

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF MAYOR MURIEL BOWSER
SERVE DC – THE MAYOR’S OFFICE ON VOLUNTEERISM**

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

2018-2019 AmeriCorps State Formula Grant Competition

Summary:

Serve DC – The Mayor’s Office on Volunteerism announces the availability of AmeriCorps State Formula funding for Fiscal Year 2018 – 2019 to eligible organizations. Subject to the availability of appropriations for Fiscal Year 2018 (FY 2018) by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), new applicants with high-quality proposals will compete locally with other State and National programs for Formula funds made available through Serve DC and CNCS. The total amount of an applicant’s grant request must not exceed \$14,932 per Member Service Year. Applicants must request no more than twenty (20) Member Slots. For Professional Corps, the applicant’s grant request must not exceed \$1,000 per Member Service Year and must request no more than twenty (20) Member Slots. For Education Award Programs, the applicant’s grant request must not exceed \$100 per Member Service Year and must request no more than (50) member slots.

Serve DC requires *new and recompeting applicants* to submit a logical model prior to application submission. Logic Models and cover pages will be reviewed by the Serve DC Commission. Following the initial review of logic models, the Serve DC Commission will invite applicants with quality logic models that demonstrate a strong theory of change, to submit a full application. Please follow the logic model template provided in the eGrants web-based grants management system. New applicants need to establish an eGrants account by accessing this link: <https://egrants.cns.gov/espan/main/login.jsp> and selecting “Don’t have an eGrants account? Create an account.” Limit your logic model to 3 pages and email it to pamela.weinberg@dc.gov by **March, 30, 2018 at 5pm**. *Please note: Continuation applicants do not need to submit a logic model.*

Applicants who submit a full proposal will undergo a peer and staff review. Following this review, Serve DC will recommend programs to the federal Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) for Formula funding consideration. Serve DC reserves the right to reject applicants at any stage of the application process from Formula grant funding consideration. Serve DC anticipates notifying Formula awardees by early July 2018 and anticipates making grant awards in the first week of August 2018.

AmeriCorps is a national service network that provides full- and less than full-time opportunities for participants, called Members, to serve their communities and build the capacity of nonprofit organizations to meet local environmental, educational, public safety, homeland security, or other human needs. Within these issue areas, programs may submit proposals that address specific problems of local communities.

On April 21, 2009, President Obama signed the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, the most sweeping expansion of national service in a generation. This landmark law not only expands service opportunities, but also focuses national service on key outcomes; builds the capacity of

individuals, nonprofits, and communities to succeed; and encourages innovative approaches to solving problems. In alignment with the Serve America Act, this AmeriCorps State *Notice of Funding Opportunity* will focus AmeriCorps grant making in six Focus Areas identified by the Act:

- Disaster Services
- Economic Opportunity
- Education
- Environmental Stewardship
- Healthy Futures
- Veterans and Military Families

In order to carry out Congress' intent and to maximize the impact of the investment in national service, CNCS and Serve DC are seeking to fund programs that can demonstrate community impact and solve community problems through an evidence-based approach (e.g. performance data, research, theory of change).

Serve DC will give priority consideration to the 2018 AmeriCorps Funding Priorities as outlined in the Request for Application:

- Disaster Services - improving community resiliency through disaster preparation, response, recovery, and mitigation
- Economic Opportunity - increasing economic opportunities for communities by engaging opportunity youth, either as the population served and/or as AmeriCorps members, to prepare them for the workforce
- Education - improving student academic performance in Science, Technology, Engineering, and/or Mathematics (STEM)
- Healthy Futures – Reducing and/or Preventing Prescription Drug and Opioid Abuse
- Veterans and Military Families -- positively impacting the quality of life of veterans and improving military family strength
- Initiatives that support “Safer Stronger DC” and “Pathways to the Middle Class” (see mandatory supplemental guidance)
- Encore Programs - programs that engage Americans age 55 and older

Continuation requests for expansion will receive priority consideration and preference in the same manner.

Applicants proposing programs that receive priority consideration are not guaranteed funding. Serve DC will pursue a balanced portfolio across the Focus Areas. Furthermore, programs must demonstrate significant program focus, design and impact to receive priority consideration.

Mandatory Supplemental Guidance is located at: <https://serve.dc.gov/grant-competition>

Match Requirements

Cost Reimbursement Grants: A first-time successful applicant is required to match at 24 percent for the first three-year funding period. Starting with year four, the match requirement gradually increases every year to 50 percent by year ten, according to the minimum overall share chart found in 45 CFR 2521.60.

AmeriCorps Funding Year	1, 2, 3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+
Grantee Share Requirements	24%	26%	30%	34%	38%	42%	46%	50%

What are the requirements regarding member living allowance?

The proposed budget must include a living allowance for a full-time member is between \$13,732 (minimum) and \$27,464 (maximum) per member except as noted in the Request for Applications RFA.

For cost-reimbursement grants, this amount must be included in the proposed budget. The living allowance is not required for members serving in less than full-time terms of service. If a program chooses to provide a living allowance to a less than full-time member, it must comply with the maximum limits in the chart below.

Table: Minimum and Maximum Living Allowance

Service Term	Minimum # of Hours	Minimum Living Allowance	Maximum Total Living Allowance
Full-time	1700	\$13,732	\$27,464
Half-time	900	n/a	\$14,539
Reduced Half-time	675	n/a	\$10,905
Quarter-time	450	n/a	\$7270
Minimum-time	300	n/a	\$4,847

Criteria for Eligible Applicants: Eligible applicants are local nonprofit organizations and/or state and local units of government. Programs applying to Serve DC for funding *must* operate their program only within the District of Columbia. Organizations that have been convicted of a Federal crime are disqualified from receiving funds. An organization described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(4), that engages in lobbying activities is not eligible to apply, serve as a host site for members, or act in any type of supervisory role in the program. **Individuals are not eligible to apply.**

New Applicants: Serve DC encourages organizations that have never received funding from CNCS or AmeriCorps to apply for the grants described in this RFA. New organizations should submit applications commensurate with the community need with the understanding that the general practice is to award under 20 member slots for new grantees. All eligible applicants must meet

all of the applicable requirements contained in the Request for Applications (RFA). The RFA is available on Serve DC's website at <http://serve.dc.gov/service/grant-competitions> or in person at Serve DC's office.

The deadline for submission is May 7, 2018, by 5:00 pm. Applications must be entered in to the CNCS eGrants online system and all required hard-copy documents must be submitted to Serve DC. Late applications will not be accepted. An application is considered late at 5:01 p.m.

New and Recompeting applicants are required to attend one of the following technical assistance (TA) sessions:

- February 28, 2018 from 4:00-5:30 p.m. at the Frank D. Reeves Municipal Center, 2000 14th Street, NW, Suite 101, Washington, DC 20009
- March 6, 2018 from 3:00-4:30 p.m. at the Frank D. Reeves Municipal Center, 2000 14th Street, NW, Suite 101, Washington, DC 20009
- March 15, 2018 from 4:00-5:30 p.m. at the Frank D. Reeves Municipal Center, 2000 14th Street, NW, Suite 101, Washington, DC 20009

To RSVP for one of the technical assistance sessions, please register [here](#).

General Information Sessions are designed to provide a broad overview of AmeriCorps Programs and how to utilize AmeriCorps Members. These sessions are not mandatory.

- February 21, 2018 from 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. via webinar <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/178332789>
- March 1, 2018 from 1:00 -2:00 p.m. via webinar <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/331243413>

For additional information, please contact by telephone or email:

Pamela Weinberg
Serve DC – The Mayor's Office on Volunteerism
Frank D. Reeves Municipal Center
2000 14th Street, NW, Suite 101
Washington, DC 20009
pamela.weinberg@dc.gov
(202) 727-7937