

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
SERVE DC – THE MAYOR’S OFFICE ON VOLUNTEERISM**

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

2017 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 2017 – 2018 to eligible organizations. Subject to the availability of appropriations for Fiscal Year 2018 (FY2018) 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 \$13,830 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 re-competing applicants* to submit a logical model prior to application submission. Logic Models will be reviewed by the Serve DC Commission. Following the initial review of logic models, the Serve DC Commissions 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 17, 2017 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 June 2017 and anticipates making Formula grant awards in the first week of July 2017.

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 2017 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, specifically opportunity youth (see Glossary), both as the population served and as AmeriCorps members.
- Encore Programs - engage a significant number of participants age 55 or older in evidence-based Senior Corps Foster Grandparents Program and Senior Companion Program grantees in order to expand their programs through AmeriCorps funding.
- Education - improving student academic performance in Science, Technology, Engineering, and/or Mathematics (STEM).
- Veterans and Military Families -- positively impacting the quality of life of veterans and improving military family strength
- Programming that supports My Brother's Keeper (see mandatory supplemental guidance)
- Initiatives that support "Safer Stronger DC" and "Pathways to the Middle Class" (see mandatory supplemental guidance)

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: <http://serve.dc.gov/service/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 \$12,530 (minimum) and \$25,060 (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	\$12,630	\$24,930
Half-time	900	n/a	\$13,199
Reduced Half-time	675	n/a	\$9,899
Quarter-time	450	n/a	\$6,599
Minimum-time	300	n/a	\$4,400

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 less than 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 1, 2017, 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:

- On March 2, 2017 at the Frank D. Reeves Municipal Center, 2000 14th Street, NW, Suite 101, Washington, DC 20009 from 2:00pm to 3:30pm
- On March 9, 2017 at the Frank D. Reeves Municipal Center, 2000 14th Street, NW, Suite 101, Washington, DC 20009 from 4:00pm to 5:30pm
- Via Conference call – continuation applicants only

For additional information or to RSVP for one of the technical assistance sessions, please contact by telephone or email:

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