

FY22 AmeriCorps Competitive Funding

Technical Assistance Webinar (New/Recompete)



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OVERVIEW

- I. The Big Picture of AmeriCorps
- II. AmeriCorps: Members, Grant Guidelines, Activities, Budget
- III. Next Steps



Volunteer Florida

Volunteer Florida was established in 1994 by the Florida Legislature to administer grants under the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993.

Volunteer Florida is the Governor's lead agency for volunteerism and national service in Florida.

Volunteer Florida is governed by a Board of Commissioners appointed by the Governor and approved by the Florida Senate.



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What does Volunteer Florida do?



Administers AmeriCorps and National Service programs



Coordinates volunteers and donations before, during and after disasters



Increases volunteerism through grants, trainings and recognitions



Manages the Volunteer Florida Foundation



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AmeriCorps State and National

AmeriCorps State and National engages more than **65,000** men and women in intensive service each year at a variety of locations including **nonprofits, schools, public agencies, and community and faith-based groups** across the country.

AmeriCorps members help communities tackle pressing problems while mobilizing **millions** of volunteers for the organizations they serve.

Members gain **valuable professional, educational, and life benefits,**

and the experience has a **lasting impact** on the members and the communities they serve.





AmeriCorps



AmeriCorps

- AmeriCorps State and National
- AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America)
- AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps)



AmeriCorps Seniors

- AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparent
- AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP (Retired and Senior Volunteer Program)
- AmeriCorps Seniors Senior Companion

Helpful Webinar Recordings

AmeriCorps 101: Serve, Impact, Transform

FY 2021 AmeriCorps Funding
Opportunity



AmeriCorps Grant Application: Creating Strong Narratives



AmeriCorps Budget 101

FY 2021 AmeriCorps Funding
Opportunity



Find recordings:

[https://www.volunteerflorida.org/
ameri-corps-grant-opportunities/](https://www.volunteerflorida.org/ameri-corps-grant-opportunities/)



AmeriCorps in Florida

AmeriCorps programs support local community efforts to address education, environmental stewardship, disaster services, veterans services and other human needs.

In 2021-2022, VOLUNTEER FLORIDA

WILL ADMINISTER

37



AmeriCorps
Florida



PROGRAMS

WITH

1,612 AMERICORPS MEMBERS



SERVING IN

36 FLORIDA
COUNTIES



WHO CAN EARN UP TO

\$7.4 MILLION IN
SCHOLARSHIPS



78% OF THIS GRANT FUNDING
WILL SUPPORT
EDUCATION IN FLORIDA



How can the people power of AmeriCorps move the needle on critical issues in my community?



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Focus Areas for National Service



AmeriCorps places thousands of teachers, tutors, and mentors into low performing schools, helping students succeed in school and gain skills necessary to get 21st century jobs.

Education



Members build trails, restore parks, protect watersheds, run recycling programs, and promote energy efficiency, weatherization, and clean energy.

Environmental Stewardship



From forest fires and floods, to hurricanes and tornadoes, AmeriCorps members have provided critical support to millions of Americans affected by disasters since 1994.

Disaster Services



AmeriCorps supports the military community by engaging veterans in service, helping veterans readjust to civilian life, and providing support to military families.

Veterans and Military Families



AmeriCorps increases access to health services, provides nutrition education, alleviates hunger and supports independent living and social support services.



Healthy Futures



AmeriCorps is a powerful catalyst and force-multiplier for community volunteering. Last year AmeriCorps members recruited, trained, and supervised more than 4 million community volunteers for the organizations they serve.

Capacity Building



AmeriCorps provides financial education, job training and placement programs, tax preparation services, and connection with community services and benefits.



Economic Opportunity



Get
Things
Done

Join
AmeriCorps
www.Americorps.gov



AmeriCorps is an **Opportunity**

You can help make the world a better place: help children learn, protect the environment, or bring needed services to a low-income community.

AmeriCorps is an **Experience**

You will learn teamwork, leadership, responsibility and other essential skills that will help you for the rest of your life.

AmeriCorps Offers **Tangible Benefits**

Most AmeriCorps members receive student loan deferment, training, a living allowance and health insurance. After you complete your term of service, you will also receive a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award to help pay for college, graduate school, vocational training or to repay student loans.

AmeriCorps Benefits

Living allowance

Student loan deferment

\$ to pay for college or repay

Job skill development

Health insurance (full time members)

Child care assistance (full time members)

Engaged learning and connection to community

Career opportunities



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AmeriCorps Members commit to serve a full year and can serve:

Full-Time – 1700 Hours

Reduced Full-Time – 1200 Hours

Half-Time – 900 Hours

Reduced Half-Time – 675 Hours

Quarter-Time – 450 Hours

Minimum Time – 300 Hours



Examples of AmeriCorps Service

Provide **tutoring** and **mentoring** to students

Provide independent living and **financial literacy** to persons with **disabilities**

Provide **career coaching** and **job skills** training resulting in **employment**

Remove **invasive exotics** from public parks, **restore habitat**, visitor **education**

Home repair and housing units made available to disadvantaged individuals

Increase **financial literacy** or **health access** services for individuals

Disaster preparedness, mitigation and **recovery**



Things to Know

1

AmeriCorps programs are funded through federal grants.

2

Organizations apply to Volunteer Florida through a competitive process for a grant to support a minimum of the equivalent 10 full time members (i.e. 20 half time members).

3

The host or lead organization fully manages the program at the local level and includes 1 FTE or the equivalent in budget for program management.

4

AmeriCorps members are not staff and can not be placed in an administrative function.



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Overview of Application

- **FY2022 AmeriCorps Competitive RFP (Volunteer Florida)**
- Notice of Funding Opportunity (AmeriCorps)
- Application Instructions (AmeriCorps)
- Mandatory Supplemental Guidance (AmeriCorps)
- Performance Measures Instructions (AmeriCorps)



FY2022 AmeriCorps Competitive RFP (Volunteer Florida)

Volunteer Florida Application
Criteria, pg. 3

Performance Measures



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FY2022 AmeriCorps Competitive RFP (Volunteer Florida)

Categories/ Subcategories	Percentage
Executive Summary	0
Program Design	50
Theory of Change and Logic Model	24
Evidence Tier	12
Evidence Quality	8
Notice Priority	0
Member Experience	6
Organizational Capability	25
Organizational Background and Staffing	9
Compliance and Accountability	8
Culture That Values Learning	4
Member Supervision	4
Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy	25

FY2022 AmeriCorps Competitive RFP (Volunteer Florida)

- Budget Instructions
 - See the Volunteer Florida specific requirements (pages 6-8)
 - See Attachment B – Detailed Budget Instructions (pages 70-74)
- Administrative/Indirect Costs – 5% Total
 - Corporation Fixed (Section 1 + Section 2 x .0526 x .60)
 - Commission Fixed (Section 1 + Section 2 x .0526 x .40)



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Budget Example

Applicants can request the maximum of \$28,800 per 1 Member Service Year (MSY).

An applicant requesting 10 full-time members would apply for a \$288,000 grant.

1 full-time member = 1 MSY

Cost per MSY = \$28,800

10 full-time Members = 10 MSY

10 MSY X \$28,800 = \$288,000

Match: 24% cash/in kind of the total grant

Match Example:

10 full time members:

- Approximately \$288K federal request
- Minimum match estimate \$90K

Source of Match
Type: Cash or In Kind

20 full time members:

- Approximately \$576K federal request
- Minimum match estimate \$180K

Examples: In Kind Donations, Local Foundation Grants, School District, State and Federal grants, Agency General Revenue

Budget Reminders

Calculations should be itemized and in equation format

Minimum living allowance for full time members should be higher than \$16,502 if requesting the higher cost per MSY

The cost per MSY can't exceed \$21,600 for Fixed; \$28,800 for Cost Reimbursement

Be sure to Include background check costs for all staff and members charged to the grant either Federal or Match

Include the Source of Funds information in Section III and the dollar amount in this section should total the dollar amount in the budget

Budget Travel costs for at least 2 staff members to attend 2 VF trainings (1 in Tallahassee, 1 (Orlando, Miami, Jacksonville, Tampa) – 3 if you are a new program

Commission Fixed is required and must be budgeted in the AmeriCorps section only

Be sure to include costs for member training, member gear, worker's compensation, and health insurance for members if FT

FY2022 AmeriCorps Competitive RFP (Volunteer Florida)

Application Instruction via eGrants system

A. Instructions for Submitting Applications (via AmeriCorps eGrants web based management system). Instructions are based on the grant cycle and type of grant requested.

I. New Recompete or Continuation Applicants:

i. New Applicants: When submitting your application into the eGrants system, under the “Creating an Application” box (in the lower left hand corner of the page) click on “New”.

ii. For Re-compete or Continuation Applicants (applicants that are currently funded by Volunteer Florida): When submitting your application into the eGrants system, under the “Creating an Application” box (in the lower left hand corner of the page) click on “Continuation/Renewal”.



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FY2022 AmeriCorps Competitive RFP (Volunteer Florida)

Application Instruction via eGrants system Cont'd

II. Cost Reimbursement Applicants

i. Cost reimbursement applicants must select the following NOFA: FY 2022 AmeriCorps State and Territory Commission (New and Continuation) - (Due date: 1/5/2022).

ii. Cost reimbursement applicants must select Florida from the state dropdown listing. Applicants should see that their application is linked to the Volunteer Florida Prime Application Grant ID Number: 22AC239843.

iii. All cost reimbursement applications must include a detailed budget per the FY 22 NOFO Application Instructions, Attachment C., page 24.



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FY2022 AmeriCorps Competitive RFP (Volunteer Florida)

Supplemental Documents (New/Recompete)

- The most recent audit report including the management letter and the schedule of findings and questioned costs. If an annual audit is not required, please submit a letter to document.
- Operational and Financial Management Survey (OFMS). Please submit as a word document
- Completed provider assessment questionnaire.
- Certification of 60 day operating capital.
- Most recent agency-wide YTD consolidated financial statement and balance sheets.
- Evaluation and/or evidence documents per NOFO guidance.
- *Diversity Questionnaire will be required for those who move on to the Clarification stage.*

FY2022 AmeriCorps Competitive RFP (Volunteer Florida)

Evidence

- Review the Evidence Base (20 points) section on page 19 of the NOFO
- State your evidence tier (Pre Preliminary, Preliminary, Moderate, Strong)
- Support by submission of up to 2 reports (if applicable) to support evidence tier of Preliminary, Moderate, Strong
- Review the Mandatory Supplemental Information

FY2022 AmeriCorps Competitive RFP (Recompete Applicants)

Evaluation Requirements

- Submit Evaluation Plans to Volunteer Florida for review by 10/19/21 using provided template.

What Does it Mean to “Operate” an AmeriCorps Program?

The AmeriCorps program becomes yours!

Your organization must recruit and manage AmeriCorps members

Your organization must manage payment of AmeriCorps member living allowance

Your organization will develop local partnerships

Your organization will track and report progress

Your organization will submit monthly cost reimbursement invoices and support documentation.

Timeline

- **September 20, 2021** - Release Volunteer Florida AmeriCorps Competitive Application.
- **October 12, 2021 (10:00 a.m., continuation applicants and 2:00 p.m. new/recompete applicants)** - AmeriCorps funding application technical assistance webinars. To register go [here](#) for continuation and [here](#) for new/recompete.
- **October 13, 2021** - AmeriCorps funding application FAQs posted (anticipated).
- **November 1, 2021, 5:00 p.m. EDT** - Applications due in eGrants and supporting documentation submitted.
- **November 5, 2021 – November 19, 2021** - Peer, financial and staff review period.
- **December 2, 2021** - Clarification provided to applicants considered for funding.
- **December 13, 2021 by 5:00 p.m. EDT** - Revised AmeriCorps applications due in eGrants.
- **January 4, 2022** - Estimated submission of approved funding recommendation to AmeriCorps.
- **August 1, 2022** - Anticipated contract start date.

Next Steps

- Gather your partners! Decide who is the lead to apply.
- Review the full application – released September 20, 2021
- Contact Volunteer Florida with your questions, americpsrpf@volunteerflorida.org
- AmeriCorps Application due in eGrants – November 1, 2021
- AmeriCorps Application supplemental documents electronically submitted through the Blackbaud Grantmaking platform – November 1, 2021
- Sign up for Volunteer Florida communications (www.volunteerflorida.org)

— AMERICORPS — PLEDGE

.....

I will get things done for America

to make our people safer,
smarter, and healthier.

I will bring Americans together

to strengthen our communities.

Faced with apathy,

I will take action.

Faced with conflict,

I will seek common ground.

Faced with adversity,

I will persevere.

I will carry this commitment

with me this year and beyond.

I am an AmeriCorps member, and

I will get things done.



Resources

Volunteer Florida Website

<https://www.volunteerflorida.org/ameriCorps-grant-opportunities/>

RFP

Provider Assessment Questionnaire

60 Day Operating Capital Certification

Sample Budget

Operational and Financial Management Survey (OFMS)

FAQs

AmeriCorps.gov

<https://www.americorps.gov/funding-opportunity/fy-2022-ameriCorps-state-national-grants>