



**AmeriCorps**

**VolunteerMichigan**  
MICHIGAN COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMISSION



HOSTING A  
MICHIGAN'S AMERICORPS PROGRAM



# AGENDA

AmeriCorps Agency

Structure of National Service

Michigan Community Service Commission

Overview of AmeriCorps

Program Requirements

AmeriCorps Grant Guidelines

Budget Information

Grant Application Process & Timeline

Next Steps

Established in 1993, the AmeriCorps Agency, formerly known as the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), is a federal agency that engages millions of Americans in national service programs.

Mission: To improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering.

AmeriCorps is the nation's largest grantmaker for service and volunteering.



**AmeriCorps**





**AmeriCorps**  
Federal Agency

AmeriCorps NCCC:  
National Civilian  
Community Corps

Volunteer  
Generation Fund

Regional  
Offices



**AmeriCorps  
Seniors**

Retired Senior Volunteer  
Program (RSVP)

Foster Grandparents

Senior Companions



**AmeriCorps**

AmeriCorps VISTA

AmeriCorps State &  
National

State Service  
Commissions

State programs only

# Michigan Community Service Commission

The Michigan Community Service Commission (MCSC) utilizes service as a strategy to address the state's most pressing issues and empowers volunteers to strengthen communities.





Disaster  
Services



## Volunteerism

Support volunteer best practices and inspire people to make an impact

## AmeriCorps

Subgrant funds to eligible entities to engage individuals in national service

## Mentor Michigan+

Support mentoring and youth development programs

## Disaster Preparedness and Response

Volunteer management  
Donations management

# AmeriCorps State & National

AmeriCorps engages thousands of people in intensive service each year at locations across the nation including nonprofits, schools, public agencies, and community and faith-based organizations.

AmeriCorps members help communities tackle pressing problems while mobilizing millions of volunteers for the organizations they serve.

Members gain valuable professional, educational, and life benefits, and the experience has a lasting impact on the members and the communities they serve.

# Examples of AmeriCorps Service

Mentoring youth or tutoring students

Helping food insecure families access resources and healthy options

Removing invasive species, clearing trails, cleaning up rivers

Help veterans and military families navigating resources

Disaster preparedness training and response

Financial literacy workshops and training

Community board ups and blight reduction



# AmeriCorps Focus Areas

*Programs may operate in areas other than these focus areas.*

*The AmeriCorps Agency also identifies funding priorities each year.*



Disaster Services



Education



Economic Opportunity



Environmental Stewardship



Healthy Futures



Veterans and Military Families



# DISASTER SERVICES

- Increase preparedness for disasters
- Improve readiness to respond to disasters
- Help individuals recover from disasters
- Help individuals mitigate disasters



# ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Help economically disadvantaged people

Enhance financial literacy

Help individuals transition into or remain in affordable housing

Increase employability



# EDUCATION

Improve education outcomes or school readiness

Improved educational and behavioral outcomes

Support economically disadvantaged students in post-secondary institutions



# ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Improve energy efficiency

Increase renewable energy use

Improve ecosystems

Improve public spaces, rivers and  
trails



# HEALTHY FUTURES

- Increase access to healthcare
- Increase seniors' ability to stay in their home
- Increase physical activity
- Improve youth nutrition



## VETERANS & MILITARY FAMILIES

Positively impact veterans' quality of life

Connect veterans to volunteer experiences

Connect veterans and military families to legal assistance, affordable housing, health care, counseling services and more





BENEFITS FOR AMERICORPS MEMBERS

- Living allowance
- Student loan forbearance
- Education award to pay for college/university or repay student loans
- Health insurance for full-time members
- Childcare for full-time members
- Skill development & career opportunities
- Community connections

Still getting things  
done for America



## MEMBER SLOT TYPES

Full-Time	1,700 hours
Reduced Full-Time	1,200 hours
Half-Time	900 hours
Quarter Time	450 hours
Minimum Time	300 hours



## MEMBER ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### LeaderCorps

One representative from each program collaborates to strengthen the national service movement and promote awareness of AmeriCorps in MI.

### National Days of Service

Programs can plan or participate in National Days of Service projects through the state.

### Member Celebration

A statewide conference and celebration of national service.

### AmeriCorps Week

A weeklong celebration of AmeriCorps, its programs, and the members who serve.

### Russ Mawby Signature Service Projects

Large scale regional service projects that engage members from programs across the state.

# OPERATING AN AMERICORPS PROGRAM

Host organizations must:

- Employ one FTE staff for program management
- Provide required match funds
- Fully manage the program at the local level
- Identify and support service sites
- Recruit and manage its own AmeriCorps members
- Manage payment of AmeriCorps member living stipends
- Track and report progress toward program goals
- Require AmeriCorps staff to attend mandatory trainings
- Participate in statewide member events and activities





# AMERICORPS GRANT GUIDELINES

Strong program design with a clear theory of change, logic model, and evidence-based or evidence-informed interventions

AmeriCorps members cannot duplicate or displace staff or community volunteers

AmeriCorps members cannot be placed in an administrative function

Organizations must apply for a minimum equivalent of 10 MSY

MSY = Member Service Year = full-time equivalent

For example: 20 half-time or 40 quarter-time members

## TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

New Program Director training

Monthly Program Director meetings  
(in person & virtual)

One Organizational Leader meeting





## REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

### **Fiscal:**

Monthly PERs & statement  
of expenditures

Mid-year & end-of-year  
aggregate financial reports

### **Programmatic:**

Quarterly progress reports

Final close out report

# BUDGET INFORMATION

Program operating budget = CNCS share (grant funding) + Grantee share (match funds)

## CNCS Share

The amount requested as the CNCS share cannot exceed the maximum cost per MSY (Member Service Year)

Member Service Year = one full-time equivalent member slot

Maximum cost/MSY is set by the AmeriCorps Agency each year

## Grantee Share

Minimum match = 24% for first 3 years

Match requirement increases incrementally (years 4-6: 26%, years 7-9: 28%, years 10+: 30%)

Sources of match: private, state/local, federal  
Types of match: cash or in-kind

Examples of match: local foundation grants, in-kind donations, state and federal grants, agency general revenue, service site fees



## NEXT STEPS

- Develop your idea
  - What is the community need?
  - How will you address it with AmeriCorps?
  - Gather data and evidence to support your idea
- Organize community partners
- Review past or current NOFO and application guidelines
- Connect with the MCSC's AmeriCorps staff
- Review timeline information on MCSC's website

FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.michigan.gov/mcsc>

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