

## **FAQs Learn and Serve America Higher Education 2009 Competition**

### **Q: Should I submit a one-year budget or a cumulative budget for all three years of programming?**

A: Your narrative will describe a 3-year plan, but your budget should cover only the first year of operations. Continuation funding for years 2 and 3 are available based on performance and appropriations. Please note that successful grantees generally receive continuation funding for years 2 and 3 at approximately the same level as the initial award.

### **Q: I am applying as a higher education partnership. Will I be considered a consortium or an individual grant?**

A: While eligible applicants include individual higher ed institutions, consortium of higher ed institutions, or higher ed partnerships, Learn and Serve will evaluate all applications for only two types of funding: individual or consortium funds. Once applications are received an initial review will determine if the proposal involves one institution of higher education or multiple institutions (i.e. more than 1). The applications will then be placed on review panels accordingly – an individual institution panel for the former, a consortium panel for the latter.

### **Q: Can I use Learn and Serve America funds to support projects that are assisting start-up and struggling small for-profit businesses.**

A: No. Learn and Serve America funds cannot be used to benefit for-profit enterprises.

### **Q: Can I use Learn and Serve America funds to buy supplies for greening a house or building?**

A: No. You may not use Learn and Serve America funds for any type of capital building or improvements to homes or buildings.

### **Q: I would like to provide stipends for students who participate in my program. Is this allowable?**

A: Learn and Serve funding is intended by statute to support and encourage student volunteerism. For this reason, we, as a program, do not feel it is appropriate to use Learn and Serve America funding to provide stipends, financial incentives, or scholarship awards to students participating in volunteer service or service-learning. However, if a student is serving in a leadership role (e.g. a part time staff member working towards the grant, a volunteer manager, a service-learning teaching assistant coordinating other students' service) then he or she may receive financial compensation and can be included under personnel or as another budget line item as you see fit.

### **Q: Where should I put letters of support?**

A: The eGrants system does not allow for attachments so applicants may not include letters of support. However, you may document that you have such letters or existing Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) on file in your application narrative.