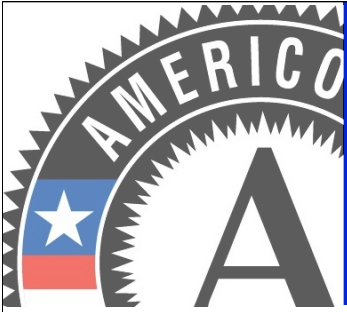


The background features a large, faded AmeriCorps logo. It consists of a circular gear-like border with the words "AMERICORPS" at the top. Inside the circle is a stylized American flag with a white star on a blue field and a red field below. A large, stylized letter "A" is positioned on the right side of the logo.

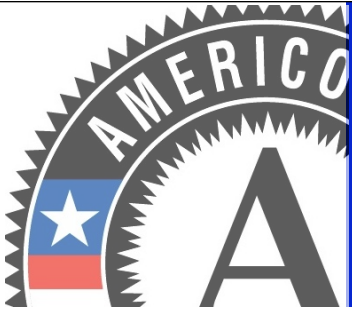
AmeriCorps

101



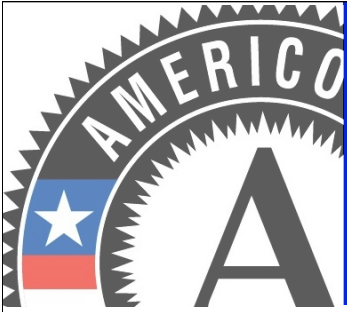
What is AmeriCorps?

- A National Service Program (Domestic Peace Corps)
- Members complete a **Term of Service.**
- A Term of Service is a commitment of hours to direct service and training.
- Participants receive an Education Award at the completion of their Term of Service; some receive stipends as well.



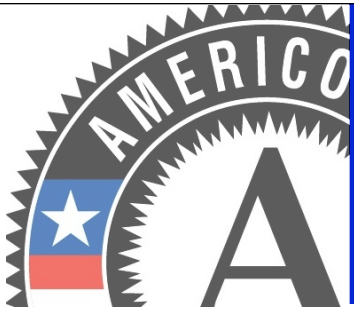
What is AmeriCorps?

- State and Federally funded, Locally implemented.
- Benefits the communities in which members serve by meeting critical community needs.
- Benefits members by educating them about community, citizenship, and by giving them means to continue their education.
- A program of service not longer than one year that has LOTS of regulations that MUST be followed by organizations and members.



The National Service Network

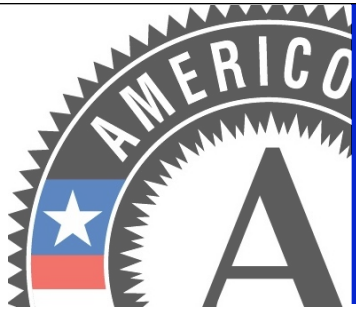
- Created in 1993, AmeriCorps is part of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), which also oversees Senior Corps and Learn and Serve America.
- CNCS and its programs are part of the USA Freedom Corps.
- USA Freedom Corps is a broad-based effort by President George W. Bush to coordinate citizen volunteer efforts and foster a culture of service, citizenship, and responsibility.



History

- 1930: President Roosevelt creates the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) during the depression
- 1961: President Kennedy creates the Peace Corps. Since then, more than 150,000 Americans have served in the Peace Corps
- 1964: President Johnson creates VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) giving Americans opportunities to serve low-income communities
- 1960's: The Foster Grandparent Program and RSVP are created to enable older Americans to serve their communities



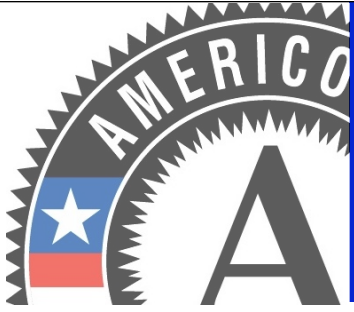


History

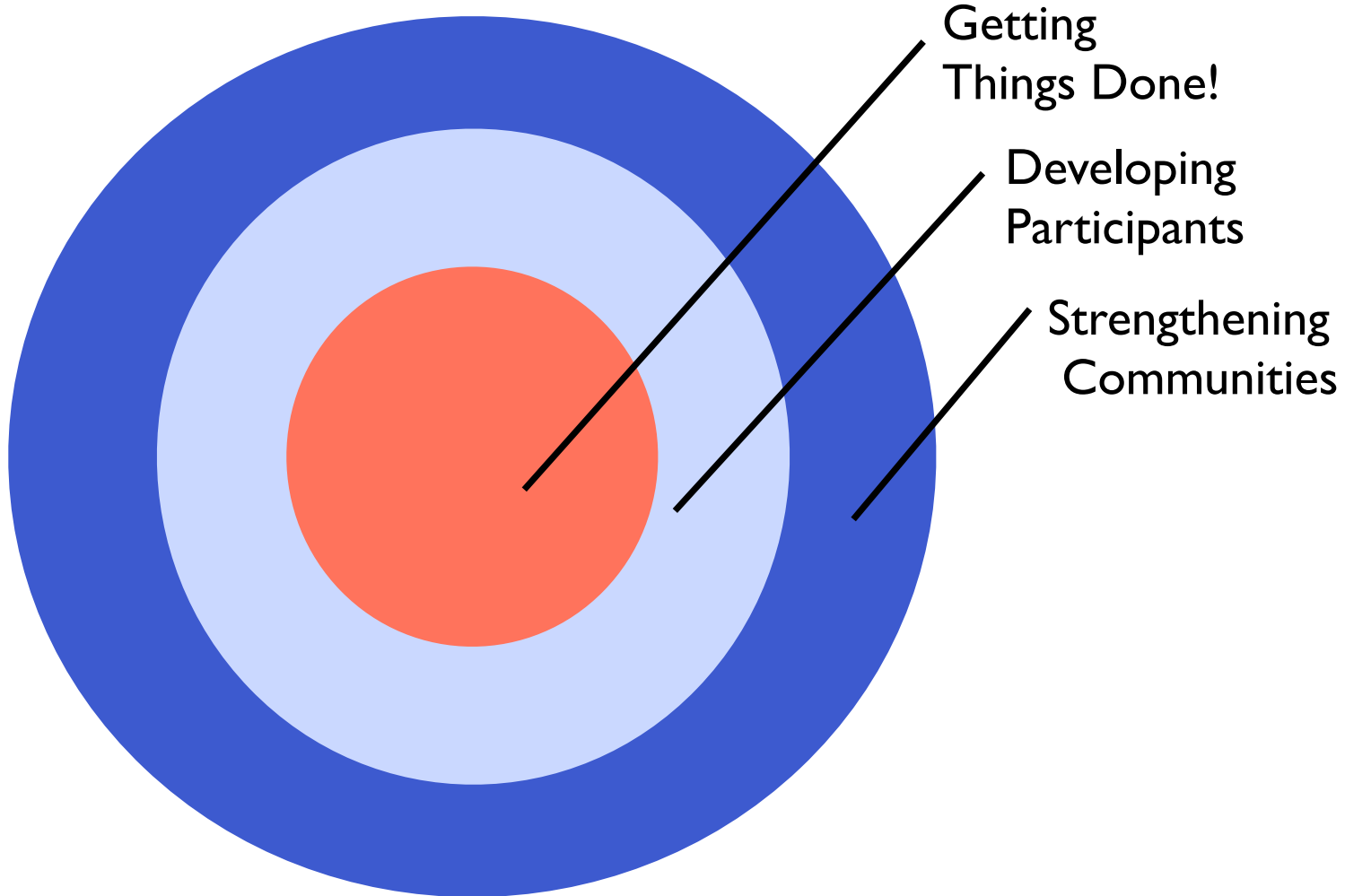
- 1990: President Bush signs the National and Community Service Act of 1990
- 1993: President Clinton signs the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993, creating AmeriCorps and CNCS
- AmeriCorps serves over 2 million Americans each year through their three main streams of service:

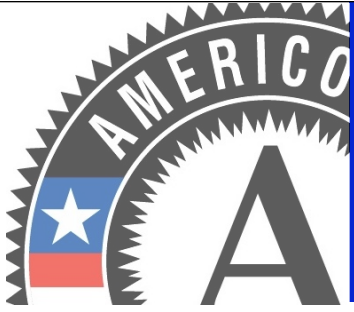
- AmeriCorps
- Senior Corps
- Learn and Serve America





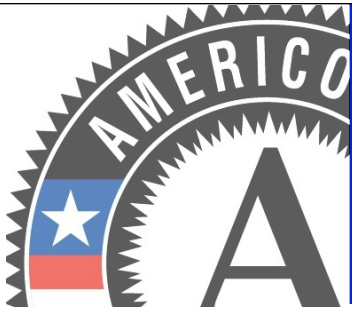
AmeriCorps Aims to Meet 3 Different Goals:





New Jersey AmeriCorps

- Funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS).
- Administered by the NJ Commission on National and Community Service
- Hosted by the Department of State.
 - The State Commission is currently working with 16 programs.
 - There are over 500 Corps-members serving in all areas of New Jersey.

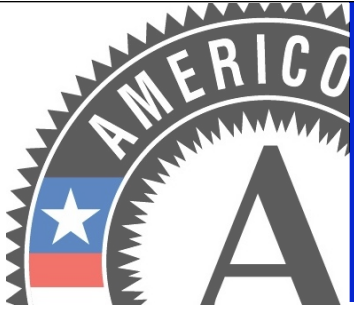


What do AmeriCorps Members Do?

As part of a National Movement, members take action and find solutions to address community needs while learning new skills and sharing talents to make a difference in New Jersey.

- Tutor Students
- Educate communities about their environment
- Renovate and Rebuild Abandoned Homes
- Provide Mentoring During Non-School Hours
- Recruit Volunteers
- Teach Parenting Skills to Teen Parents
- Bridge the Digital Divide
- Assist the Homeless
- Provide Support to People with Disabilities
- Support Immigrants through a variety of Human & Educational Services

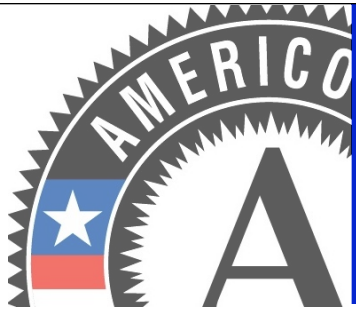




AmeriCorps is NOT:

- A job
- A job's program
- An internship
- Free labor
- A staff builder

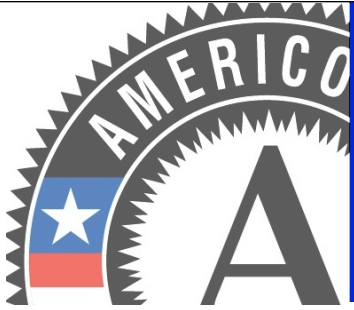




AmeriCorps Members DO NOT:

- Do office work
- Answer phones
- Clerical work
- Janitorial duties
- Supervise other members
- Manage paperwork or financial issues

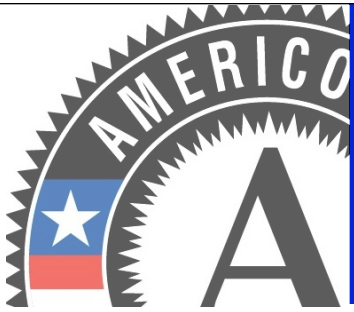




Eligibility Requirements

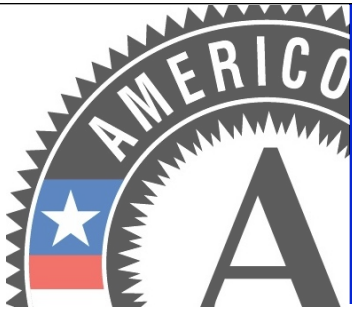
- Must be 17 years of age or older.
- Must have a High School Diploma or Equivalency, or must be working towards the GED.
- Must be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident of the U.S.
 - Proof: Birth Certificate, Passport, Permanent Residency Card





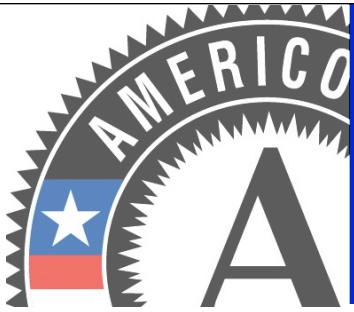
AmeriCorps Members Common Myths

- People who serve in National Service programs are called members--they ARE NOT “volunteers,” “participants” or “employees.”
- AmeriCorps Members serve--they do NOT “work.”
- Members receive a living stipend--NOT a “salary or “wage.”
- Hours count toward the acquisition of the education award NOT the living allowance.



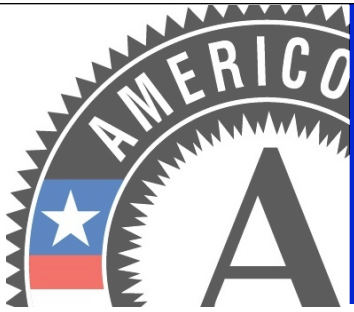
What do AmeriCorps Members Receive?

Full-Time Members	Half-Time Members	Minimum-Time Members
1,700 Hours of Service	900 Hours of Service	300 Hours of Service
Education Award \$4,725	Education Award \$2,362.5	Education Award \$1000
Living Stipend	Living Stipend	Living Stipend
Health Insurance		
Child Care		



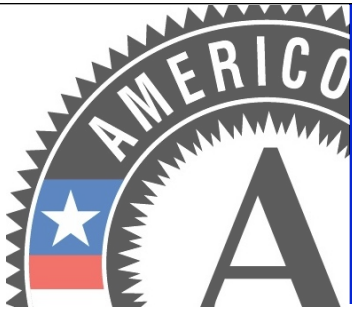
Stipend

- Distributed equally over term.
- NOT an hourly wage.
- Does not fluctuate.
- Is taxable.
- Can be withheld if time sheets are not turned in before the 15th of the following month.



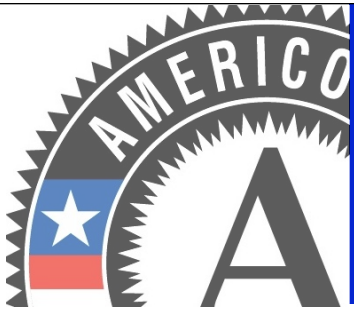
Healthcare

- Provided to Full-Time members through Aetna.
- No cost to member.
- Members must be consistently serving full time hours to remain eligible for coverage.



Child Care

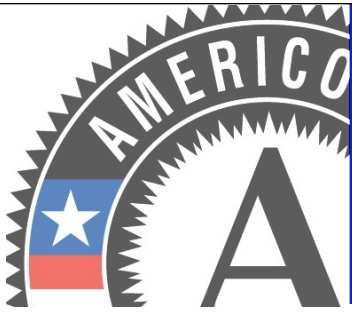
- Full-Time members may apply for a childcare allowance.
- Will be distributed in equal increments biweekly throughout term.
- Members must use child care provider licensed by the State of New Jersey.



Rules of Conduct

At no time may an AmeriCorps Member:

- Spend more than 20% of their term of service in Training and Enrichment activities.
- Spend more than 10% of their term of service in fund-raising.
- Spend ANY time of their service fundraising for any purpose other than directly supporting their service activities.



Prohibited Activities

- Attempting to influence legislation.
- Organizing or engaging in protests, petitions, boycotts, or strikes.
- Assisting, prompting, or deterring union organizing.
- Engaging in Partisan political activities or other activities designed to influence the outcomes of an election to any public office.
- Engaging in religious instruction.



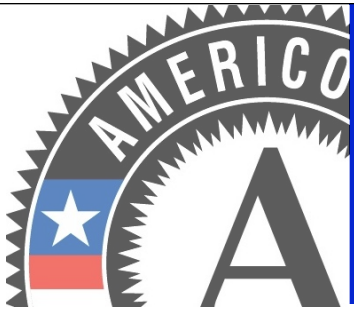
Prohibited Activities

- Engaging in any form of religious proselytization.
- Providing a direct benefit to: a for-profit entity, labor union or partisan political organization.
- Voter Registration drives by AmeriCorps members are unacceptable service activities.
- Other activities as the Corporation determines will be prohibited upon notice.



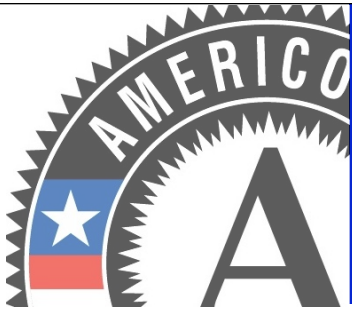
Reasons for Leaving

- If a member has a personal, compelling circumstance and has completed at least 15% of his/her service, they MAY receive a portion of the educational award.
 - This means that the situation is **absolutely beyond the member's control (e.g. illness)**
 - **Documentation provided by member is MANDATORY**
- If a member leaves for other reasons, they will NOT receive an educational award
 - These reasons include a new job, **going back to school**, dissatisfaction with the program, etc.



Suspension

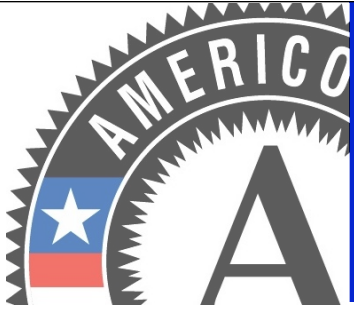
- The Program may suspend the Member's term of service for the following reasons:
 1. Compelling personal circumstances (e.g. illness)
 2. A violation of the Rules of Conduct
 3. During the term of service the Member has been charged with a violent felony or the possession, sale or distribution of a controlled substance.
- During the suspension from service, the Member will not receive credit for service hours or benefits. The Member may resume his or her term of service once the circumstances supporting the suspension have been resolved.



Informed Consent

Bonner Foundation Staff, your Campus/Site Supervisor, and the Corporation for National and Community Service may:

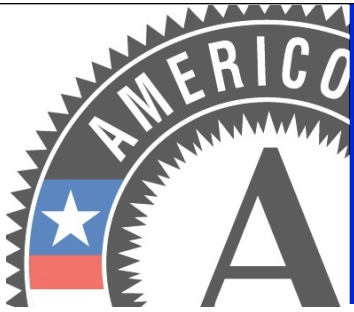
- discuss your personal circumstances (i.e. health) as they relate to your term of service.
- write a recommendation or give a verbal recommendation for employment, etc. at the end of your term of service.
- photograph you at your service site for recruitment/promotional purposes. *If you are uncomfortable with having your photograph or information published, it will be noted.*



Drug-Free Workplace

Consistent with the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, The Corella and Bertram F. Bonner Foundation and The College of New Jersey are committed to providing a workplace that is free from the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of controlled substances.

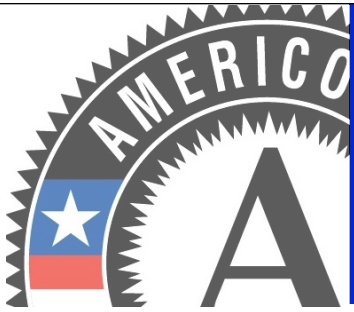
- The program member must notify the Program Director in writing, within five (5) calendar days, if he or she is convicted of a criminal drug violation in the workplace.
- Violations of the Drug-Free Workplace policy will result in personnel action against the program member, up to and including dismissal pursuant to The College of New Jersey procedures relating to program member discipline.



Timesheets

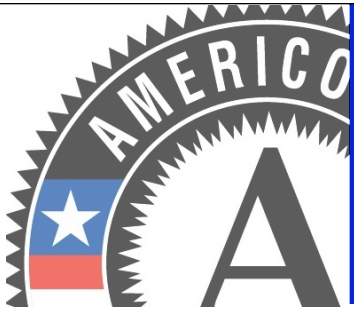
- Must be turned in **on time (by the 15th day of the following month)**.
- No double entries.
- All required signatures.
- No whiteout or pencil.
- Must initial any cross-outs, scribbles, etc.

Directors reserve to right to hold stipends until timesheets are received by the Bonner Foundation.



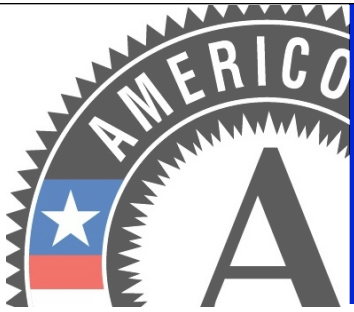
Paperwork

- Sign and date in all places.
- Initial all cross-outs, scribbles, etc.
- No pencil or whiteout.



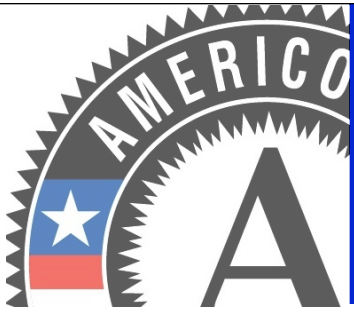
Evaluations

- Your supervisor will conduct a midterm and end of term evaluation of your personal development and the quality of your service.



Exiting

- You must submit an exit form within 20 days of your last day of service.
- Exit forms may not be signed and dated before the last day of service.
- You must complete the Service Accomplishments section of BWBRS.



Education Award

An Education Award can be used to:

- Pay back qualified student loans.
- Pay current educational expenses at a Title IV institution of higher education.

An Education Award can only be used by the member who received it.

A Member has up to 7 years to use his/her Education Award.

A Member is only eligible for up to two Education Awards.