



NEW MEXICO COMMISSION FOR COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERISM 2017-2018 AMERICORPS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

AMERICORPS BASICS

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Community Outreach and Events Officer

New Mexico Commission for Community Volunteerism





CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE (CNCS)

- Created in 1993 through the signing of the National and Community Service Trust Act
- Nation's largest grant maker supporting service and volunteering
- Engages millions of Americans in service each year
- Sponsors and promotes a variety of special initiatives and days of service

Corporation for
**NATIONAL &
COMMUNITY
SERVICE** 

NATIONAL SERVICE UMBRELLA

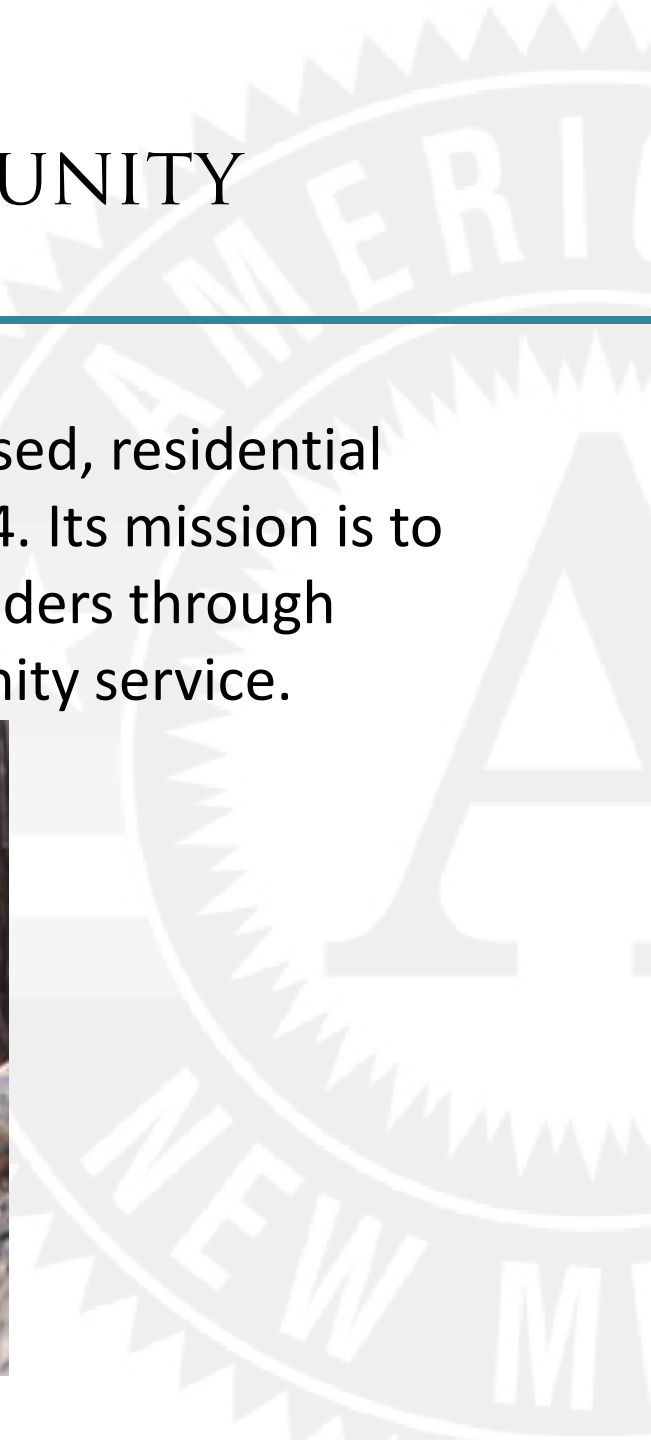
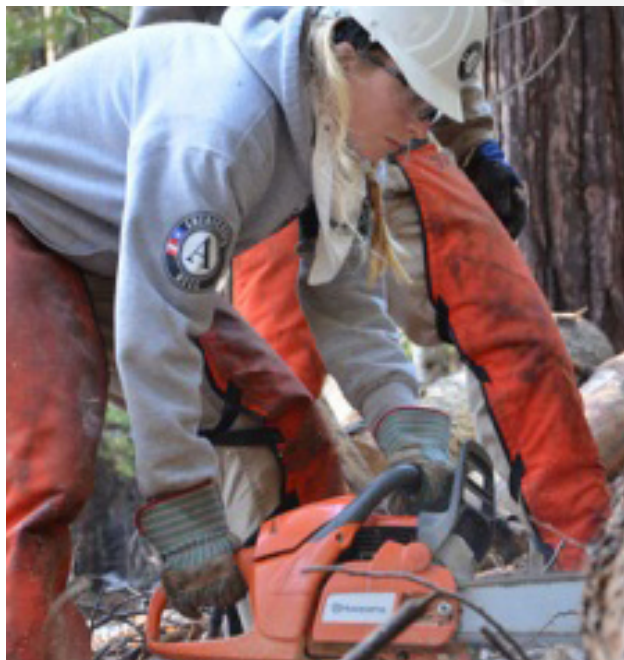




AMERICORPS NCCC

(NATIONAL CIVILIAN COMMUNITY CORPS)

AmeriCorps NCCC is a full-time, team-based, residential program for men and women, ages 18-24. Its mission is to strengthen communities and develop leaders through direct, team-based national and community service.



AMERICORPS VISTA

(VOLUNTEERS IN SERVICE TO AMERICA)

VISTA provides full-time members to nonprofit, faith-based and other community organizations, and public agencies to create and expand programs that bring low-income individuals and communities out of poverty.



SENIOR CORPS

Senior Corps connects adults, ages 55+, with the people and organizations that need them most. Senior Corps engages citizens as mentors, coaches or companions to people in need, or contribute their job skills and expertise to community projects and organizations.

- Foster Grandparents
- RSVP
- Senior Companions



AMERICORPS STATE AND NATIONAL

This is the broadest network of AmeriCorps programs. These groups recruit, train, and place AmeriCorps members to meet critical community needs in education, public safety, health, and the environment.



THE COMMISSION



NEW MEXICO COMMISSION FOR
**COMMUNITY
VOLUNTEERISM**

NEW MEXICO COMMISSION FOR COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERISM (NMCCV)

- Created in 1994, NMCCV is the Governor-designated National Service Commission in New Mexico
- Administers the AmeriCorps State grant program
- Works to engage citizens of all ages and backgrounds in community based service



NEW MEXICO COMMISSION FOR
**COMMUNITY
VOLUNTEERISM**



SINGLE-STATE VS. MULTI-STATE

AMERICORPS PROGRAMS

Single-State:

- Address community needs only New Mexico
- Submit grant applications to NMCCV

Multi-State:

- Address community needs in at least two states
- Have relationships with entities in different states that will operate the local programs
- Consult with State Commissions in each of the states where they operate programming
- Submit grant applications directly to CNCS

SO, WHO ARE AMERICORPS MEMBERS?



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 childcare assistance
- AmeriCorps members receive the Segal Education Award upon completing a term of service



WHAT AMERICORPS MEMBERS DO

- Tutor at-risk youth
- Recruit volunteers
- Teach conflict resolution skills
- Environmental conservation activities
- Assist crime victims
- Build homes
- Restore Parks
- Teach computer skills
- Facilitate after-school programs
- Connect people with resources
- Other direct service activities...

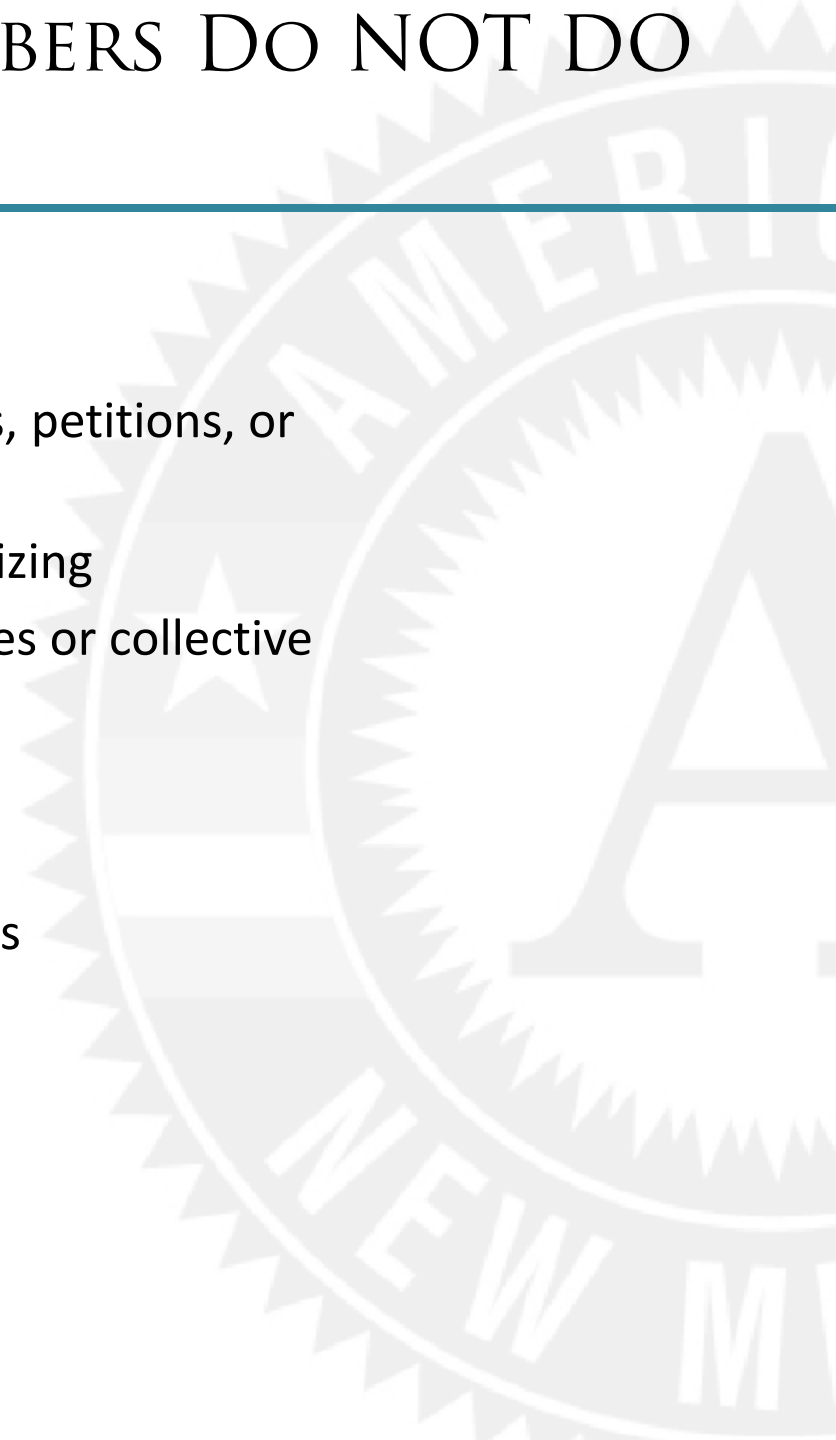




WHAT AMERICORPS MEMBERS DO NOT DO

(PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES)

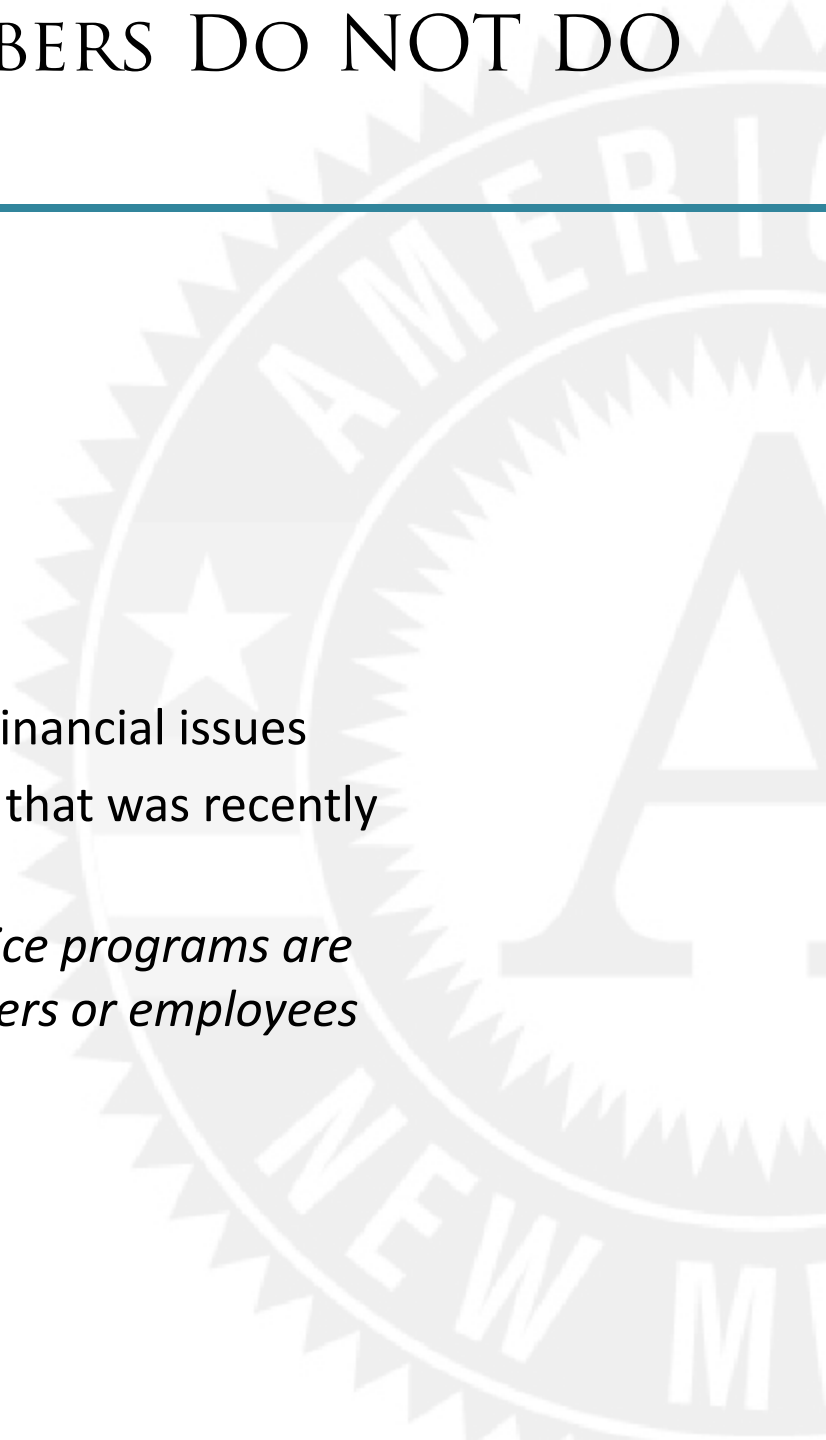
- Attempt to influence legislation
- Organize or engage in protests, strikes, petitions, or boycotts
- Assist, promote, or deter union organizing
- Impairing existing contracts for services or collective bargaining agreements
- Any political activities
- Engaging in religious instruction
- Providing abortion services or referrals
- Providing a direct benefit to...
 - A business organized for profit
 - A labor union
 - A partisan political organization





WHAT AMERICORPS MEMBERS DO NOT DO (PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES)

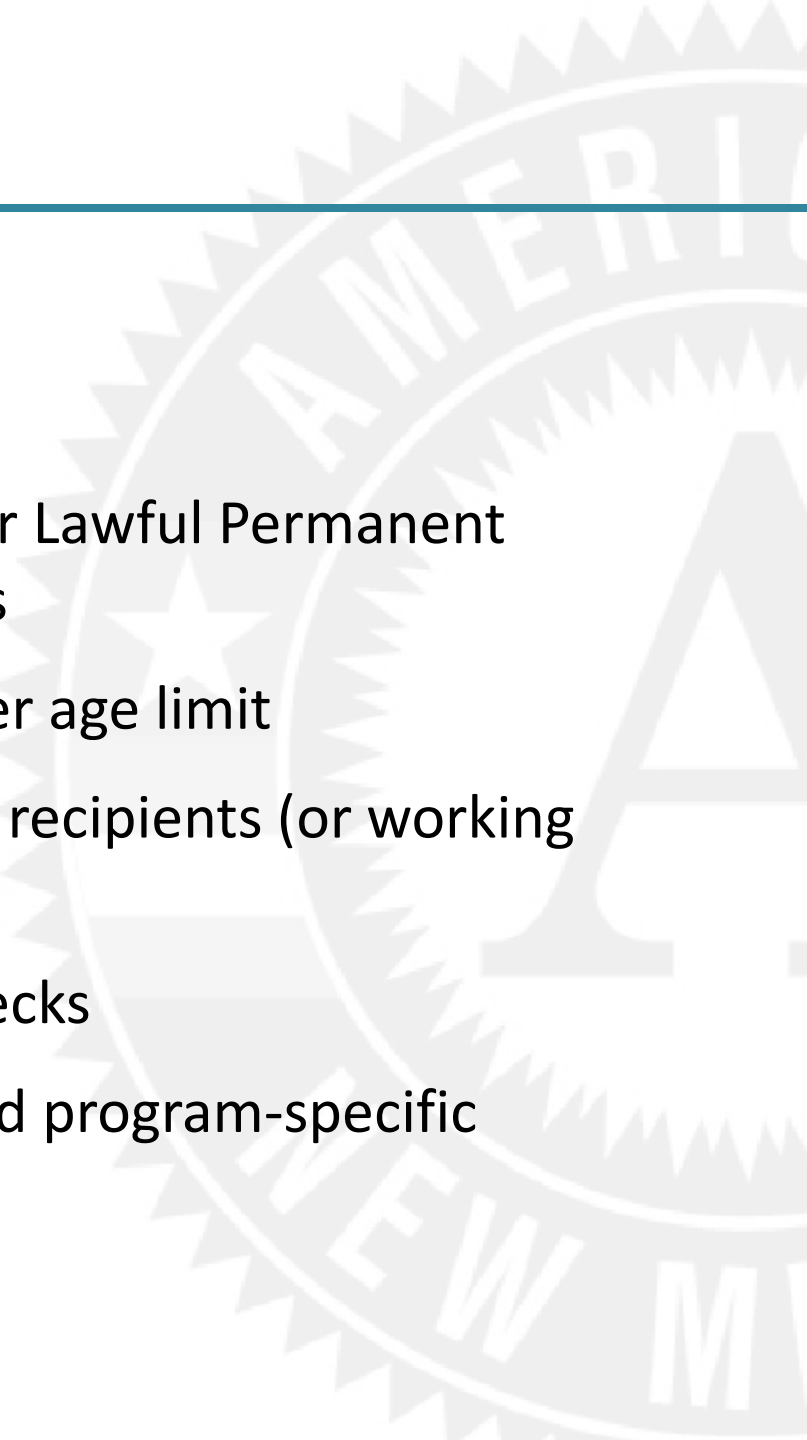
- Perform only clerical work
- Answer phones
- Perform janitorial duties
- Supervise other members
- Manage organizational paperwork of financial issues
- Supplant current staff or fill a position that was recently dissolved
- *Individuals who serve in National Service programs are called **members** - they are **not** volunteers or employees*





MEMBER ELIGIBILITY

Members must be:

- U.S. Citizens, U.S. Nationals, or Lawful Permanent Residents of the United States
 - At least 17 yrs 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
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AMERICORPS 2017-2018 FUNDING OPPORTUNITY





AMERICORPS: FROM CONGRESS TO COMMUNITIES

Congress

- Appropriates Funds

CNCS

- Competitive National Process
- Formula Allocation

NMCCV

- Selects high quality, impactful grantees

AmeriCorps Subgrantees

- Recruit, enroll, and train service members

AmeriCorps Members

- Perform allowable service

New Mexico
Communities

- Identified local needs are met



MEMBER SERVICE YEARS

MSY: Member Service Year

- 1 MSY is equal to 1 Full-time equivalent member

Cost Per MSY

- Calculation used to indicate the maximum amount of federal funds that can be requested for your project.
- It is based on the number of MSYs that you are requesting.

(Total \$ Requested / Total MSYs Requested)



MEMBER TYPES

Term of Service	MSYs	Minimum # of Hours
Full Time	1.00	1700
Half Time	.500	900
Reduced Half Time	.381	675
Quarter Time	.265	450
Minimum Time	.212	300

To meet the minimum 20 member slot requirement, you may use any combination of member types.
(except for FTFA programs which require all full-time)



GRANT PERIOD

Project Period: organizations apply for AmeriCorps funding for projects that last a three years. This three-year period is called the project period. Funding between budget periods is not guaranteed.

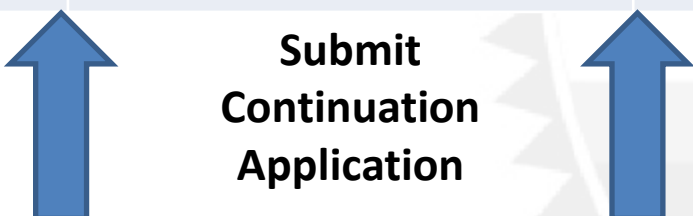
Budget Period: each three-year project period is divided into three budget periods. Each budget period is no longer than twelve months.

Member Term of Service: Member Hours + Length of Service + Other Program Defined Requirements. The member term of service must be completed within one budget period.

GRANT PERIOD

PROJECT PERIOD: 3 YEARS		
Budget Period 1	Budget Period 2	Budget Period 3
Member Terms of Service Can be different lengths depending on member types, but MUST fit within budget period	Member Terms of Service Can be different lengths depending on member types, but MUST fit within budget period	Member Terms of Service Can be different lengths depending on member types, but MUST fit within budget period

Submit Continuation Application





GRANT TYPES: COST REIMBURSEMENT

GRANTS

- Fund a portion of program operating costs
- Flexible-funds may be used for allowable costs regardless of whether the program recruits and retains all AmeriCorps members supported under the grant
- Available to new and reCompleting applicants

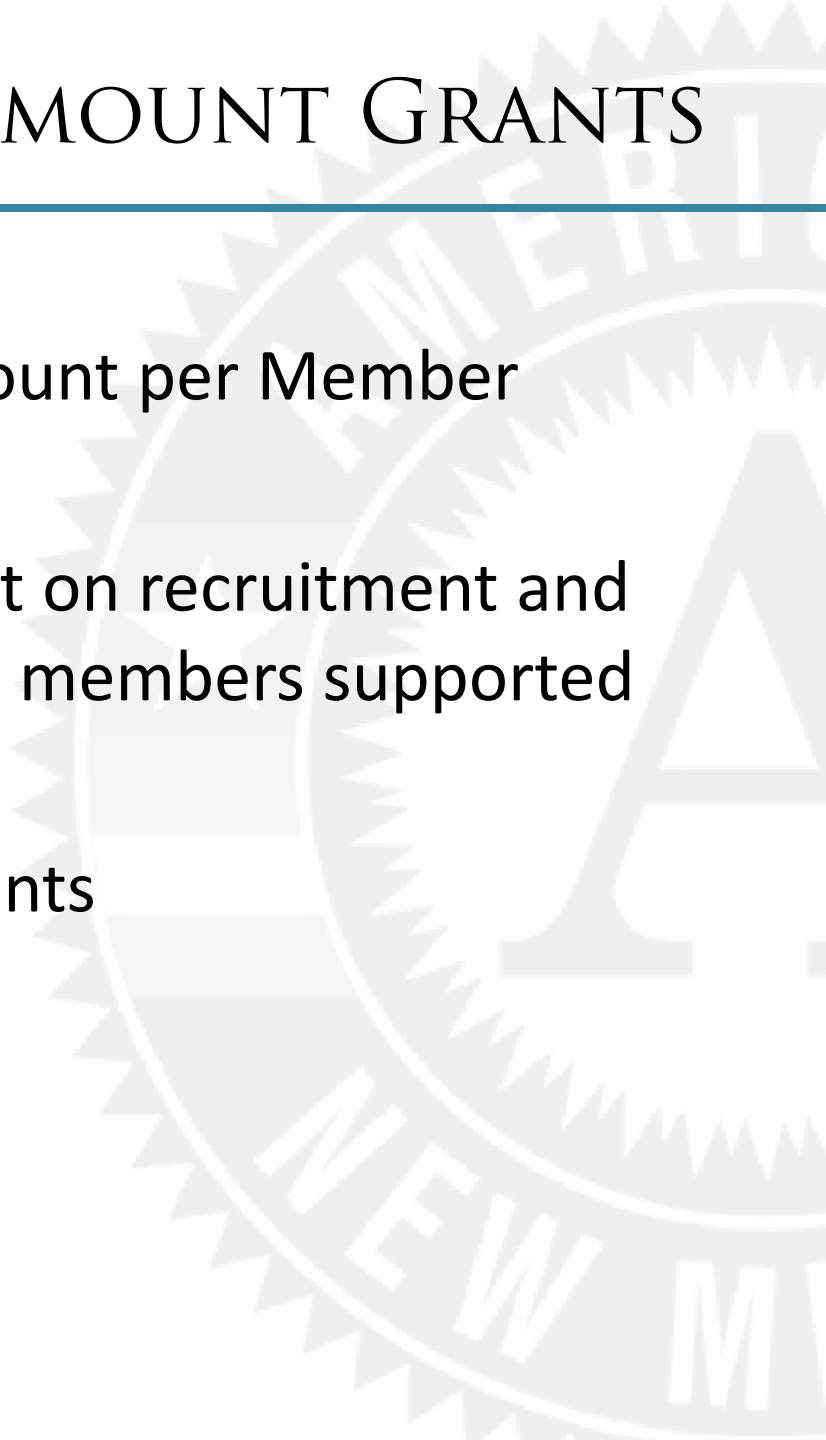


TYPES OF COST REIMBURSEMENT GRANTS

- Traditional
 - Support the majority of AmeriCorps programs
 - May include all AmeriCorps member slot types
 - Maximum cost/MSY published annually in the NOFO
- Planning Grant
 - Support an organization's development of a new AmeriCorps program
 - Grants are for one year only and do not support AmeriCorps members



GRANT TYPES: FIXED AMOUNT GRANTS

- Provide a specific dollar amount per Member Service Year
 - Access to funds is contingent on recruitment and retention of the AmeriCorps members supported under the grant
 - Not available to new applicants
- 



QUICK RECAP

- Grant funds can be awarded as Cost Reimbursement or Fixed Amount Grants

Cost Reimbursement	Fixed Amount
Available to new applicants	Not available to new applicants
Budget	No Budget
2 annual financial reports	No financial reports
Match required	No formal match required
Access to funds regardless of member enrollment or retention	Access to all funds depends on member enrollment and/or retention

- Additional resources to support program operations are required for all grant types



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- **Designated Focus Area:**
 - Disaster Services
 - Economic Opportunity
 - Education
 - Environmental Stewardship
 - Healthy Futures
 - Veterans and Military Families

Any application that fails to meet one or more of these requirements will not be eligible for review or funding consideration.

- **Type of Organization**
- **Minimum Size Corps (20 slots)**
- **Organizational Capability**
- **DUNS and SAM**
- **Submit a Notice of Intent to Apply/ Readiness Checklist**
- **Complete Application Submission**



MEMBER BENEFITS

AmeriCorps members learn new skills, acquire qualities of leadership, and gain a sense of satisfaction from taking on responsibilities that directly affect people's lives.

Member In-Service Benefits

- Living Allowance (required for Full-Time members)
- Health Insurance (required for Full-Time members)
- Child Care (for eligible members only)
- Student Loan Postponement
- Interest Accrual Payment
- Post-Service Education Award



REPORTING REQUIREMENTS & GRANT ADMINISTRATION

Reporting

- Federal Financial Reports (FFRs) submitted semi-annually and at the conclusion of your budget period.
- Programmatic Reports submitted monthly.
- Other reports as required.

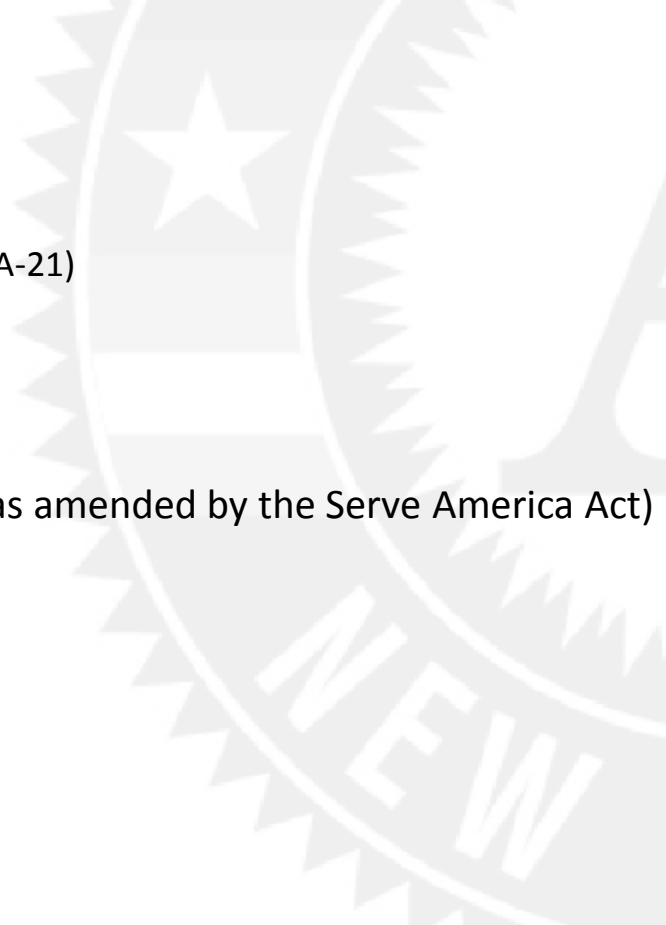
Grant Administration

- Monthly communication (at a min.) with NMCCV Program Officer.
- Timely responses from appropriate program staff.
- Timely submission of reports and other documents.
- Attendance on webinars and at events.
- Full enrollment and retention of members.



AMERICORPS PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The AmeriCorps program is a Federally funded program. As such, the following requirements apply to the program activities and funds expended as part of the program.

- Administrative Requirements
 - 2 CFR 215 (A-110), A-102
 - Cost Principles
 - 2 CFR 225 (A-87), 2CFR 230 (A-122), 2 CFR 220 (A-21)
 - Audits
 - A-133
 - National and Community Service Act of 1990 (as amended by the Serve America Act)
 - 42 USC 12501 et seq., and 45 CFR 2510 et seq.
 - Applicable Federal Policies
 - AmeriCorps Regulations
 - 45 CFR 2520-2550
 - AmeriCorps Provisions
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IS AMERICORPS THE RIGHT FIT?

The AmeriCorps program is a complex program that can be a unique means to help address an identified community need. But it's not a good fit for all programs and organizations.

- Is this program the right fit for our organization to meet this need?
 - An internal organizational assessment can help determine if your organization has the capacity to manage the grant.
- Does our organization have a commitment to the AmeriCorps program and its goals and outcomes?
 - At all levels of the organization.
- Do you have evidence to support that the intervention you are proposing will lead to the outcomes you identify in your logic model?
 - “evidence” may be evidence informed or evidence-based

IS AMERICORPS THE RIGHT FIT?

Can you answer the following questions?

- What is the community need that my AmeriCorps*State program will address?
- What data is available to document the identified need as a compelling need facing the community?
- Why is AmeriCorps a good match to meet the identified need?
- Who would benefit from our program?
- Who else (if anyone) is addressing this need in the community? How can we work together? How is our work different?
- What is the added value of having an AmeriCorps program in our community?

IS AMERICORPS THE RIGHT FIT?

In your application you will be asked to submit documentation of community support and commitment to the program.

Forming community involvement or advisory committees can be helpful in:

- Clarifying the community need
- Helping identify partner sites
- Providing financial or administrative support
- Raising awareness of your organization, program, and its activities in your community
- Making a stronger community impact

IS AMERICORPS THE RIGHT FIT?

Select the most appropriate member type or types for the need and service being performed.

Is there enough time for members to successfully complete their service term?

- Build time into the service year for the unexpected-members unable to serve due to illness or family emergency, host site changes, or other unexpected events
- Think about opportunities for members to make up hours if needed
- Use your program calendar to see the entire year at a glance while planning the member service term.

Keep in mind that member activities must be:

- Aligned with and driven by the identified community need
- Measurable and Impact Based
- Meaningful
- Allowable

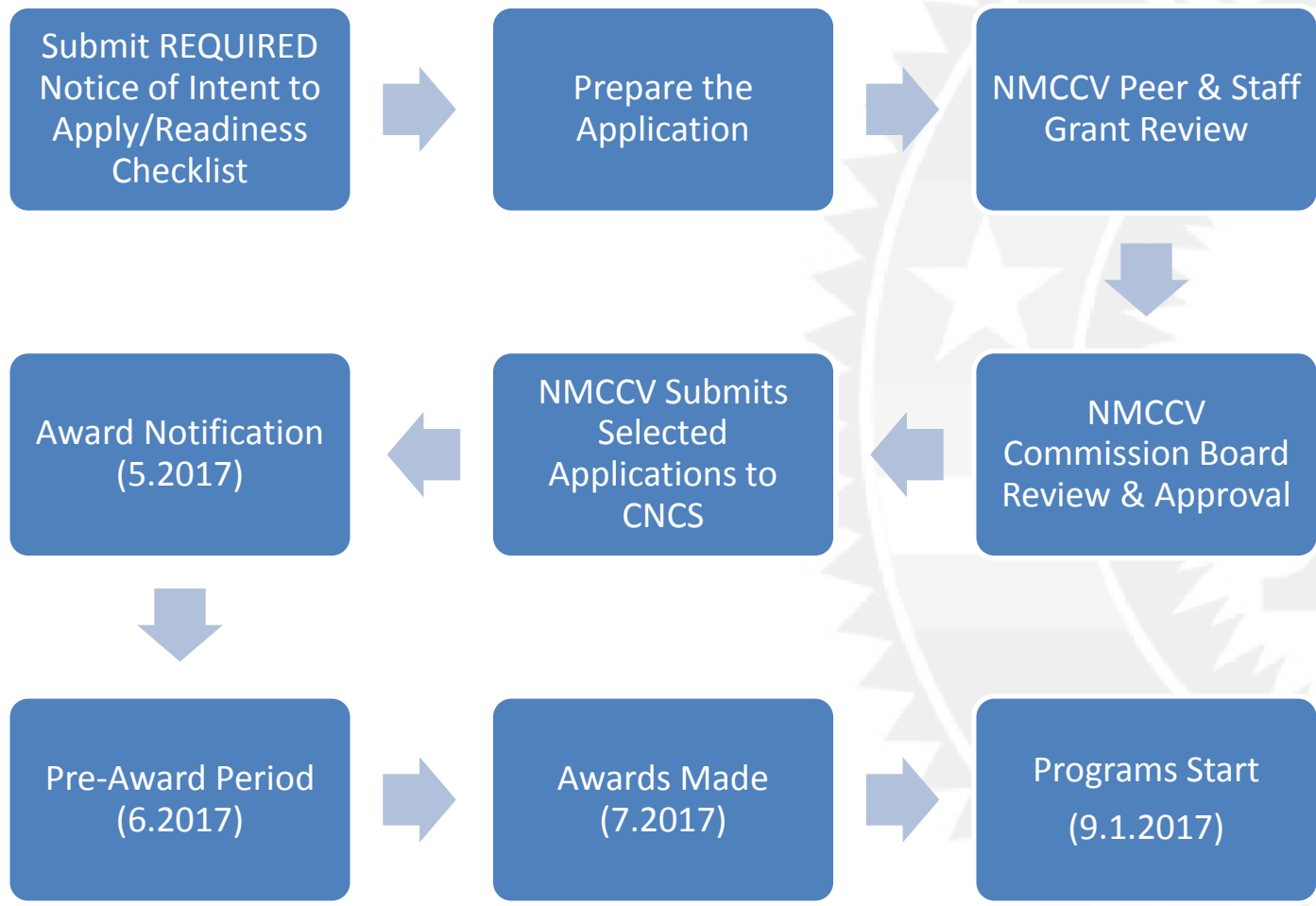
IS AMERICORPS THE RIGHT FIT?

The AmeriCorps program has a very high administrative requirement.

Expectations of programs in managing members:

- Programs are responsible for the recruitment, placement, and management of members
- Programs must track all members' hours served
- Programs are responsible for enrolling, exiting, and managing all paperwork for members
- Programs are responsible for the training, development, and day-to-day support of members
- Programs must keep current, accurate, and compliant member files
- Programs are responsible for managing member benefits
- Conducting criminal history checks for members

GRANT REVIEW & SELECTION PROCESS





QUESTIONS?

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