total MSYs a program requests depends on the number and type of slots/AmeriCorps member positions included in a particular program design.

Full Time

Half Time

**Reduced
Half Time**

**Quarter
Time**

**Minimum
Time**



Member Terms of Service

Member Term	Minimum Hours Served	Maximum Length of Term
Full Time (FT)	1,700	12 months
Half Time (HT)	900	12 or 24 months <i>(usually 12)</i>
Reduced Half Time (RHT)	675	12 months
Quarter Time (QT)	450	12 months
Minimum Time (MT)	300	12 months



Your Responsibilities to Members

- ★ Recruit
- ★ Interview
- ★ Select
- ★ Train
- ★ Supervise



Prohibited Activities

Activities that staff, volunteers and members may not 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**



Prohibited Activities

- (1) Attempting to influence legislation;
- (2) Organizing or engaging in protests, petitions, boycotts, or strikes;
- (3) Assisting, promoting, or deterring union organizing;
- (4) Impairing existing contracts for services or collective bargaining agreements;
- (5) Engaging in partisan political activities, or other activities designed to influence the outcome of an election to any public office;
- (6) Participating in, or endorsing, events or activities that are likely to include advocacy for or against political parties, political platforms, political candidates, proposed legislation, or elected officials;



Prohibited Activities

- (7) Engaging in religious instruction, conducting worship services, providing instruction as part of a program that includes mandatory religious instruction or worship, constructing or operating facilities devoted to religious instruction or worship, maintaining facilities primarily or inherently devoted to religious instruction or worship, or engaging in any form of religious proselytization;



Prohibited Activities

- (8) Providing a direct benefit to—
 - (i) A business organized for profit;
 - (ii) A labor union;
 - (iii) A partisan political organization;
 - (iv) A nonprofit organization that fails to comply with the restrictions contained in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 except that nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent participants from engaging in advocacy activities undertaken at their own initiative; and
 - (v) An organization engaged in the religious activities described in paragraph (g) of this section, unless Corporation assistance is not used to support those religious activities;

Prohibited Activities

- (9) Conducting a voter registration drive or using Corporation funds to conduct a voter registration drive;
- (10) Providing abortion services or referrals for receipt of such services; and
- (11) Such other activities as the Corporation may prohibit.

Individuals may exercise their rights as private citizens and may participate in the activities listed above on their initiative, on non-AmeriCorps time, and using non-Corporation funds. Individuals should not wear the AmeriCorps logo while doing so.

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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Evaluation

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



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If You Have Questions

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