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Corporation for
**NATIONAL &
COMMUNITY
SERVICE** 

In 1994, the Corporation for National and Community Service was formed to engage Americans of ages and backgrounds in service to meet community needs. For the past decade, the Corporation and its Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and Learn and Serve America programs have mobilized a new generation of engaged citizens. This year, more than 2 million individuals will serve through the Corporation's programs with thousands of national and community nonprofit organizations, faith-based groups, schools, and local agencies to help meet local needs in education, the environment, public safety, homeland security, and other critical areas. National and community service programs work closely with traditional volunteer organizations to broaden, deepen, and strengthen the ability of America's volunteers to contribute not only to their communities, but also to our nation.



SENIOR CORPS

Senior Corps taps the skills, talents, and experience of more than 500,000 Americans age 55 and older to meet a wide range of community challenges through three main programs: RSVP, the Foster Grandparent Program, and the Senior Companion Program. RSVP volunteers help local police departments conduct safety patrols, participate in environmental projects, provide intensive educational services to children and adults, and respond to natural disasters, among many other activities. Foster Grandparents serve one-on-one as tutors and mentors to young people with special needs. Senior Companions help homebound seniors and other adults maintain independence in their own homes. Senior Corps also administers the Special Volunteer Program in Homeland Security, which engages Americans in projects related to public safety, homeland security, and disaster preparedness and relief.

AMERICORPS

In 2004, AmeriCorps will support a record 75,000 opportunities for Americans to provide intensive service to their communities and country through three programs: AmeriCorps*State and National, AmeriCorps*VISTA, and AmeriCorps*NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps). AmeriCorps members recruit, train, and supervise community volunteers, tutor and mentor youth, build affordable housing, teach computer skills, clean parks and streams, run afterschool programs, help communities respond to disasters, and build the capacity of nonprofit groups to become self-sustaining, among many other activities. In exchange for a year of full-time service, AmeriCorps members earn an education award that can be used to pay for college or graduate school, or to pay back qualified student loans. Since 1994 more than 350,000 Americans have served in AmeriCorps.

The great majority of AmeriCorps members serve through AmeriCorps*State and National, which operates in a decentralized manner that gives a significant amount of responsibility to states and local nonprofit groups. Roughly threequarters of all AmeriCorps grant funding goes to Governor-appointed state service commissions, which award competitive grants to nonprofit groups, who recruit AmeriCorps members to respond to local needs. Most of the remainder of the grant funding is distributed by the Corporation directly to multi-state and national organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, the American Red Cross, City Year, Teach for America, and Boys & Girls Clubs of America. through a competitive grants process. AmeriCorps*VISTA, which celebrates its 40th anniversary in 2004, focuses the efforts of nearly 6,000 members each year on eradicating poverty and helping to meet the needs of people living in low-income communities nationwide. AmeriCorps*NCCC is a team-based, residential program designed specifically for young adults between the ages of 18 and 24. Approximately 1,200 members serve in AmeriCorps*NCCC each year.

LEARN AND SERVE AMERICA

Learn and Serve America provides an "on-ramp" to a lifetime of civic engagement for approximately 1.8 million students each year. The program awards grants to state education agencies, schools, nonprofit groups, and institutions of higher education to engage students in service activities linked to academic achievement. This type of learning, called service-learning, improves communities while developing the habits of service in young people. As part of its goal of making student service and service-learning a common practice across the country, Learn and Serve America provides resources to teachers, faculty members, school, and community groups. In addition, Learn and Serve America sponsors the Presidential Freedom Scholarships, which recognize outstanding community service each year by high school juniors and seniors.

USA FREEDOM CORPS

In his 2002 State of the Union address, President Bush called on all Americans to devote the equivalent of at least two years of their lives-or 4,000 hours-to service and volunteering, and he created USA Freedom Corps as a way to promote service and to coordinate volunteer opportunities offered through Federal programs. The USA Freedom Corps web site, www.usafreedomcorps.gov, hosts an online clearinghouse of volunteer opportunities nationwide for Americans interested in engaging in their community. Together with USA Freedom Corps, the Corporation for National and Community Service is fostering a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility and helping all Americans answer the President's Call to Service.

MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about the Corporation or any of its programs, visit www.nationalservice.org or call 202-606-5000.



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www.nationalservice.org

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Senior Corps



Senior Corps taps the skills, talents, and experience of more than 500,000 Americans age 55 and older to meet a wide range of community needs through three programs: RSVP, Foster Grandparents, and Senior Companions. RSVP volunteers conduct safety patrols for local police departments, participate in environmental projects, provide intensive educational services to children and adults, and respond to natural disasters, among other activities. Foster Grandparents serve one-on-one as tutors and mentors to young people with special needs. Senior Companions help homebound seniors and other adults maintain independence in their own homes.

RSVP

RSVP, one of the largest volunteer efforts in the nation, engages people age 55 and older in a diverse range of volunteer activities. Volunteers organize neighborhood watch programs, tutor children, renovate homes, teach English to immigrants, assist victims of natural disasters, and serve their communities in a myriad of other ways. Through RSVP, more than 480,000 volunteers serve a few hours a week to nearly full time at an estimated 65,000 local and national nonprofit groups, places of worship, and government agencies. Volunteers are not paid, but sponsoring organizations may reimburse them for some costs incurred during service, including meals and transportation.

FOSTER GRANDPARENTS

The Foster Grandparent Program provides a way for limited-income people age 60 and older to serve as extended family members to children and youth with exceptional needs. Foster Grandparents serve from 15 to 40 hours a week in schools, hospitals, correctional institutions, day-care facilities, and Head Start centers. They help children who have been abused or neglected, mentor troubled teenagers and young mothers, and care for premature infants and children with physical disabilities. In return for their service, Foster Grandparents receive a stipend of \$2.65 an hour, accident and liability insurance and meals while on duty, reimbursement for transportation, and monthly training. More than 30,000 Foster Grandparents tend to the needs of 275,000 young children and teenagers each year.

SENIOR COMPANIONS

The Senior Companion Program provides a way for limited-income people age 60 and older to provide assistance and friendship to adults who have difficulty with daily living tasks, such as grocery shopping and bill paying. Senior Companions spend from 15 to 40 hours a week helping two to four adult clients live independently in their own homes. Senior Companions provide relief to caregivers and alert doctors and family members to potential problems. In return for their service, Senior Companions receive a stipend of \$2.65 an hour, accident and liability insurance and meals while on duty, reimbursement for transportation, and monthly training. Approximately 15,000 Senior Companions tend to the needs of more than 60,000 adults each year.

SENIOR SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Senior Corps administers a comprehensive online service to connect seniors with volunteer opportunities in their communities. Accessible through the www.seniorcorps.org website, it not

only contains information about opportunities at every RSVP, Senior Companion, and Foster Grandparent project in the country, but also lists volunteer opportunities for seniors at a wide number of nonprofit groups across the nation. This feature reflects the Corporation's goal of promoting service and volunteerism throughout the lifetime of every citizen, whether through a national service program or through other volunteer networks and organizations.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Senior Corps is administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, which also oversees AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve America. Together, the programs of the Corporation provide opportunities for Americans of all ages and backgrounds to serve their communities and country.

USA FREEDOM CORPS

The Corporation is part of USA Freedom Corps, a White House initiative to foster a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility, and help all Americans answer the President's Call to Service.

MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Senior Corps, visit www.seniorcorps.org or call 800-424-8867 or TTY 800-833-3722.



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AmeriCorps



AmeriCorps engages 50,000 Americans age 17 and older each year in intensive service to meet community needs in education, the environment, public safety, homeland security, and other areas. Members serve with national nonprofit organizations like Habitat for Humanity, the American Red Cross, and Teach for America, as well as with hundreds of smaller community organizations, both secular and faith-based. Other members serve with AmeriCorps*NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps), a team-based residential program for adults ages 18 to 24, or in low-income communities with AmeriCorps*VISTA. In exchange for a year of service, AmeriCorps members earn an education award that can be used to pay for college or to pay back qualified student loans.

OVERVIEW

Since 1994, more than 250,000 men and women have served in AmeriCorps, providing needed assistance to millions of Americans. AmeriCorps provides trained, dedicated people to help nonprofit groups, both secular and faith-based. Members tutor and mentor youth, build affordable housing, teach computer skills, clean parks and streams, run after-school programs, help communities respond to disasters, and recruit and manage traditional volunteers. At the request of President Bush, AmeriCorps has expanded its work to include projects directly related to homeland security.

AMERICORPS*STATE AND NATIONAL

More than three-quarters of AmeriCorps grant funding goes to Governor-appointed state service commissions, which in turn award and monitor grants to hundreds of nonprofit groups and agencies. The other quarter goes to national nonprofits that operate in more than one state. The organizations that receive grants are responsible for recruiting, selecting, and supervising AmeriCorps members. AmeriCorps grantees include national groups such as the U.S. Veterans Initiative, National Council of La Raza, Catholic Network of Volunteer Service, and Boys and Girls Clubs of America, as well as hundreds of smaller faith-based and local community organizations.

AMERICORPS*VISTA

For more than 35 years, AmeriCorps*VISTA members have helped impoverished individuals and communities attain self-sufficiency. Members serve full time for a year with nonprofit groups, public agencies, and faith-based organizations throughout the country, working to fight illiteracy, improve health services, create and expand businesses, increase housing opportunities, and bridge the digital divide. Approximately 6,000 AmeriCorps*VISTA members serve in more than 1,100 local programs; nearly 15 percent of AmeriCorps*VISTA members are assigned to projects that support the work of faith-based organizations.

AMERICORPS*NCCC

AmeriCorps*NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps) is a 10-month, teambased, full-time residential program for men and women between the ages of 18 and 24. It combines the best practices of civilian service with the best aspects of military service, including leadership training and team building. Members serve in diverse teams of 10 to 14 individuals. Priority is given to projects in homeland security and disaster relief. Teams are based at five campuses across the country and are assigned to projects in their respective regions. Approximately 1,200 members serve in AmeriCorps*NCCC.

ELIGIBILITY AND BENEFITS

AmeriCorps is open to U.S. citizens, nationals, or lawful permanent resident aliens age 17 and older. Members serve full or part time over a 10- to 12-month period. Upon successful completion of their service, members receive an education award to pay for college, graduate school, or to pay back qualified student loans. During their service, members receive health insurance, training, and student loan deferment. About half of the members also receive a modest annual living allowance of about \$9,300. Members who serve part time receive a partial education award.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

AmeriCorps is administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, which also oversees Senior Corps and Learn and Serve America. Together, the programs of the Corporation provide opportunities for Americans of all ages and backgrounds to serve their communities and country.

USA FREEDOM CORPS

The Corporation and its programs are part of USA Freedom Corps, a White House initiative to foster a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility, and help all Americans answer the President's Call to Service.

MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about AmeriCorps, visit www.americorps.org or call 800-942-2677 or TTY 800-833-3722.



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Learn and Serve America



Learn and Serve America makes grants to schools, colleges, and nonprofit groups to support efforts to engage students in community service linked to academic achievement and the development of civic skills. This approach to education, called service-learning, improves communities while preparing young people for a lifetime of responsible citizenship. In addition to making grants, Learn and Serve America serves as a resource on service and service-learning to teachers, faculty members, schools, and community groups.

SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAMS

Schools may apply for service-learning funds through their state education agency. Grants also are made on a competitive basis to Indian tribes, U.S. territories, and nonprofit organizations. Schools use grants to work in partnership with local organizations to implement service-learning activities for students ages 5 to 17. Schools may also use funds for teacher training, program evaluation, or to support service-learning coordinators.

COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS

Funds are awarded on a competitive basis to state service commissions and nonprofit organizations to plan, implement, expand, and replicate service-learning programs in local communities. Participants in these programs may include youth ages 5 to 17 who are not in school.

HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Through a competitive grants process, the Corporation awards funds directly to individual colleges and universities or to higher education consortia to create and strengthen programs and courses that integrate community service with academic study. Grants support partnerships between higher education institutions and community organizations. Higher education institutions may also conduct research and evaluation, provide technical assistance, and supplement Federal Work-Study programs that focus on community service.

GRANT TERMS

All Learn and Serve America grants are for a period of three years, renewable annually contingent upon performance and the availability of funds. Each School-Based and Community-Based project must provide 10 percent to 50 percent of the total program cost in matching funds; Higher Education grants must be matched dollar for dollar. School- and Community-Based programs account for nearly two-thirds of Learn and Serve America's grantees, while the Higher Education programs account for the remaining third.

SERVICE-LEARNING RESOURCES

Learn and Serve America provides a variety of resources to schools and community organizations to help them plan, implement, and improve service-learning programs. The National Service-Learning Clearinghouse offers a repository of tools, information, curricula, and research on service and service-learning. For more information, visit www.servicelearning.org or call 866-245-7378 or TTY 831-461-0204.

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Learn and Serve America is administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, which also oversees Senior Corps and AmeriCorps. Together, the programs of the Corporation provide opportunities for Americans of all ages and backgrounds to serve their communities and country.

USA FREEDOM CORPS

The Corporation is part of USA Freedom Corps, a White House initiative to foster a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility, and help all Americans answer the President's Call to Service.

MORE INFORMATION

To learn more about Learn and Serve America, visit www.learnandserve.org or call 202-606-5000, ext. 117 or TTY 202-565-2799.



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