2013 AmeriCorps State

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

State Competitive New and Continuation

State Commission AmeriCorps State Competitive
State Commission AmeriCorps State Competitive Fixed Amount Grants
State Commission Competitive Education Awards Program

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 6, 2012 by 5:00 PM

Expiration Date: 10/31/2015
OMB Control #: 3045-0047

IMPORTANT NOTICE

These application instructions conform to the Corporation for National and Community Service's online grant application system, eGrants. All funding announcements by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) are posted on www.nationalservice.gov and www.grants.gov.

Public Burden Statement

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 40 hours per submission, including reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing the form. Comments on the burden or content of this instrument may be sent to the Corporation for National and Community Service, Attn: Amy Borgstrom, 1201 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20525. CNCS informs people who may respond to this collection of information that they are not required to respond to the collection of information unless the OMB control number and expiration date displayed on page one are current and valid. (See 5 C.F.R. 1320.5(b)(2)(i).)

Privacy Act Notice

The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C § 552a) requires that the following notice be provided to you: The information requested on the AmeriCorps Application Instructions is collected pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§ 12581 - 12585 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 as amended, and 42 U.S.C. § 4953 of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 as amended. Purposes and Uses - The information requested is collected for the purposes of reviewing grant applications and granting funding requests. Routine Uses - Routine uses may include disclosure of the information to federal, state, or local agencies pursuant to lawfully authorized requests. In some programs, the information may also be provided to federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to determine the existence of any prior criminal convictions. The information may also be provided to appropriate federal agencies and Department contractors that have a need to know the information for the purpose of assisting the Department's efforts to respond to a suspected or confirmed breach of the security or confidentiality or information maintained in this system of records, and the information disclosed is relevant and unnecessary for the assistance. Executive Summaries of all compliant applications received and applications of successful applicants will be published on the CNCS website as part of ongoing efforts to increase transparency in grantmaking. This is described in more detail in the CNCS Notice of Federal Funding Opportunity. The information will not otherwise be disclosed to entities outside of AmeriCorps and CNCS without prior written permission. Effects of Nondisclosure - The information requested is mandatory in order to receive benefits.

Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act

Grant recipients will be required to report at www.FSRS.gov on all subawards over $25,000 and may be required to report on executive compensation for recipients and subrecipients. Recipients must have the necessary systems in place to collect and report this information. See 2 C.F.R. Part 170 for more information and to determine how these requirements apply.

Universal Identifier

Applications must include a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and register with the Central Contractor's Registry (CCR). All grant recipients are required to maintain a valid registration, which must be renewed annually.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

IMPORTANT NOTICE 2
TABLE OF CONTENTS 3
OVERVIEW 4
2013-2014 Grant Competition 5
NATIONAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES 11
Application Instructions 26
Application Instructions: New and Recompeting Applicants 26
Application Instructions: Continuation Requests 42
ATTACHMENT A: Facesheet Instructions (eGrants Applicant Info and Application Info Sections) 45
ATTACHMENT B: Performance Measures Instructions for New & Recompeting Applicants (eGrants Performance Measures Section) 48
ATTACHMENT C: Performance Measures Instructions for Continuation Applicants (eGrants Performance Measures Section) 51
ATTACHMENT D: Detailed Budget Instructions (eGrants Budget Section) 54
ATTACHMENT E: Budget Worksheet (eGrants Budget Section) 58
ATTACHMENT F: Detailed Budget Instructions for Fixed-amount Grants (eGrants Budget Section) 60
ATTACHMENT G: Budget Worksheet for Fixed-Amount Grants (eGrants Budget Section) 61
ATTACHMENT H: Budget Checklist 62
ATTACHMENT I: Alternative Match Instructions 64
ATTACHMENT K: Beale Codes and County-Level Economic Data 66
ATTACHMENT L: Assurances & Certifications (eGrants Review, Authorize and Submit Section) 67
ATTACHMENT M: Beneficiary Populations/Grant Characteristics 74

OVERVIEW

Serve DC

Serve DC – The Mayor's Office on Volunteerism, also known as the DC Commission on National and Community Service, was established by an Executive Order in 2000 and is housed in the Office of Community Affairs in the Executive Office of the Mayor. Serve DC is the District of Columbia Government agency dedicated to promoting service as an innovative, sustainable solution to the challenges we face as a community and a nation. Serve DC engages District communities by building partnerships and organizational capacity, serving as the local lead for national volunteer and service initiatives, and providing and promoting meaningful service opportunities throughout the year.

Corporation for National and Community Service

Serve DC receives federal funding from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) to support National Service programs in the District of Columbia to include the AmeriCorps State program. The mission of CNCS is to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic participation through service and volunteering. CNCS—through its AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs and the Social Innovation Fund—has helped to engage millions of citizens in meeting community and national challenges through service and volunteer action.

AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps is a National Service program funded by CNCS. Locally, Serve DC aupports the AmeriCorps State program in Washington, DC. AmeriCorps projects address one or a combination of the national service priorities, meet critical needs of our nation, achieve national service goals, and address community problems. These include disaster services, economic opportunity, education, environmental stewardship, healthy futures, and veterans and military families. Within these issue areas, programs may submit proposals that address specific problems of local communities. Full-time members who complete their service earn an Eli Segal AmeriCorps Education Award of $5,550 to pay for college, graduate school, or to pay back qualified student loans. Members who serve part-time receive a partial Award. Some AmeriCorps members may also receive a modest living allowance during their term of service.

2013-2014 Grant Competition

Funding Available

Serve DC – The Mayor's Office on Volunteerism announces the availability of AmeriCorps State Competitive funding for Fiscal Year 2013 – 2014 to eligible organizations. Subject to the availability of appropriations for Fiscal Year 2013, new applicants with high-quality proposals will compete nationally with other State and National programs for Competitive funds made available through Serve DC and CNCS.

Unless otherwise specified, the grant typically covers a three-year project period. In approving a multi-year project period, CNCS and Serve DC generally make an initial award for the first year of operation. In most cases, the application is submitted with a one-year budget. Continuation funding is contingent upon satisfactory performance, demonstrated capacity to manage the grant and comply with grant requirements, and availability of Federal appropriations. CNCS and Serve DC reserve the right to adjust the amount of a grant award for subsequent years, or elect not to continue funding on any or all these bases. In awarding funds, CNCS considers continuation grants first, followed by new and recompeting grants.

Additional funding is contingent upon satisfactory performance, a sub-grantee's demonstrated capacity to manage a grant and comply with grant requirements, and availability of Congressional appropriations. CNCS reserves the right to adjust the amount of an additional grant award in subsequent years, or elect not to continue funding, based on these bases.

The project start date may not occur prior to the date CNCS awards the grant. AmeriCorps members may not enroll prior to the start date of the award. AmeriCorps members may not begin service prior to the beginning of the member enrollment period as designated in the grant award. A program may not certify any hours a member performs prior to the beginning of the member enrollment period.

Purpose of AmeriCorps Funding

AmeriCorps grants are awarded to eligible organizations engaged in evidence-based or evidence-informed (e.g. performance data, research, theory of change) interventions that use AmeriCorps members to strengthen communities. An AmeriCorps member is an individual who engages in community service through an approved national service position. Members may receive a living allowance and other benefits while serving. Upon successful completion of their service, members receive a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award from the National Service Trust.

2013 AmeriCorps Funding Priorities: Focus Areas

This AmeriCorps State competition will focus grant making for fiscal year 2013 in six focus areas identified by the Serve America Act (SAA):

- 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 investment in national service, CNCS is targeting AmeriCorps funding in the following focus areas:

- Disaster Services
- Grant activities will:
- Increase the preparedness of individuals
- Improve individuals' readiness to respond
- Help individuals recover from disasters
- Help individuals mitigate disasters

Economic Opportunity

Grants will provide support and/or facilitate access to services and resources that contribute to the improved economic well-being and security of economically disadvantaged people.

Grant activities will help economically disadvantaged people to:

Have improved access to services and benefits aimed at contributing to their enhanced financial literacy.
Transition into or remain in safe, healthy, affordable housing.
Have improved employability leading to increased success in becoming employed.

Education

Grants will provide support and/or facilitate access to services and resources that contribute to improved educational outcomes for economically disadvantaged individuals, especially children. CNCS is particularly interested in program designs that support youth engagement and service-learning as strategies to achieve improved academic outcomes.

Grant activities will improve:

- School readiness for economically disadvantaged young children
- Educational and behavioral outcomes of students in low-achieving elementary, middle, and high schools
- Preparation for and prospects of success in post-secondary education institutions for economically disadvantaged students

Environmental Stewardship

Grants will provide support for direct services that contribute to increased energy and water efficiency, renewable energy use, or improving at-risk ecosystems. In addition, grants will support increased citizen behavioral change leading to increased efficiency, renewable energy use, and ecosystem improvements particularly for economically disadvantaged households and communities.

Grant activities will:

- Decrease energy and water consumption
- Improve at-risk ecosystems
- Increase behavioral changes that lead directly to decreased energy and water consumption or improved at-risk ecosystems

- Increase green training opportunities that may lead to decreased energy and water consumption or improved at-risk ecosystems

In addition, the Administration is exploring ways to provide service, training, education, and employment opportunities for young Americans through protecting, restoring and enhancing public and tribal lands. CNCS is exploring potential programs along the lines of a "21st century Civilian Service Corps" that can facilitate conservation service work on public lands and encourage a new generation of natural resource managers and environmental scientists, particularly in low income and disadvantaged communities.

Healthy Futures

Grants will meet health needs within communities including access to care, aging in place, and childhood obesity.

Grant activities will:

- Improve access to primary and preventive health care for communities served by CNCS-supported programs
- Increase seniors' ability to remain in their own homes with the same or improved quality of life for as long as possible
- Increase physical activity and improve nutrition in youth with the purpose of reducing childhood obesity

Veterans and Military Families

Grants will positively impact the quality of life of veterans and improve military family strength.

Grant activities will increase:

- Number of veterans and military service members and their families served by CNCS-supported programs
- Number of veterans and military family members engaged in service through CNCS-supported programs

Capacity Building

In addition to the six focus areas described above, grants also will provide support for capacity building activities provided by national service participants. As a general rule, CNCS considers capacity building activities to be indirect services that enable CNCS-supported organizations to provide more, better, and sustained direct services in CNCS' six focus areas. Capacity building activities cannot be solely intended to support the administration or operations of the organization.

Examples of capacity building activities include:

- Recruiting and/or managing community volunteers
- Implementing effective volunteer management practices
- Completing community assessments that identify goals and recommendations
- Developing new systems and business processes (technology, performance management, training, etc.) or enhancing existing systems and business processes

Encore Programs

Congress set a goal that 10 percent of AmeriCorps funding should support encore service programs that engage a significant number of participants age 55 or older. CNCS seeks to meet that 10 percent target in this competition and encourages encore programs to apply.

National Performance Measures

The Serve America Act (SAA) emphasizes measuring the impact of service and focusing on a core set of issue areas. CNCS' five-year Strategic Plan establishes an ambitious set of objectives that support the mission and goals to implement the SAA. These strategic goals guided the development of sixteen agency-wide Priority Measures. National Performance Measures allow CNCS to demonstrate aggregated impact of all its national service programs, including AmeriCorps State and National. They are divided in two categories: Priority Measures and Complementary Program Measures. For more information, please refer to the National Performance Measure Instructions.

2013 AmeriCorps Funding Priorities: Tiers

In the FY 2013 AmeriCorps Competitive competition, CNCS and Serve DC seek to prioritize the investment of national service resources in economic opportunity, education, veterans and military families, disaster services, and the Governor and Mayor Initiative. CNCS and Serve DC will continue to focus on national service programs that improve academic outcomes for children, youth, and young adults. This focus reflects the extensive experience and past success of national service programs in education, and aligns with the efforts of the Department of Education. In addition, CNCS and Serve DC seek to increase its investment in programs that serve veterans and military families or engage veterans and military families in service. CNCS and Serve DC will also focus investment in programs that increase community resiliency through disaster preparation, response, recovery, and mitigation.

CNCS and Serve DC will focus investment in programs that increase economic opportunities for community and AmeriCorps members.

Applicants proposing programs that receive priority consideration are not guaranteed funding. CNCS and Serve DC will seek to build a diversified portfolio across the focus areas. Furthermore, programs must demonstrate significant program focus, design, and impact to receive priority consideration.

CNCS and Serve DC will give priority consideration to applicants in the following Tiers, in descending order of preference:

Tier 1

Programs that select:

- Complementary program measures in economic opportunity

  (Programs that select O12, O14, O15, O17 must also select an additional priority or complementary program measure from Tier 1, 2, or 3 that measures community impact)

- Priority measures in education and serve in schools that received awards under the School Improvement Grants (SIG) program and are implementing one of the SIG school intervention models and/or Priority Schools identified by a State educational agency (SEA) that has received approval from the Department of Education of its request for Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) flexibility

- Priority measures in Veterans and Military Families
- Priority measures in Disaster Services
- Governor and Mayor Initiative

NOTE: Programs that fit these Priority or Complementary Program Measures are required to use these measures. These measures can be found in the chart following this section in Tier 1. Applicants whose members will be serving in schools that received awards under the School Improvement Grants (SIG) program and are implementing one of the SIG school intervention models and/or Priority Schools identified by a State educational agency (SEA) that has received approval from the Department of Education of its request for Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) flexibility must check the box on the Performance Measure tab in eGrants "SIG/Priority Schools" to be considered for Tier 1. The "NCES School ID" will need to be entered in the service location information at the time the members are enrolled.

Tier 2

Programs that select priority masures in:

- Education that are not serving in schools that received awards under the School Improvement Grants (SIG) program and are implementing one of the SIG school intervention models and/or Priority Schools identified by a State educational agency (SEA) that has received approval from the Department of Education of its request for Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) flexibility
- Environmental Stewardship
- Healthy Futures
- Capacity Building

NOTE: Programs that fit these Priority Measures are required to use these measures. These measures can be found in in the chart following this section in Tier 2.

Tier 3

Programs that select Complementary Program Measures. These measures can be found in the chart following this section in Tier 3.

Tier 4

Programs in the Focus Areas with self-nominated measures.

Tier 5

Programs outside the Focus Areas with self-nominated measures. Continuation requests for expansion will receive priority consideration and preference in the same manner as described above.

Governor and Mayor Initiative

CNCS will be piloting the Governor and Mayor Initiative and it will be given priority consideration in Tier 1. CNCS sets as a goal that 10% of the available funds for this year's grant competition will support this initiative. In the case of the AmeriCorps State Competitive application process in Washington, DC, this initiative will be a Mayor Initiative to take place within Washington, DC. Please note that were "Governor" is referenced.

CNCS will accept one application per state (to include Washington, DC). The application must address a pressing challenge the Governor/Mayor wishes to solve in her or his state/city. A Mayor must apply with a minimum of two nonprofits. The Mayor will be responsible for identifying and selecting those nonprofits that are best able to achieve a demonstrated positive impact on the problem. The application should include letters of commitment from selected partnering nonprofit entities, or describe the process that the Mayor will use to select the nonprofit entities. The application, submitted to Serve DC, will respond to the application criteria and explain how several nonprofits working together, with the Mayor's office serving as a convener, will effectively deploy AmeriCorps members for a collective impact.

For example, a Governor/Mayor in her state could conclude the most pressing challenge facing the state is its high school graduation rate. They could decide to focus on the elementary, junior high, and senior high schools in the Mayor's town.

The Governor/Mayor would submit one application describing:

- How the partnership will be organized and AmeriCorps resources will be allocated between the partnering entities (State, locality, and nonprofit entities).

- The proposed theory of change and program model. If the program model has not yet been fully developed, this should outline the approach that the consortium will take to ensure that implementation can begin within 90 days of grant award.

- How they will utilize an identified consortium of four nonprofits that are well positioned to impact outcomes for those three schools using their theory of change. For example, nonprofit A operates an AmeriCorps program whose members are focused on increasing literacy gains. Nonprofit B operates an AmeriCorps program whose members are focused on school readiness. Nonprofit C operates an AmeriCorps program whose members are focused on increased food security. Nonprofit D operates an AmeriCorps program whose members recruit community volunteers.

In geographic locations where other city, state, and place-based initiatives are under way, CNCS encourages Governors/Mayors to partner with these public/private partnerships supported by non-profits, faith-based and community organizations, the private sector, local and state elected leadership, as well as city or neighborhood focused federal initiatives. Programs that operate in the summer and engage middle school youth in building skills would be an appropriate program design for this Initiative.

Applications submitted as part of the Governor and Mayor Initiative must check the "Governor and Mayor Initiative" box in the Performance Measure tab and email a letter of endorsement cosigned by the Mayor (in Washington, DC), as well as signed letters of commitment from partnering nonprofits to americorpsgrants@cns.gov in order to be considered for this Initiative. The subject line of the email must include [Your State] Governor and Mayor Initiative.

NOTE: Only the Governor/Mayor, or their designated government office may apply for grants under the Governor and Mayor initiative. Applications from other entities will be deemed unresponsive.

NATIONAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Tier 1: Priority Measures in Disaster Services, Education and Veterans and Military Families and Complementary Program Measures in Economic Opportunity

Economic Opportunity
O1: # of economically disadvantaged individuals receiving financial literacy services
O9: # of economically disadvantaged individuals with improved financial knowledge
O2: # of economically disadvantaged individuals receiving job training and other skill development services
O3: # of economically disadvantaged individuals receiving job placement services
O10: # of economically disadvantaged individuals placed in jobs
O12: # of economically disadvantaged National Service Participants who are unemployed prior to their term of service*
O15: # of economically disadvantaged National Service Participants that secure employment during their term of service or within one year after finishing a CNCS-supported program*
O14: # of National Service Participants who have their high school diploma or equivalent but have not completed a college degree prior to their term of service*
O17: # of National Service Participants that complete a college course within one year after finishing a CNCS-supported program*
Disaster Services
D1: # of individuals that received CNCS-supported services in disaster preparedness
D2: # of individuals that received CNCS-supported services in disaster response
D3: # of individuals that received CNCS-supported services in disaster recovery
D4: # of individuals that received CNCS-supported services in disaster mitigation
Education: Operating in School Improvement Grant(SIG)/DOE Priority Schools
ED21: # of children that completed participation in CNCS-supported early childhood education programs
ED23: # of children demonstrating gains in school readiness in terms of social and/or emotional development
ED24: # of children demonstrating gains in school readiness in terms of literacy skills
ED25: # of children demonstrating gains in school readiness in terms of numeracy (math) skills
ED2: # of students that completed participation in CNCS-supported K-12 education programs
ED4A: # of disadvantaged youth/mentor matches that were sustained by the CNCS-supported program for at least the required time period
ED5: # of students with improved academic performance in literacy and/or math
ED27: #r of students in grades K-12 that participated in the mentoring or tutoring or other education program, including CNCS-supported service learning, who demonstrated improved academic engagement
ED6: # of students that improved their school attendance over the course of the CNCS-supported program's involvement with the student
Veterans and Military Families
V1: # of veterans that received CNCS-supported assistance
V8: # of veterans' family members that received CNCS-supported assistance
V7: # of family members of active duty military service members that received CNCS-supported assistance
V9: # of active duty military service members that received CNCS-supported assistance
V2: # of veterans engaged in service opportunities as a National Service Participant or volunteer.
V10: # of military family members engaged in service opportunities as a National Service Participant or volunteer

*Programs that select O12, O14, O15, O17 must also select an additional priority or complementary program measure from Tier 1, 2, or 3 that measures community impact.

Tier 2: Priority Measures (in Education, Economic Opportunity, Environmental Stewardship, Healthy Futures and Capacity Building)

Education: NOT operating in School Improvement Grant(SIG)/DOE Priority Schools
ED21: # of children that completed participation in CNCS-supported early childhood education programs
ED23: # of children demonstrating gains in school readiness in terms of social and/or emotional development
ED24: # of children demonstrating gains in school readiness in terms of literacy skills
ED25: # of children demonstrating gains in school readiness in terms of numeracy (math) skills
ED2: # of students that completed participation in CNCS-supported K-12 education programs
ED4A: # of disadvantaged youth/mentor matches that were sustained by the CNCS-supported program for at least the required time period
ED5: # of students with improved academic performance in literacy and/or math
ED27: # of students in grades K-12 that participated in the mentoring or tutoring or other education program, including CNCS-supported service learning, who demonstrated improved academic engagement
ED6: # of students that improved their school attendance over the course of the CNCS-supported program's involvement with the student
Economic Opportunity[1]
O5: # of economically disadvantaged individuals, including homeless individuals, receiving housing services
O11: # of economically disadvantaged individuals, including homeless individuals, transitioned into safe, healthy, affordable housing
Environmental Stewardship[2]
EN4: # of acres of national parks, state parks, city parks, county parks, or other public and tribal lands that are improved
EN5: # of miles of trails or waterways (owned/maintained by national, state, county, city or tribal governments) that are improved and/or created
Healthy Futures [3]
H8: # of homebound OR older adults and individuals with disabilities receiving food, transportation, or other services that allow them to live independently
H9: # of homebound OR older adults and individuals with disabilities who reported having increased social ties/perceived social support
H10 (formerly O6): Number of individuals receiving emergency food from food banks, food pantries, or other nonprofit organizations
H11 (formerly O7): # of individuals receiving support, services, education and/or referrals to alleviate long-term hunger
H12: # of individuals that reported increased food security of themselves and their children (household food security) as a result of CNCS-supported services
Capacity Building
G3-3.1: # of community volunteers recruited by CNCS-supported organizations or National Service Participants
G3-3.2: # of community volunteers managed by CNCS-supported organizations or National Service Participants
G3-3.3: # of organizations implementing three or more effective volunteer management practices as a result of capacity building services provided by CNCS-supported organizations or National Service Participants

[1] The following Economic Opportunity measures may also be used to report on your program's performance in providing services in the Disaster Services focus area

[2] The following Environmental Stewardship measures may also be used to report on your program's performance in providing services in the Disaster Services focus area,

[3] The following Healthy Futures measures may also be used to report on your program's performance in providing services in the Disaster Services focus area

Tier 3: Complementary Program Measures

Education
ED1: # of students who start in a CNCS-supported education program
ED3A: # of disadvantaged youth/mentor matches that are commenced by CNCS-supported programs
ED7: # of students with no or decreased disciplinary referrals and suspensions over the course of the CNCS-supported programs' involvement
ED8: # of youth with decreased substance abuse, arrest, or gang involvement
ED9: # of students graduating from high school on time with a diploma
ED10: # of students entering post-secondary institutions
ED11: # of students earning a post-secondary degree
ED12: # of CNCS-Supported National Service Participants who begin serving as teachers through a Teacher Corps program
ED13: # of CNCS-Supported National Service Participants who completed serving as teachers through a Teacher Corps program
ED14: # of individuals teaching in high need schools
ED15: # of students in CNCS-supported teacher classrooms with improved academic performance
ED17: # of teachers remaining in the education field, but not teaching in a school (school support staff, school administration, district administration policy, education nonprofits, etc.) after their term of service
ED18: # of teachers who have had a positive impact on student learning as determined by observation-based assessments of teacher performance
ED19: # of individuals receiving certification to teach in schools after their term of service
ED20: # of children who start in a CNCS-supported early childhood education program
ED22: # of children accessing high quality early childhood education programs
ED26: # of students acquiring a GED
Economic Opportunity
O4: # of housing units developed, repaired, or otherwise made available for low-income individuals, families or people with disabilities
O13: # of economically disadvantaged National Service Participants who have not obtained their high school diploma or equivalent prior to the start of their term of service
O16: # of National Service Participants that obtain a GED/diploma while serving in CNCS-supported programs or within one year after finishing serving in CNCS-supported programs
Environmental Stewardship
EN1: # of housing units of low-income households and structures weatherized or retrofitted to significantly improve energy efficiency
EN2: # of low-income households home and public building energy audits conducted
EN3: # of individuals receiving education or training in energy-efficient and environmentally-conscious practices, including but not limited to sustainable energy and other natural resources, and sustainable agriculture
EN6: # of tons of materials collected and recycled
Healthy Futures
H1: # of individuals who are uninsured, economically disadvantaged, medically underserved, or living in rural areas utilizing preventive and primary health care services and programs
H2: # of clients to whom information on health insurance, health care access and health benefits programs is delivered
H3: # of clients enrolled in health insurance, health services, and health benefits programs
H4: # of clients participating in health education programs
H5: # of children and youth engaged in in-school or afterschool physical education activities with the purpose of reducing childhood obesity
H6: # of children and youth receiving nutrition education with the purpose of reducing childhood obesity
H7: # of clients receiving language translation services at clinics and in emergency rooms

Veterans and Military Families
V3: # of veterans assisted in pursuing educational opportunities
V4: # of veterans assisted in receiving professional certification, licensure, or credentials
V6: # of housing units developed, repaired, or otherwise made available for veterans
Capacity Building
G3-3.4 # of organizations that received capacity building services from CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.5: # of staff and community volunteers that received training (of one or more types) as a result of capacity building services provided by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.6: # of organizations that completed a community assessment identifying goals and recommendations with the assistance of CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.7: Hours of service contributed by community volunteers who were recruited by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.8: Hours of service contributed by community volunteers who were managed by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.9: # of organizations reporting that capacity building activities provided by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants have helped to make the organization more efficient
G3-3.10: # of organizations reporting that capacity building activities provided by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants have helped to make the organization more effective
G3-3.11: # of new systems and business processes (technology, performance management, training, etc.) or enhancements to existing systems and business processes put in place as a result of capacity building services provided by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.12: # of organizations that monitored their progress towards the goals identified in their community assessment with the assistance of CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.13: # of additional activities completed and/or program outputs produced by the program as a result of capacity building services provided by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants in a) Disaster Services, b) Economic Opportunity, c) Education, d) Environmental Stewardship, e) Healthy Futures and/or f) Veterans and Military Families
G3-3.14: # of organizations that have experienced an increase in requests for their programs and services as a result of capacity building services provided by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.15: # of additional types of services offered by organizations as a result of capacity building services provided by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants in a) Disaster Services, b) Economic Opportunity, c) Education, d) Environmental Stewardship, e) Healthy Futures and/or f) Veterans and Military Families
G3-3.16: Dollar value of cash resources leveraged by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.17: Dollar value of in-kind resources leveraged by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
G3-3.18: # of new beneficiaries that received services as a result of capacity building efforts in: Disaster Services, Economic Opportunity, Education, Environmental Stewardship, Healthy Futures, and/or Veterans and Military Families
G3-3.19: # of new beneficiaries from one or more targeted or underserved populations (counts by target population, e.g., racial or ethnic group) that received services as a result of capacity building efforts in: Disaster Services, Economic Opportunity, Education, Environmental Stewardship, Healthy Futures, and/or Veterans and Military Families

Types of AmeriCorps Grants Available

The types of AmeriCorps grants offered by Serve DC in this competition are described below. CNCS and Serve DC will not provide more than one grant for the same project in one fiscal year. CNCS recommends consulting the AmeriCorps State and National Fit Finder to decide which type of grant best aligns with your proposed project (http://www.americorps.gov/fitfinder/).

AmeriCorps State Competitive Grants

These grants are for organizations planning to operate an AmeriCorps program in a single state (Washington, DC). These grants are awarded to fund a portion of program costs and member living allowances.

Competitive Education Awards Program (EAP) Fixed Amount Grants

These grants are awarded to applicants that apply for a small fixed-amount grant and use their own or other resources for the majority of member living allowance and program costs. There is no match requirement for EAP grants. Unlike full-time fixed-amount grants, EAPs may enroll less-than-full-time members in addition to full-time members.

Professional Corps Grants

These grants are awarded to organizations that propose to operate a Professional Corps program. Professional corps programs recruit and place qualified members in positions as teachers, health care providers, police officers, engineers, or other professionals in communities with an inadequate number of such professionals. Applicants are eligible to apply for funding for a portion of program costs. Professional Corps member salaries are paid entirely by the organizations with which the members serve, and are not included in the budget. These grants can either be fixed amount or reimbursement grants.

Types of Funding

AmeriCorps grants through Serve DC can be awarded on a cost reimbursement or fixed amount basis. Serve DC requires prior approval to submit an application for a fixed-amount grant.

Cost Reimbursement Grants

Cost reimbursement grants fund a portion of program operating costs and member living allowances with flexibility to use all of the funds for allowable costs regardless of whether or not the program recruits and retains all AmeriCorps members.

Stipended Full-Time Fixed Amount Grants (Non-EAP)

Stipended full-time fixed amount grants are available for programs that enroll full-time members only. The grants provide a fixed amount per MSY. Programs can access all of the funds provided if they recruit and retain the members supported under the grant based on the MSY level awarded. Organizations use their own or other resources to cover the remaining cost of the program. Programs are not required to submit budgets or financial reports and there is no match requirement. However, CNCS provides only a portion of the cost of running the program and organizations must still raise the additional resources needed to run the program.

Stipended fixed-amount grants are only available to recompeting programs. Second and third-year continuation applicants with cost reimbursement grants must submit a new application if they are interested in applying for a fixed amount grant.

Stipended fixed amount applicants in the Education Focus Area will be required to select either a Priority Education Measure or Complementary Program Measure. Applicants proposing non-Education programs may select from Tiers 1-5. All performance measures will be negotiated prior to grant selection and award. Approved applicants must agree to participate in any relevant evaluations conducted by CNCS. **Serve DC requires prior approval to submit an application for a fixed-amount grant.**

Education Award Fixed Amount Grants

Programs apply for a small fixed amount per MSY and use their own resources to cover all other costs. Programs are not required to pay a living allowance to less-than-fulltime members and can access funds under the grant based on enrolling the full complement of members supported under the grant. As with stipended fixed amount grants, there are no match or financial reporting requirements. Unlike full-time fixed-amount grants, EAPs may enroll less-than-full-time members in addition to full-time members.

Professional Corps Fixed Amount Grants

Programs apply for a fixed amount per MSY and enroll only full-time members. Programs can access all of the funds awarded if they recruit and retain all of their members. Professional Corps member salaries are paid entirely by the organizations with which the members serve and are not included in the budget. As with stipended fixed amount grants, there are no match or financial reporting requirements.

Match Requirements

In-kind contributions may include supplies, equipment, training, volunteer hours for professional services, or space for activities. Applicants may include the value of volunteer services contributed for organizational functions such as consulting, audit, or training of staff. The sub-grantee's share may come from private or state sources. Other federal funding cannot be identified as match unless an appropriate waiver has been approved by Serve DC and CNCS. If other federal grants are used towards match those Federal Government agencies must be notified and the organization must gain permission from them.

Cost Reimbursement Grants (non-fixed amount)

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. For State Education Award Programs, sub-grantees do not need to provide match to their CNCS award. The living allowance or salary provided to Professional Corps AmeriCorps members does not count toward the match requirement.

Section 121(e)(5) of the National Community Service Act requires that programs that use other federal funds as match for an AmeriCorps grant report the amount and source of these funds to CNCS on the Federal Financial Report.

AmeriCorps Funding Year	1, 2, 3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+
Grantee Share Requirements	24%	26%	30%	34%	38%	42%	46%	50%

Alternative Match

Under certain circumstances, applicants may qualify to meet alternative matching requirements that increase over the years to 35 percent instead of 50 percent as specified in the regulations at 45 CFR §2521.60(b). To qualify, applicants must demonstrate that the proposed program is either located in a rural county or in a severely economically distressed community as defined in the Application Instructions. Applicants that plan to request an alternative match schedule must submit a request to Serve DC by November 16, 2012. See Attachment I.

Fixed Amount Grants

There is no match requirement for fixed amount grants. However, the fixed amount grant does not cover all costs. Fixed amount grantees provide the additional resources needed to operate the program, but are not required to track or report on them. Serve DC requires prior approval to submit an application for a fixed-amount grant

Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) and System for Award Management (SAM): Applications must include a DUNS number and an Employer Identification Number. The DUNS number does not replace an Employer Identification Number. All applicants must be registered with the Systems for Award Management (SAM).

DUNS numbers may be obtained at no cost by calling the DUNS number request line at (866) 705-5711 or by applying online: https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/.The website indicates a 24-hour e-mail turnaround time on requests for DUNS numbers; however, registering at least 30 days in advance of the application due date is suggested. Expedited DUNS numbers may be obtained by following instructions found here: http://smallbusiness.dnb.com/establish-your-business/12334338-1.html.

SAM is combining federal procurement system and the catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance into one new system. SAM collects, validates, stores, and disseminates data in support of Federal agency contracts, grant awards, cooperative agreements, and other forms of federal assistance. All grant recipients are required to maintain a valid registration, which must be renewed annually. Applicants that are not already registered with SAM are urged to begin the registration process immediately in order to avoid any delays in submitting applications. Applicants must have a DUNS number in order to register with SAM. To register online go towww.SAM.gov.

Member Living Allowance Requirements

The proposed budget must include a living allowance for full-time members that is between $12,100 (minimum) and $24,200 (maximum) per member except as noted below. A living allowance is not considered a salary or a wage. Programs are not required to provide a living allowance 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 Table below. For cost-reimbursement grants, the amount must be included in the proposed budget as either CNCS or grantee share. While fixed-amount grant applicants are not required to submit detailed budgets, they are still required to provide a living allowance that complies with the minimum and maximum requirements to members. Fixed-amount grant applicants are not required to indicate that amount in the application.

Table 1: Minimum and Maximum Living Allowance

Service Term	Minimum # of Hours	Minimum Living Allowance	Maximum Total Living Allowance
Full-time	1700	$12,100	$24,200
One-year Half-time	900	n/a	$12,800
Reduced Half-time	675	n/a	$9,600
Quarter-time	450	n/a	$6,400
Minimum-time	300	n/a	$4,260

Exceptions to the Living Allowance Requirements (for programs existing prior to September 21, 1993)

If a program existed prior to September 21, 1993, a living allowance is not required. If an applicant chooses to offer a living allowance, it is exempt from the minimum requirement of $12,100, but not the maximum requirement of $24,200.

EAP Fixed amount Grantees

EAP grantees are not required to provide a living allowance for less-than-fulltime members, but if a living allowance is provided, it must comply with the maximum requirements set forth in the Living Allowance Table above.

Professional Corps Grantees

Professional Corps members must receive a living allowance or salary, which must meet the minimum, but may exceed the maximum living allowance set in the Living Allowance Table above. Professional Corps member salaries are paid entirely by the organizations with which the members serve, and are not included in the budget.

Maximum Cost per Member Service Year (MSY)

One MSY is equivalent to at least 1700 service hours, a full-time AmeriCorps position. The CNCS cost per MSY is determined by dividing the CNCS share of budgeted grant costs by the number of MSYs requested. It does not include child care or the value of the education award a member may earn. The maximum amount an applicant may request from CNCS per MSY is determined on an annual basis. Continuation and recompeting grantees requesting a higher cost per MSY than in the previous year must include a compelling rationale for this increased cost. This applies even if the increased cost per MSY is less than the maximum. New and recompeting sub-grantees/applicants will be held to the maximum cost per MSY for their grant type. This does not affect continuation programs currently funded at a higher cost per MSY.

The total amount of an applicant's grant request must not exceed $13,300 per Member Service Year (MSY). Applicants must request no less than five (5) MSYs and $66,500. For Professional Corps, the applicant's grant request must not exceed $2,500 per MSY and must request no less than five (5) MSYs and $12,500.

Table 2: 2013 Maximum Cost per MSY

Grant Program	Maximum
Individual Competitive State Program (not EAP)	$13,300
Professional Corps (Cost Reimbursement)	$2,500
Professional Corps Fixed-amount Grant	$2,000
Education Award Program Fixed-amount Grant	$800
Stipended Program Fixed-amount Grant	$13,000

Member Enrollment Requirements for Existing Grantees

Serve DC expects sub-grantees to enroll all the members included in their grant award. Enrollment rates have a direct bearing on the number of slots and the size of awards approved in the continuation and recompete processes. Continuation and recompeting grantees that have not achieved full enrollment in the previous year must provide an explanation and a corrective action plan in their application. Successful applicants that do not fully enroll are likely to receive a decrease in funding in subsequent years.

Member Retention Requirements for Existing Grantees

Serve DC expects sub-grantees to pursue the highest retention rate possible. Retention rates will have a direct bearing on the number of slots and the size of awards approved in the continuation and re-compete processes. Successful applicants that do not retain their members are likely to receive a decrease in funding in subsequent years. Serve DC recognizes retention rates may vary among equally effective programs depending on the program model. Continuation or recompeting grantees that have not achieved full retention in the most recently completed program year must provide an explanation and a corrective action plan in their application.

Amount of the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award for FY 2013

AmeriCorps members serving in programs funded with FY 2013 dollars who successfully complete a term of service will receive an Education Award from the National Service Trust of $5,550 for a year of full-time service, with correspondingly smaller awards for less-than-full-time service. The amount of the Education Award is determined on the basis of the Pell Grant award. A member has up to seven years after his or her term of service has ended to use the award.

Table 3: Term of Service and FY13 Education Award

Term of Service	Minimum # of Hours	FY13 Education Award
Full Time	1700	$5,550
One-Year Half Time	900	$2,775
Two-Year Half Time	900	$2,775
Reduced Half Time	675	$2,114
Quarter Time	450	$1,468
Minimum Time	300	$1,175

Serve DC Program Participation Requirements

Seasons of Service Days

Successfully funded programs will be required to participate in at least two (2) Seasons of Service Days. Examples include: 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance (in September) or Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service (in January).

Serve DC National Service Program Director Events

The AmeriCorps Program Director (or his/her designee) will be present at all Serve DC Program Director Meetings, orientations, training events, and AmeriCorps special events. In addition, AmeriCorps participants from the program will be present at all statewide participant events and meetings. The sub-grantee will ensure that AmeriCorps Members are in attendance and are provided with the appropriate supervision at all Washington, DC AmeriCorps special events.

Emergency Preparedness

AmeriCorps members can receive training in emergency preparedness in order to be ready to mobilize in the event of a national emergency, major catastrophic event, or federally declared disaster. CNCS has indicated that, depending on the type and origin of the declaration, members could be redeployed to provide response and recovery support to affected areas. Members will assist in a disaster when a special emergency has been declared by the appropriate authorizing official. Members will receive basic emergency preparedness training (e.g. CERT, Community Emergency Response Team training) from Serve DC.

Reporting Requirements

All approved applicants will be required to submit the following reports (and any others per CNCS/Serve DC guidelines and requirements):

- *Progress Reports (Quarterly)*
  Must identify the status of progress of tasks and performance measures as provided in the Application and Budget approved by Serve DC and CNCS
- *Periodic Expense Reports (Monthly)*
  Must identify funds expended during the Reporting Period
- *Federal Financial Reports (Bi-Annually)*
  Must identify funds expended to date during the Reporting Period
- *Volunteer Generation Reports (Monthly)*
  Must identify the number of the Non-AmeriCorps Member Volunteers generated through AmeriCorps program (State Performance Measure)
- *AmeriCorps Member Timesheet Reports (Monthly)*
  Must submit AmeriCorps Member timesheets on a monthly basis in the OnCorps Reporting System
- *AmeriCorps Member Enrollment (Ongoing)*
  Must enroll all AmeriCorps Members into the My AmeriCorps Portal within 30 days of their actual enrollment date
- Individuals receiving either a stipend, salary, living allowance, or earning a National Service Education Award must follow the National Service Criminal History check rules which include the National Sex Offender Public Registry, Statewide criminal history registry, and FBI (only those who have recurring access to the vulnerable population must undergo an FBI check).

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible applicants are local nonprofit organizations and/or state and local units of government. The organization must be fully operating for three or more years. 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. Pursuant to the Lobbying Disclosure Action of 1995, an organization described in Section 501 (c)(4) of the Internal Revenue code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. 501 (c)(4) that engages in lobbying activities is not eligible to apply. Individuals are not eligible to apply.

New Applicants

CNCS and Serve DC encourage organizations that have never received funding from CNCS or AmeriCorps to apply for the grants described in this application. New organizations should submit applications with the understanding that the general practice is to award no more than 50 member slots for new sub-grantees.

How to Apply

These application instructions should be read together with the AmeriCorps Regulations, 45 CFR §§ 2520–2550, the CNCS Application Instructions/Notice of Funding Opportunity, and the Performance Measure Instructions which are incorporated by reference. The CNCS Notice and Application Instructions can be found at http://www.americorps.gov/for_organizations/funding/nofa.asp. The full regulations are available online at www.gpoaccess.gov/ecfr. The TTY number is 800-833-3722. For a printed copy of related material, call 202-606-7508.

Required Technical Assistance Sessions

Applicants are required to attend one of the following technical assistance (TA) sessions: October 22, from 2:00-3:00pm, Continuation applicants only (Conference Call); October 24, or November 5, 2012, from 5:30-7:30pm in the Frank D. Reeves Municipal Center, Serve DC – The Mayor's Office on Volunteerism, 2000 14th Street, NW, Suite 101, Washington, DC 20009 (TA sessions will automatically close at 5:45pm. No exceptions will be made and late individuals will not be allowed to enter the office); Tuesday, NOVEMBER 6, 2012 (WEBINAR), from 1:00-3:00pm (Webinar). Webinar information will only be available to those who RSVP.

Notice of Intent to Apply

Applicants are strongly encouraged to send a Notice of Intent to Apply by e-mail to sarah.watkins@dc.gov by November 15, 2012. Include the name of the applicant organization, address, contact person, e-mail address, and phone number. Applicants should state the type of grant they intend to apply for. Providing an e-mail address will also allow Serve DC to contact applicants directly if application materials are updated.

Submission Dates and Times

The deadline for submission is December 6, 2012, 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. Any changes to the application deadline will be shared with attendees of technical assistance sessions via email. This deadline applies to continuation sub-grantees, as well as new and recompeting applicants.

Applicants must submit one (1) hard copy of each of the items listed below:

1. Original signed copy of the SF424 Facesheet (see Appendix A)
2. Most recent A-133 Audit or Form 990
3. Labor concurrence (if applicable as required under 45 CFR 100 (c)) on behalf of your programs, depending on amount of funds and history with the Corporation
4. Program evaluations (as required under 45 CFR 2522.730)

Applicants must provide Serve DC with nine (9) hard copies of their completed application to include the documents below (Please note that Continuation Applicants must provide six (6) hard copies):

1. SF424 Facesheet (does not need to be original, signed copy)
2. Application (including Performance Measures)
3. State Performance Measures (Word Document)
4. Budget
5. Budget Narrative
6. Letter of endorsement from the Governor and Mayor (if participating in the Governor and Mayor Initiative)

Serve DC administers the AmeriCorps State programs through federal funds from CNCS. Therefore, District and federal rules and regulations apply. In addition to providing the funds, Serve DC provides oversight and support to applicants selected as sub-grantees. Oversight includes site visits, fiscal monitoring, and reporting requirements. Support includes AmeriCorps trainings, program director meetings, and one-on-one technical assistance.

Application Review Information

Assessment Criteria

Each application must clearly describe a project that will effectively deploy AmeriCorps members to solve a significant community problem. Serve DC and CNCS will use the Criteria below.

1. *Rationale and Approach/ Program Design (50 percent)*
   In assessing Rationale and Approach/ Program Design, reviewers will examine the degree to which the applicant demonstrates how AmeriCorps members are particularly well-suited to solving the identified community problem.

2. *Organizational Capability (25 percent)*
   Reviewers will assess the extent to which the applicant demonstrates organizational background and staffing, sustainability, compliance and accountability, enrollment and retention (for current and former grantees), consultation with State Commissions(not required for Indian Tribes).

3. *Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy (25 percent)*

   For cost-reimbursement grants, reviewers will assess the extent to which:

   - The budget is clear, reasonable, cost-effective, and in alignment with the program narrative.
   - The requested funds do not exceed the maximum cost per Member Service Year (MSY), or for existing programs, have not increased over previous years. The amount requested is a competitive factor in the selection process. New applicants that submit a with a low cost per MSY and recompeting applicants that submit with a lower cost per MSY than previously funded may receive higher priority for funding.
   - The program is a cost effective approach for addressing the community need(s) identified in the application.

   For EAPs other Fixed-amount grants, reviewers will assess:

   - The applicant's demonstrated understanding of total program cost and capacity to raise the additional resources beyond the fixed-amount provided by CNCS.
   - The amount requested per member. Fixed-amount applicants are encouraged to request less than the maximum amount allowed per MSY. The amount requested is a competitive factor in the selection process. New applicants that submit with a low cost per MSY and recompeting applicants that submit with a lower cost per MSY than previously funded may receive higher priority for funding.
   - The program is a cost effective approach for addressing the community need(s) identified in the application.
   - Existing programs that are applying for a fixed amount grant for the first time should not request a cost per MSY higher that currently approved.

Goals of the Review and Selection Process

The assessment of applications involves a wide range of factors and considerations. The AmeriCorps State Competitive application process includes two levels of review: one at the State Commission level (Serve DC) and one at the Federal CNCS level.

Following Serve DC's initial review of all applications, a decision will be made as to which programs Serve DC will recommend to CNCS for Competitive funding consideration. The remaining applications – and those not selected by CNCS for Competitive funding – will be considered for AmeriCorps Formula funds. Serve DC reserves the right to reject

applicants from both the Competitive process and from consideration for Formula funding. Serve DC anticipates notifying Competitive awardees by no later than June 14, 2013 (contingent on full year appropriations) and anticipates making Competitive grant awards in or about the first week of July 2013. Applicants considered for Formula funding will follow the Formula application timeline.

As in the past, CNCS and Serve DC will engage external reviewers to provide insight and input with respect to eligible applications. In addition, CNCS and Serve DC staff will apply their experience and expertise in evaluating applications. In the end, the review and selection process will produce a diversified set of high-quality programs that represent the priorities and selection factors described in these application instructions.

Specifically, the review and selection process at CNCS will:

1. *Identify eligible applications that satisfy the following considerations:*
    - High alignment with criteria
    - Priorities, in the order of preference
    - Relative risk and opportunity

2. *Consider*
    - Recruitment and deployment of community volunteers to leverage impact.
    - Serve DC rank and recommendations on single-state applicants.
    - The strength of the evidence base for the program

3. *Yield a diversified portfolio based on the following strategic considerations:*
    - Geographic representation
    - Meaningful representation of:
        - Rural and urban communities
        - Small and large program
        - Single and multi-state programs
        - Faith- and community-based organizations
    - Focus area representation.
    - Organizations that build capacity for individuals, nonprofits and communities to solve problems.
    - Organizations and/or program models that recruit and engage traditionally underrepresented populations as AmeriCorps members and expand opportunities to serve as AmeriCorps members; particularly new Americans, low-income individuals, economically disadvantaged young adults (also referred to as "opportunity youth"), rural residents, older Americans, veterans, communities of color, Native Americans, and people with disabilities.
    - Organizations that embrace innovative approaches to solving problems, including service-learning.

Applicants must check the relevant boxes in the Performance Measure tab in eGrants in order to be considered for CNCS' assessment of the above strategic considerations.

Stages in the Review and Selection Process

The following information pertaining to this competition for new and recompete applications will be published on the CNCS website (http://nationalservice.gov/about/open/grants.asp), within 90 business days after all grants are awarded:

- A blank template of external review form

- A list of all compliant applications submitted
- Executive summaries of all compliant applications prepared by the applicants as part of the application
- Copies of the SF424 and Program Narrative submitted by applicants for successful applicants
- Summaries of external reviewer's comments for successful applications

Publication of this these application instructions does not obligate CNCS to award any specific number of grants or to obligate the entire amount of funding available.

The process below is the review process for CNCS. Serve DC will utilize two review panels (peer/outside reviewers and staff) to determine if an application will be submitted to CNCS for the second level of review, moved to the Serve DC AmeriCorps State Formula review, or to be rejected. Applicants must be prepared to provide clarification information as needed by Serve DC or CNCS.

1. *Compliance Review*
   CNCS will review all applications to determine compliance with eligibility, deadline, and completeness requirements. Applications that are submitted by eligible organizations, submitted by the deadline, and that are complete, will advance to External Review.

2. *External Review*
   External reviewers will assess applications based on the Program Design criteria only. Each application will be reviewed by at least three external reviewers. External reviewers will assess the quality of each application. Reviewers will be recruited and selected on the basis of demonstrated knowledge of AmeriCorps programming, and/or the selection criteria and focus areas. All external reviewers will be screened for conflicts of interest.

4. *Post Review Quality Control (Quality Control)*
   After the external reviewers complete their assessment, staff will review the results for fairness and consistency. Some applications may be selected for a Quality Control assessment. This additional level of review may be used to assess:

   - Applications ranked first by a State Commission that received low scores in External Review.
   - Applications for which there are significant panel anomalies.
   - Applications submitted by high-performing current grantees that received a low score in External Review.

   Applications identified for additional assessment will receive a Quality Control review. The Quality Control reviewer provides an assessment of the application's key strengths and weaknesses.

5. *Selection of Applications for Internal Review*
   Applications will advance to Internal Review based on the results of the External Review and Quality Control, as well as the consideration of the priorities and the strategic considerations. Strategic Consideration will be given based on the check boxes that are applicant determined found in the Performance Measures tab in eGrants. Note that not all applications will advance.

6. *Internal Review*
   CNCS will assess Program Design, particularly focusing on evidence-basis for the proposed solution(s) to the identified community problem(s), appropriateness of national service as a solution, and potential quality of the member experience; Organizational Capability; and Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy. Submitted program evaluations will be considered at this stage.

Following staff assessment, some applicants may receive requests to provide clarifying information. Clarifying information is used by CNCS staff in making final recommendations. A request for clarification does not guarantee a grant award. Failure to respond to requests for information in a timely fashion will result in the removal of applications from consideration.

CNCS staff will determine which applications to recommend for selection based on their assessment of the applicants that move from External Review and Quality Control into Internal Review, and Clarification as well as the Tier priorities and strategic considerations.

7. *Selection for Funding*
   With the goal of a diversified portfolio based on the NOFO priorities and strategic considerations, the Chief Executive Officer will select the final portfolio based on staff recommendation from the applicants that advanced to Internal Review.

8. *Feedback to Applicants*
   Following grant awards, each applicant will receive the results of external and, if applicable, internal review pertaining to their application. Feedback will be based on the review of the original application and will not reflect any information that may have been provided during clarification.

Continuation Expansion Requests

Requests for continuation expansions will be assessed using the same Tier priorities as the new and recompete applications and whether the applicant has lowered its cost per MSY.

Continuation Applications

The funding decision for continuation applications will be based on the sub-applicant continuation application, the commission's recommendation summary, including whether to increase, maintain level, or decrease funding, the availability of funds, and information consistent with 45 CFR § 2522.470. All continuing sub-grantees will complete the continuation application in eGrants and submit it to the commission. Serve DC will complete a review and recommendation to CNCS.

Use of Material

To ensure that materials generated with CNCS funding are available to the public and readily accessible to grantees and non-grantees, CNCS reserves a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to obtain, use, modify, reproduce, publish, or disseminate publications and materials produced under the award, including data, and to authorize others to do so. 45 CFR § 2543.36; 2541.30

Re-Focusing of Funding

CNCS reserves the right to re-focus funding in the event of disaster or other compelling need for service.

Application Instructions

This Request for Applications (RFA) provides step-by-step instructions for submitting grant applications. Please follow all instructions carefully and refer to the AmeriCorps regulations as indicated. All sections of the eGrants application are included in the RFA appendices.

Application Instructions: New and Recompeting Applicants

Use these instructions in conjunction with the 2013 CNCS Notice of Federal Funding Opportunity (Notice), and the AmeriCorps Regulations, 45 CFR §§ 2520–2550. The AmeriCorps regulations include pertinent information (see Table 1, below). The Notice can be found at http://www.americorps.org/for_organizations/funding/nofa.asp. The full regulations are available online at www.gpoaccess.gov/ecfr.

Table 1: Requirements in the AmeriCorps Regulations

Topics	Citation in the AmeriCorps Regulations
Member Service Activities	§2520.20 - §2520.55
Prohibited Activities	§2520.65
Tutoring Programs	§2522.900-2522.950
Matching Funds	§2521.35-2521.90
Member Benefits	§2522.240-2522.250
Calculating Cost Per Member Service Year (MSY)	§2522.485
Performance Measures	§2522.500-2522.650
Evaluation	§2522.500-2522.540 and §2522.700-2522.740
Selection Criteria and Selection Process	§2522.400-2522.475

If there is any inconsistency between the AmeriCorps regulations, the CNCS Notice, and the Application Instructions, the order of precedence is as follows:

I. AmeriCorps regulations 45 CFR §§ 2520–2550
II. Notice of Federal Funding Opportunity
III. Application Instructions

Content and Form of Application Submission

Submitting Your Application in eGrants

Applicants must submit their applications electronically via the CNCS web-based system, eGrants. 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."

Contact the National Service Hotline at 800-942-2677 or https://questions.nationalservice.gov/app/ask if a problem arises while creating an account, preparing, or submitting an application. National Service Hotline hours are Monday through Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. ET.

If technical issues will prevent an applicant from submitting an application on time, please contact the National Service Hotline prior to the deadline to explain the technical issue and receive a ticket number. If the issue cannot be resolved by the deadline, the applicant must continue working with the National Service Hotline to submit via eGrants. Any supporting attachments must be emailed to sarah.watkins@dc.gov.

Any supporting attachments (e.g letters of commitment for the Governor's and Mayor's Initiative) should be emailed to americorpsgrants@cns.govand reference [Your State] Governor and Mayor Initiative in order to be considered for this Initiative.

Page Limits

In eGrants, applicants will enter text in the following fields:

- Executive Summary
  A brief paragraph, maximum of a half-page. Executive Summaries of all compliant applications will be published on the CNCS website following grant award notifications
- Program Design
- Organizational Capability
- Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy
- Evaluation Plan

If you are:

- Applying for the first time
- Have only received formula funding in the past
- Are a former grantee (non-formula) whose last AmeriCorps grant was received more than five years ago
- A current planning grantee applying for a three-year implementation grant

You may not exceed 26 double-spaced pages for the Narratives, including the Executive Summary and Cover Page, as the pages print out from eGrants. This limit does not include the budget and performance measures or required supplementary materials (e.g. letters of commitment).

If you are:

- Recompeting (in year three of a competitive three-year funding cycle and applying for a new three-year grant)
- Not a current grantee that has received a competitive AmeriCorps grant in the past five years

You may not exceed 27 double-spaced pages for the Narratives, including the Executive Summary and Cover Page, as the pages print out from eGrants. This limit does not include the budget and performance measures.

Reviewers will not consider submitted material that is over the page limit, even if eGrants allows you to enter and submit text over the limit. Therefore, Serve DC recommends that applicants print out your application from the Review and Submit page prior to final submission to ensure it is not over the page limit.

Do not submit supplemental materials such as videos, DVDs, brochures, letters of support, or any other item not requested in the application instructions. Serve DC will not review or return them.

Funding Restrictions

Grants under this program, except for fixed-amount and EAP grants, are subject to the applicable Cost Principles under OMB Circulars A-21 (2 CFR Part 220), A-122 (2 CFR Part 230), or A-87 (2 CFR Part 225) and the Uniform Administrative Requirements for grants under A-102 (45 CFR Part 2541) or A-110 (45 CFR 2543 or 2 CFR Part 21).

eGrants Submission

In eGrants, before Starting Section I you will need to:

- Start a new Grant Application
- Select a Program Area (AmeriCorps)
- Select a NOFO:
- Commission AmeriCorps State FY 2013
- Commission AmeriCorps State Fixed Amount Grants FY 2013
- Commission Competitive Education Awards Program FY 2013

Your application consists of the following components (make sure to complete each section):

I. Applicant Info
II. Application Info
III. Narratives
IV. Performance Measures
V. Documents
VI. Budget
VII. Review, Authorize, and Submit

I. Applicant Info

Information entered in the Applicant Info, Application Info, and Budget sections will populate the SF 424 Facesheet. **If you are submitting your application in hard copy, you will find the SF 424 in Attachment A.**

- If you are recompeting (in year three of a competitive three-year funding cycle and applying for a new three-year grant), select Continuation/Renewal
- If you are not a current grantee, but have received a competitive AmeriCorps grant in the past five years, select **Continuation/Renewal**
- If you are applying for the first time, have only received formula funding in the past, or are a former grantee (non-formula) whose last AmeriCorps grant was received more than five years ago, select **New**
- If you are a current planning grantee applying for a three-year implementation grant, select **New**
- Enter, or update the requested information in the fields that appear. The contact person needs to be the person who can answer questions about the application

II. Application Info

In the Application Info Section enter:

- Areas affected by your proposed program. Please include the two-letter abbreviation with both letters capitalized for each state where you plan to operate. Separate each two-letter state abbreviation with a comma. For city or county information, please follow each one with the two-letter capitalized state abbreviation.
- Requested project period start and end dates. You may not request a program start date earlier than July 1, 2013. First-time grantees should not expect to start until late summer or early fall. The project period is three years.
- Indicate Yes or No if you are delinquent on any federal debt. If yes, send explanation as described in Section V.D.
- State Application Identifier: Enter N/A.

- The Application is Subject to Review by State Executive Order 12372 Process: This is pre-filled as "No, this is not applicable."

- If you plan to request a waiver of the volunteer leveraging requirement please select "Request a waiver" at the bottom of the screen. A pop-up screen will appear. Select a waiver type and enter your volunteer leveraging waiver request justification in the narrative field in 2,000 characters or less.
- Leave the box for "Program Initiative" blank.
- The "Estimated Funds Requested" box will be populated automatically after you complete the budget.

III. Narratives

The narrative section of the application is your opportunity to convince reviewers that your project meets the selection criteria. Below are some general recommendations to help you present your project in a way the reviewers will find compelling and persuasive.

- **Lead from your program strengths and be explicit.** Do not make the mistake of trying to stretch your proposed program description to fit each funding priority and special consideration articulated in the regulations or the CNCS NOFO.
- **Be clear and succinct.** Reviewers are not interested in jargon, boilerplate, rhetoric, or exaggeration. They are interested in learning precisely what you intend to do, and how your project responds to the selection criteria presented below.
- **Avoid circular reasoning.** The problem you describe should not be defined as the lack of the solution you are proposing.
- **Explain how.** Avoid simply stating that the criteria will be met. Explicitly describe how the proposed project will meet the criteria.
- **Do not make assumptions.** Even if you have received funding from CNCS in the past, do not assume your reviewers know anything about you, your proposed program, your partners, or your beneficiaries. Avoid overuse of acronyms.
- **Use an impartial proofreader.** Before you submit your application, let someone who is completely unfamiliar with your project read and critique the project narrative.
- **Follow the instructions and discuss each criterion in the order they are presented in the instructions.** Use headings to differentiate narrative sections by criterion.

In eGrants, you will enter text for:

- Executive Summary
- Rationale and Approach (Program Design)
- Organizational Capability.
- Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy
- Evaluation Plan

NOTE: The Narratives Section also includes fields for Clarification Information, Amendment Justification, and Continuation Changes. **Please enter N/A in these fields. They will be used at a later date to enter information for clarification following review, to request amendments once a grant is awarded, and to enter changes in the narrative in continuation requests.**

External and staff reviewers will assess your application against the selection criteria. To best respond to the criteria listed in the NOFO and Application Instructions, we suggest that you include a brief discussion of each bullet if it pertains to your application.

A. Executive Summary

Please provide a one-paragraph executive summary of your proposed program. This summary should be one-half page or less. The summary should include who, what, where, when, and why:

- Who will be serving? Who will be served?
- What will the AmeriCorps members do?
- Where will the activity take place?
- When does the project begin and end?
- What is the expected outcome(s) of the project?
- What is the CNCS investment? What is the match amount?

You may fill in the blanks in the following template to complete your executive summary:

[Number of] AmeriCorps members will leverage an additional [number of leveraged volunteers, if applicable] to [what the members will be doing] in [where they will be working]. At the end of the [duration of project] period, [anticipated outcome of project]. This project will focus on the CNCS focus area of [Focus Area(s)]. The CNCS investment of $[amount of request] will be matched with $[amount of projected match].

CNCS will post these summaries on www.nationalservice.gov in the interest of transparency and open government.

B. Selection Criteria

Each applicant must clearly describe a project that will deploy AmeriCorps members effectively to solve a significant community problem. We urge your organization to submit a high quality application following the guidance in the Serve DC and CNCS NOFOs and Application Instructions carefully. The quality of your application will be an important factor in determining whether your organization will receive funding. Your application will be assessed as follows:

1. **Program Design (50 percent)**

In assessing Program Design, reviewers will examine the degree to which the applicant demonstrates how AmeriCorps members are particularly well-suited to solving the identified community problem.

Reviewers will consider the extent to which:

- Recompeting grantees describe their efforts and impact to date, and provide persuasive evidence they should continue to be funded.
- New applicants already working to meet the community need identified in the application have described how the proposed use of AmeriCorps members will be more effective than what is currently being implemented or enhance existing efforts.

In assessing how you will meet the criteria, reviewers will consider the quality of your response to the following:

a) Need (7 points)

Provide persuasive evidence that the identified needs exist in the targeted community(ies). Describe the community problem(s) you will be working on. Provide documentation of the extent/severity of the need in the target community. Describe the target community including whether it is economically disadvantaged. Explain why did you selected this population to be served?

b) AmeriCorps Members as Highly Effective Means to Solve Community Problems. (10 points)

What will members do? Give examples of specific proposed member activities. What will the organization accomplish that it would not otherwise accomplish through existing staff and/or volunteers? How many AmeriCorps members are you requesting? What types of slots (service terms) are needed for these members? If you are requesting different slot types, explain how the different slot types align with your program design and activities.

c) Evidence-Based/Evidence-Informed and Measurable Community Impact (10 points)

Describe how the interventions the AmeriCorps members and volunteers are engaged in are both evidence-based or evidence-informed and will have a measurable community impact. Explain the impact of the AmeriCorps investment. The intervention is evidence-based if programs can demonstrate community impact and solve community problems through an evidence-based approach (e.g. based on research or backed by statistically significant evaluation findings). The intervention is evidence-informed if programs can demonstrate community impact and solve community problems through an evidence-informed approach (e.g. internal performance data, theory of change based on research).

What is the overall change you expect or plan to see by the end of the three-year grant cycle? What demonstrable impact will your program have? How will you measure that impact? How will you report on this on an annual basis? How did you determine your performance measure targets?

For Current Grantees and Former Grantees Only:

Describe your performance against objectives during your last full year of program operation. What impact has your program had? How successful have you been in solving the identified problem? If you did not meet performance targets, provide an explanation and describe your plan for improvement. What is the performance measure data collected thus far?

d) Member Recruitment (5 points)

Describe your plans for recruiting members for your program. Describe how members will be included from the local communities to be served by your program. Describe how your organization will be recruiting and engaging traditionally underrepresented populations as well as your history with working with those populations or how you will ensure success if this is a new population being recruited. Underrepresented populations may include new Americans, low-income individuals, youth from disadvantaged backgrounds (sometimes also referred to as “opportunity youth”), rural residents, older Americans, veterans, people of color, Native Americans and people with disabilities.

e) Member Training (5 points)

Describe your plan for orienting members to AmeriCorps, the community they are serving, their placement site, and the service they will perform. Describe what skills the member will acquire during their term of service. Describe how you will ensure that training provided to members will prepare members to perform all the activities they will engage in during their term of service. Describe, as necessary, the ongoing training provided to members throughout their terms. What are the anticipated training topics and the timeline for member training? How and when will you ensure that members and generated volunteers are aware of and are adhering to the rules regarding prohibited activities?

f) Member Supervision (5 points)

Describe your plan for supervising members, and how the plan ensures that members will receive adequate support and guidance throughout their terms. Who will supervise the AmeriCorps members? Describe how supervisors are selected and trained. Describe how your program provides training, oversight, and support to supervisors.

Tutoring Programs Only

If you are proposing to operate a tutoring program, describe how your program complies with AmeriCorps requirements for member tutoring qualifications. Members who tutor must have a high school diploma, and successfully complete high-quality, research-based pre- and in-service training for tutors. This requirement does not apply to a member enrolled in a secondary school who is providing tutoring through a structured, school-managed cross-grade tutoring program.

Describe how your strategy for training members complies with AmeriCorps requirements for member tutor training that is high quality and research based, consistent with the instructional program of the local agency and with state academic content standards (See Section 1111 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311)), includes appropriate member supervision by individuals with expertise in tutoring, and provides specialized pre-service and in-service training consistent with the activities the member will perform.

g) Member Experience (3 points)

Describe the program components that enable the AmeriCorps members to have powerful service experiences that produce community impact and lead to continued civic participation and connectivity with other AmeriCorps and national service participants.

Demonstrate how you will provide structured opportunities for participants to reflect on and learn from their service. Describe how your program will ensure that members are aware they are AmeriCorps members and identify as such to community members, partners, and the general public. Describe how you will connect your members with each other, with other AmeriCorps members and national service participants in the local communities in which they serve, and with other AmeriCorps and national service participants in the state, and/or nationally. How will your program foster a sense of connection with the AmeriCorps identity?

h) Volunteer Generation (3 points)

Describe how the proposed program will recruit volunteers to expand the reach/impact of the program in the community. How will volunteers help meet the identified community needs and what will be their role(s)? What role will AmeriCorps members have in volunteer recruitment and management? How will your program ensure that volunteers will not be recruited for or engaged in prohibited or unallowable activities? If volunteer generation is not possible due to your program design, please request a waiver of the requirement to recruit or support volunteers (see 45 CFR § 2520.35), enter the rationale in the waiver justification field. Your program will not be penalized for its inability to recruit or support volunteers.

i) Organizational Commitment to AmeriCorps Identification (2 points)

Describe your organizational commitment to branding national service. How will your program ensure that it and any subgrantees and/or affiliates and/or service locations will use the AmeriCorps name on websites, service gear and public materials such as stationery, application forms, recruitment brochures, on-line position posting, or other recruitment strategies, orientation materials, member curriculum, signs, banners, press releases and publications related to their AmeriCorps program?

2. **<u>Organizational Capability (25 percent)</u>**

In assessing how you will meet the criteria, reviewers will consider the quality of your response to the following:

a) Organizational Background and Staffing (8 points)

Provide the organization's mission and a brief history. Describe how the organization has the experience, staffing, and management structure to plan and implement the proposed program. Who will staff the AmeriCorps program and what is their specific role? What is their relevant experience? If positions are currently vacant, please describe the desired qualifications for each open position. What are your plans for providing financial and programmatic orientation and training and technical assistance to staff? Describe the organization's capacity to provide training and skills development for members. Describe the organization's capacity to complete an evaluation or provide support to an external evaluator. Describe your organization's prior experience administering AmeriCorps grants or other federal funds. Describe your organization's management structure and how the board of directors (if applicable), administrators, and staff members will support your program.

For Current Grantees Only

Describe how your AmeriCorps program is integrated and supported within your organization. Provide evidence that you have managed the program well, have performed satisfactorily, and have a record of compliance and responsiveness.

b) Sustainability (6 points)

Describe how the organization has secured, or describe an effective plan for securing, the financial and in-kind resources necessary to support program implementation and to demonstrate community stakeholder support. Describe your organization's experience raising funds to support service activities and initiatives. How will that contribute to long-term sustainability?

Outline your plans for ensuring that the impact of your program in the community is sustainable beyond the grant period. For example, you might describe how your community relationships will lead to community investment in the program's continued operation; how you will diversify your funding sources to include a wide range of stakeholders (such as state, local, and private sector funding); how your strategies for recruiting and supporting volunteers will sustain member activities after your AmeriCorps grant ends; or how the community will maintain your project once it is completed.

Who are your community stakeholders and partners? How are they involved in planning and implementing the proposed program? How will their involvement contribute to long-term sustainability?

c) Compliance and Accountability (11 points)

What are your plans for monitoring program and service sites for compliance? Describe how the organization has the ability and structure to ensure its and its subgrantees and/or service site locations' compliance with AmeriCorps rules and regulations including those related to prohibited activities. How will your organization ensure compliance with AmeriCorps rules and regulations at the grantee, subgrantee, and service site locations (if applicable)? How will your organization prevent and detect compliance issues in general and specifically as it relates to prohibited activities? How will your organization hold itself, subgrantees, and service site locations (if applicable) accountable if instances of risk or noncompliance are identified?

Special Circumstances

In applying the organizational capability criteria, reviewers may also take into account the following circumstances of individual organizations: The age of your organization and its rate of growth; and whether your organization serves a

resource-poor community, such as a rural or remote community, a community with a high poverty rate, or a community with a scarcity of philanthropic and corporate resources.

In considering applications, CNCS shall ensure meaningful representation of applicants from urban areas, applicants from rural areas, applicants of diverse sizes (as measured by the number of participants served), applicants from States, applicants from multi-state programs, and faith- and community-based organizations. If you feel that any of the circumstances stated above have an impact on your organizational capability that has not already been discussed, please describe the circumstance and how it affects your organizational capacity.

For Current Grantees and Former Grantees Only

Demonstrated Compliance: Describe any compliance issues and areas of weakness/risk identified during your last full year of program operation at your organization, your subgrantees, and service site locations (if applicable). If you, your subgrantees, and/or service site locations (if applicable) had compliance or areas of weakness/risk identified, provide an explanation and describe the corrective action taken and your plan for improvement.

Enrollment

If you enrolled less than 100% of the slots received during your last full year of program operation, provide an explanation, and describe your plan for improvement. Enrollment rate is calculated as slots filled plus refill slots filled divided by slots awarded.

Retention

If you were not able to retain all of your members during your last full year of program operation, provide an explanation, and describe your plan for improvement. While we recognize retention rates may vary among equally effective programs depending on the program model, we expect grantees to pursue the highest retention rate possible. Retention rate is calculated as the number of members exited with award (full or partial award) divided by the number of members enrolled.

3. **Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy (25 percent)**

In assessing how you will meet the criteria, reviewers will consider the quality of your response to the following:

For Cost-Reimbursement Grants:

a) Cost Effectiveness (13 points)

Explain how the budget is cost effective. Explain how the requested funds do not exceed the maximum cost per Member Service Year (MSY) or for existing programs, have not increased over previous years. The amount requested is a competitive factor in the selection process.

The cost per MSY will be automatically calculated once you enter your budget in eGrants.

The cost per MSY is determined by dividing the CNCS share of budgeted grant costs by the number of MSYs requested in the application. It does not include childcare or the cost of the education award. One MSY is equivalent to at least 1700 service hours, a full-time AmeriCorps position.

Cost effectiveness will be evaluated by analyzing cost per MSY in relation to your program design. Having a low cost per member is a competitive advantage. New applicants that submit with a low cost per MSY and recompeting applicants

that submit with a lower cost per MSY than previously funded may receive higher priority for funding. If you request above the maximum, you must justify your request. Please note that such requests are rarely approved.

All recompeting grantees requesting a higher cost per MSY than in the previous year must include a compelling rationale for this increased cost including why this increase could not be covered by grantee share. This applies even if the increased cost per MSY is less than the maximum or if the increase is due to increased costs associated with the grant.

Please list all sources of organizational funding and what percent the proposed AmeriCorps project represents in your budget. If you have received support from CNCS during the last five years, please specify what type of support you received. What percentage of your total operational budget does your proposed funding request from CNCS represent?

Demonstrate how your program has or will obtain diverse resources for program implementation. Indicate how much funding your program needs from non-CNCS sources to support the project. Indicate the non-CNCS resource commitments (in-kind and cash) that you have obtained to date and the sources of these funds. Indicate what additional commitments you plan to secure, and how you will secure them.

Discuss how your program is a cost effective approach for addressing the community need(s) identified in your application. Consider the total costs and benefits of the program and, to the extent possible, document the costs and benefits. Compare the cost effectiveness of the program with the costs and benefits of alternative models or approaches (if available), and demonstrate how your program model is most cost effective. For further information on cost effectiveness analysis, see OMB's "Circular No. A-94 Revised" (http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars_a094). Programs will be evaluated based upon their ability to maximize their return on investment; applicants with a program design that achieves equal results at a lower cost will be advantaged over programs that achieve similar results at a higher cost.

Special Circumstances

In applying the cost-effectiveness criteria, CNCS may take into account the following circumstances of individual programs: program age, the extent to which your program expands to new sites; whether your program or project is located in a resource-poor community, such as a rural or remote community, a community with a high poverty rate, or a community with a scarcity of corporate or philanthropic resources; whether your program or project is located in a high-cost, economically distressed community, measured by applying appropriate Federal and State data; and whether the reasonable and necessary costs of your program or project are higher because they are associated with engaging or serving difficult-to-reach populations, or achieving greater program impact as evidenced through performance measures and program evaluation.

If you feel that any of the circumstances stated above have an impact on your organizational capability that has not already been discussed, please describe the circumstance and how it affects your cost effectiveness.

For Current Grantees Only

Describe the extent to which you are increasing your share of costs to meet or exceed program goals, or the extent to which you are proposing deeper impact or broader reach without a commensurate increase in Federal funds.

b) Budget Adequacy (12 points)

Explain how the budget is clear, reasonable, , and in alignment with the program narrative. Discuss the adequacy of your budget to support your program design including how it is sufficient to support your program activities and desired outputs and outcomes. Please explain how the cost of criminal history checks and FBI checks, if applicable, are covered if they are not included in the budget.

For EAPs and other Fixed Amount Grants Only

The extent to which a current grantee is increasing its share of costs will not be considered in assessing a fixed-amount application. However, all other indicators described under Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy apply and it will be weighted 25% of the total application.

Discuss how you will raise the additional resources you will need to manage and operate an AmeriCorps program beyond the fixed amount. Identify the total amount you have budgeted to operate the program, including the fixed-amount from the CNCS and grantee share and how your program determined that amount. Keep in mind that full-time AmeriCorps program costs include expenditures for the AmeriCorps living allowance, health care, and criminal history checks.

Education Award Programs are not required to pay living allowances or cover health care for less-than-full-time members, but must conduct criminal history checks.

Discuss how your program is a cost effective approach for addressing the community need(s) identified in your application. Consider the total costs and benefits of the program and, to the extent possible, document the costs and benefits. Compare the cost effectiveness of the program with the costs and benefits of alternative models or approaches (if available), and demonstrate how your program model is most cost effective. For further information on cost effectiveness analysis, see OMB's "Circular No. A-94 Revised" (http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars_a094). Programs will be evaluated based upon their ability to maximize their return on investment; applicants with a program design that achieves equal results at a lower cost will be advantaged over programs that achieve similar results at a higher cost.

You will not be required to track or report on your expenditures. However, you must demonstrate that you have planned for total costs. Reviewers will assess the adequacy of your plan to secure resources to support your program design.

c) Evaluation Summary or Plan

If you are competing for the first time, please enter N/A in the Evaluation Summary or Plan field since it pertains only to recompeting grantees. If you are recompeting for AmeriCorps funds for the first time you must submit a summary of your evaluation efforts or plan to date in the Evaluation Summary or Plan field in eGrants. If you are recompeting for a subsequent time, you must submit your evaluation report according to the instructions in V. E., below. An evaluation report may be submitted in place of an evaluation plan.

Your evaluation requirements differ depending on the amount of your grant, as described in the AmeriCorps Regulations, Section 2522.710:

- If you are a State sub-grantee (other than an Education Award Program grantee), and your average annual CNCS program grant is $500,000 or more, you must arrange for an external evaluation of your program, and you must submit the evaluation with any application to CNCS for competitive funds as required in §2522.730 of this subpart.
- If you are a State sub-grantee whose average annual CNCS program grant is less than $500,000, or an Education Award Program grantee, you must conduct an internal or an external evaluation of your program, and you must submit the evaluation with any application to CNCS for competitive funds as required in §2522.730 of this subpart.

A formula program will be considered a recompeting application, if it satisfies the CNCS definition of "same project," below, and has been funded in formula for at least one three-year cycle. If your project satisfies the definition of same project, and you have completed one three-year cycle, you will be required to submit an evaluation plan, summary, or evaluation report when you recompete for the first time. If your project does not satisfy the definition, it will be considered new and will not be required to submit an evaluation plan, summary, or completed evaluation.

Two projects will be considered the same if they:

- Address the same issue areas
- Address the same priorities
- Address the same objectives
- Serve the same target communities and population
- Utilize the same sites
- Use the same program staff and members

d) Amendment Justification

Enter N/A. This field will be used if you are awarded a grant and need to amend it.

e) Clarification Information

Enter N/A. This field will be used to enter information that requires clarification in the post-review period. Please clearly label new information added during clarification with the date.

f) Continuation Changes

Enter N/A. This field will be used to enter changes in your narratives in your continuation requests.

IV. Performance Measures

Applicants must check the relevant boxes in the Performance Measure tab in eGrants in order to be considered for CNCS' assessment of the strategic considerations and Special Initiatives.

Grant Characteristics:

- AmeriCorps member Population: Communities of Color
- AmeriCorps member Population: Low-income individuals
- AmeriCorps member Population: Native Americans
- AmeriCorps member Population: New Americans
- AmeriCorps member Population: Older Americans
- AmeriCorps member Population: People with Disabilities
- AmeriCorps member Population: Rural Residents
- AmeriCorps member Population: Veterans, Active Military, or their Families
- AmeriCorps member Population: Economically disadvantaged young adults/Opportunity Youth
- AmeriCorps member Population: None of the above
- Geographic Focus: Rural

- Geographic Focus: Urban
- Encore Program
- Faith- and community-based organizations
- Governor and Mayor Initiative
- SIG/Priority Schools

All applicants must submit performance measures with their application. See Attachment B for instructions for entering performance measures.

For more information about Performance Measures go to: http://www.nationalserviceresources.org/star/ac

For more information about the National Performance Measures go to: http://www.nationalserviceresources.org/national-performance-measures/home.

Performance Measure Instructions for Capacity Building, Disaster, Economic Opportunity, Education, Environmental Stewardship, Healthy Futures, and Veterans and Military Families, and the SIG eligible schools have been posted on: http://www.americorps.gov/for_organizations/funding/nofa_detail.asp?tbl_nofa_id=98

State Required Performance Measures

The measures below must be submitted separately to Serve DC in a Microsoft Word document with the full application. Do not include in eGrants. These measures do not need to be aligned.

- One performance measure relating to AmeriCorps Member Development
- One performance measure relating to Non-AmeriCorps Member Volunteer Generation

V. Documents

In addition to the application submitted in eGrants, you are required to provide your evaluation, labor union concurrence (if necessary, see B., below) a federally-approved indirect cost agreement, and a letter of endorsement from the Mayor (if participating in the Mayor Initiative) via the e-mail listed in the NOFO, as part of your application. After you have submitted the documents, change their status in eGrants from the default "Not Sent" to the applicable status "Sent," "Not Applicable," or "Already on File at CNCS".

A. Evaluation

Submit any completed evaluation plan or report as described in E., below. Select Evaluation and select "Sent" once you have submitted a completed evaluation plan or report. If an evaluation is required, you must submit a copy at the time of application even if you think CNCS may already have it on file.

B. Labor Union Concurrence

1. If a program applicant:
   a) Proposes to serve as the placement site for AmeriCorps members
   b) Has employees engaged in the same or substantially similar work as that proposed to be carried out by AmeriCorps members

c) Those employees are represented by a local labor organization, then the application must include the written concurrence of the local labor organization representing those employees. Written concurrence can be in the form of a letter or e-mail from the local union leadership.

2. If a program applicant:

a) Proposes to place AmeriCorps members at sites where they will be engaged in the same or substantially similar work as employees represented by a local labor organization, then the applicant must submit a written description of how it will ensure that:

- AmeriCorps members won't be placed in positions that were recently occupied by paid staff.
- No AmeriCorps member will be placed into a position for which a recently resigned or discharged employee has recall rights as a result of a collective bargaining agreement, from which a recently resigned or discharged employee was removed as a result of a reduction in force, or from which a recently resigned/discharged employee is on leave or strike.

For the purposes of this section, "program applicant" includes any applicant to CNCS or Serve DC, as well as any entity applying for assistance or approved national service positions through a CNCS grantee or subgrantee.

If either 1) or 2) above applies to you, please select "Enter New," name the new document 1) "Labor Union Concurrence," or 2) "Displacement Assurance" and select "Sent."

C. Delinquent on Federal Debt

Any applicant that checks Yes to the question on federal debt delinquency must submit a complete explanation.

D. Submission Instructions for Evaluations, Labor Union Concurrence, Indirect Cost Rate Agreements

Please submit the required documents to sarah.watkins@dc.gov with your applicant package. **This information must be received by 5:00 p.m. December 6, 2012.**

Please use an alternative service to the U.S. Postal Service to send hard copy. U.S. Postal Service deliveries to government agencies often are delayed and sometimes damaged due to security measures. Attach a hard copy of the program's SF424 Facesheet to each document so that we know which application corresponds to each document. Documentation submitted without the SF 424 will not be considered.

VI. Budget Instructions

For Fixed-Amount grants, including EAPs: Use the Budget Instructions for Fixed-Amount applicants (Attachment F) and the Budget Worksheet (Attachment G) to prepare your budget.

A. Match Requirements

Program requirements, including requirements on match are located in the AmeriCorps regulations and summarized below.

Table 2: Match Requirements in the AmeriCorps Regulations

Competition	Match Requirement
State Competitive including Professional Corps	Minimum grantee share is 24% of program costs for the first three years. Overall grantee share of total program costs increases gradually beginning in Year 4 to 50% by the tenth year of funding and any year thereafter.
State EAP Fixed-amount Grants	There are no specific match requirements for fixed-amount grants. Grantees pay all program costs over $800 per MSY provided by CNCS.
Professional Corps Fixed-Amount Grants	There are no specific match requirements for fixed-amount grants. Grantees pay all program costs over the $2,000 per MSY provided by CNCS.
Stipended Fixed-amount Grants	There are no specific match requirements for full-time Fixed-amount grants. Grantees pay all program costs over the maximum $13,000 per MSY provided by CNCS

- Grantees are required to meet an overall matching rate that increases over time. You have the flexibility to meet the overall match requirements in any of the three budget areas, as long as the minimum match of 24% for the first three years, and the increasing minimums in years thereafter, are maintained. See 45 CFR §§ 2521.35–2521.90 for the specific regulations.
- If you are applying for the first time, you must match with cash or in-kind contributions at least 24% of the project's total Operating Costs (Section I) plus Member Costs (Section II) plus Administrative Costs (Section III). If you are recompeting, please see 45 CFR §§ 2521.40-2521.95 for the match schedule.
- The acceptable sources of matching funds are federal, state, local, private sector, and/or other funds in accordance with applicable AmeriCorps requirements.
- In Section III of the budget, enter a brief description of the source of match. Identify each match source separately. Include dollar amount, the match classification (cash, in-kind, or Not Available) and the source type (Private, State/Local, Federal, Other or Not Available). Define all acronyms the first time they are used.
- See Attachment I for instructions for applying for the Alternative Match Schedule.

NOTE: The CNCS legislation permits the use of non-CNCS federal funds as match for the grantee share of the budget. Please discuss your intention of using federal funds to match an AmeriCorps grant with the other agency prior to submitting your application. Section 121(e)(5) of the National Community Service Act requires that grantees that use other federal funds as match for an AmeriCorps grant report the amount and source of these funds to CNCS. If you use other federal funds as match, you must ensure you can meet the requirements and purpose of both grants. The Federal Financial Report (FFR) will be used to collect the federal match data. Grantees that use federal funds as match will be required to report the sources and amounts on the FFR.

B. Preparing Your Budget

Your proposed budget should be sufficient to allow you to perform the tasks described in your narrative. Reviewers will consider the information you provide in this section in their assessment of the Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy selection criterion.

Follow the detailed budget instructions in Attachment D to prepare your budget. We recommend that you prepare your budget in the same order as indicated in the Budget Worksheets in Attachments D and E.

As you enter your detailed budget information, eGrants will automatically populate a budget summary and budget narrative report. Prior to submission be sure to review the budget checklist (Attachment H) to ensure your budget is compliant. In addition, eGrants will perform a limited compliance check to validate the budget. If it finds any compliance issues you will receive a warning and/or error messages. You must resolve all errors before you can submit your budget.

As you prepare your budget:

- All the amounts you request must be defined for a particular purpose. Do not include miscellaneous, contingency, or other undefined budget amounts.
- Itemize each cost and present the basis for all calculations in the form of an equation.
- Do not include unallowable expenses, e.g., entertainment costs (which include food and beverage costs) unless they are justified as an essential component of an activity.
- Do not include fractional amounts (cents).

Please refer to the relevant OMB Circulars on allowable costs for further guidance. The OMB circulars are online at www.whitehouse.gov/OMB/circulars:

- A-21: Cost Principles for Educational Institutions, 2 CFR 220
- A-87: Cost Principles for State, Local, and Indian Tribal Governments, 2 CFR 225
- A-122: Cost Principles for Non Profit Organizations, 2 CFR 230

Programs must comply with all applicable federal laws, regulations, and OMB circulars for grant management, allowable costs, and audits, including providing audits to the A-133 clearinghouse if expending over $500,000 in federal funds, as required in OMB Circular A-133.

VII. Review, Authorize, and Submit

eGrants requires that you review and verify your entire application before submitting, by completing the following sections in eGrants:

- Review
- Authorize
- Assurances
- Certifications
- Verify
- Submit

Read the Authorization, Assurances, and Certifications carefully (Attachment L). The person who authorizes the application must be the applicant's Authorized Representative or his/her designee and must have an active eGrants account to sign these documents electronically. An Authorized Representative is the person in your organization authorized to accept and commit funds on behalf of the organization. A copy of the governing body's authorization for this official representative to sign must be on file in the applicant's office.

Be sure to check your entire application to ensure that there are no errors before submitting it. eGrants will also generate a list of errors if there are sections that need to be corrected prior to submission when you verify the application. If someone else is acting in the role of the applicant's authorized representative, that person must log into his/her eGrants account and proceed with Authorize and Submit. After signing off on the Authorization, Assurances, and Certifications, his/her name will override any previous signatory that may appear and show on the application as the Authorized Representative.

NOTE: Anyone within your organization who will be entering information in the application at any point during application preparation and submission in the eGrants system must have their own eGrants account. Individuals may 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."

Application Instructions: Continuation Requests

The following instructions for submitting a continuation request apply only to programs that are currently in their first or second year of operation within a three-year grant cycle. If your program is currently in the final year of its grant cycle, you must apply using the application instructions for new and recompeting programs. In addition, if you are in year two or three of a cost-reimbursement grant three-year cycle you need to submit a new application to participate in the fixed-amount pilot; you cannot continue your existing three-year project period and switch from cost-reimbursement to fixed-amount. CNCS and Serve DC reserves the right to consider your continuation request if your fixed-amount application is not funded.

Continuation funding is contingent upon satisfactory performance, a sub-grantee's demonstrated capacity to manage a grant and comply with grant requirements, and availability of Congressional appropriations. CNCS and Serve DC reserves the right to adjust the amount of an additional grant award in subsequent years, or elect not to continue funding, on these bases.

When to Submit Your Continuation Request

The date for the submission of continuation requests is December 6, 2012 at 5:00pm.

How to Submit Your Continuation Request

- Submit your continuation request in eGrants.
- Click Continuation/Renewal on your eGrants home page. You will be shown a list of grants that are eligible to be continued. Select the grant you wish to continue. Make sure you select the correct one. Do not start a new application. The system will copy your most recently awarded application.
- Edit your continuation application as directed in the continuation request instructions below. When you have completed your work, click the SUBMIT button.

Be sure you also review the NOFA when preparing your request. If you have questions about the content of your continuation request, please contact your Serve DC Program Officer.

What to Include in Your Continuation Request:

I. Applicant Info and Application Info

Update the Applicant Info and Application Info Sections in eGrants if necessary. Note in the Continuation Changes field that you have updated the Applicant Info or Application Info Section(s).

II. Narrative (Narratives Section)

Your original application will appear in the Executive Summary and in the narrative sections Rationale and Approach, Organizational Capability, Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy, Evaluation Summary or Plan, Amendment Justification, Clarification Information, and Continuation Changes, as appropriate.

Do not enter continuation changes in the original narrative fields. If you are not proposing changes to your continuation request, simply leave your original narrative as it is, and enter No Changes in the Continuation Changes field.

If you have changes in any of these areas, please document them in the Continuation Changes field in eGrants. Clearly differentiate Year 2 and Year 3 continuation changes by using headings that label these as such. Continuation changes may include, but are not limited to:

- New site locations
- Expansion to new sites, including the need that will be met in expansion communities, activities of expansion members, and organizational capacity to support the expansion
- Any changes in the budget
- Any increase in requested cost per MSY. This applies even if the increased cost per MSY is less than the maximum or if the increase is due to increased costs set by CNCS

Plans for improving enrollment, retention, or other compliance issues. If you enrolled less than 100% of slots received during your last full year of program operation, provide an explanation, and describe your plan for improvement in the Continuation Changes field.

If you were not able to retain all of your members during your last full year of program operation, provide an explanation, and describe your plan for improvement in the Continuation Changes field. We recognize retention rates may vary among equally effective programs depending on the program model. We expect grantees to pursue the highest retention rate possible.

If you are requesting to conduct new activities or additional MSYs, these also need to be reflected in the budget and the performance measures. The page limit for the Continuation Changes field is 6 pages, as the pages print out from eGrants.

III. Performance Measures (Performance Measures Section)

Applicants must check the relevant boxes in the Performance Measure tab in eGrants.

Grant Characteristics:

- AmeriCorps member Population: Communities of Color
- AmeriCorps member Population: Low-income individuals
- AmeriCorps member Population: Native Americans
- AmeriCorps member Population: New Americans
- AmeriCorps member Population: Older Americans
- AmeriCorps member Population: People with Disabilities
- AmeriCorps member Population: Rural Residents
- AmeriCorps member Population: Veterans, Active Military, or their Families
- AmeriCorps member Population: Economically disadvantaged young adults/Opportunity Youth
- AmeriCorps member Population: None of the above
- Geographic Focus: Rural
- Geographic Focus: Urban

- Encore Program
- Faith- and community-based organizations
- Governor and Mayor Initiative
- SIG/Priority Schools

Your performance measures are copied from your previous year's application into your continuation request. If you made changes to your program, such as adding or changing grant-funded activities, or requesting additional slots or MSYs, you may need to revise your performance measures, To revise performance measures, "View/Edit" the performance measures that copy over from your original application, or add new performance measures. Note in the Continuation Changes field that you have updated your performance measures.

IV. Budget (Budget Section)

Your budget from the previous year's application is copied into your continuation request so you can make the necessary adjustments. Revise your detailed budget for the upcoming year. Incorporate any required CNCS increases, such as an increase to the member living allowance into your budget. Justify any increases not required by CNCS. CNCS expects that the Cost per MSY for continuation applicants will decrease or remain the same. Any increase in Cost per MSY must be justified in the Continuation Changes field.

Enter the following budget information:

- Section I: Program Operating Costs, I. Other Program Operating Costs: Please put all your program's expenses in one line entitled Program Costs.
- Section II: Enter all member costs per the Instructions in Attachment D.
- Section III: Enter administrative/indirect costs per the Instructions in Attachment D.

Source of Match

In the "Source of Match" field that appears at the end of Budget Section III, enter a brief description of the Source of Match, the amount, the match classification (Cash, In-kind, or Not Available) and Match Source (State/Local, Federal, Private, Other) for your entire match. Define any acronyms the first time they are used.

V. Increasing Grantee Overall Share of Total Budgeted Costs

Grantees are required to meet an overall matching rate that increases over time. You have the flexibility to meet the overall match requirements in any of the three budget areas, as long as the minimum match of 24% for the first three years, and the increasing minimums in years thereafter, are maintained. See 45 CFR §§ 2521.35–2521.90 for the specific regulations.

See Attachment I for instructions for applying for the Alternative Match Schedule.

ATTACHMENT A: Facesheet Instructions (eGrants Applicant Info and Application Info Sections)

Modified Standard Form 424 (Rev. 11/02 to conform to eGrants)

This form is required for applications submitted for federal assistance.

Item #

1. Filled in for your convenience.
2. Self-explanatory.
3. a. and 3. b. are for state use only (if applicable).
4. Item 4. a: Leave blank.
   Item 4. b: If you are a recipient in year 2 or 3 of an already-awarded grant, enter the grant number, otherwise, leave blank.
5. Enter the following information:
   a. The complete name of the organization that will be legally responsible for the grant, not the name of the organizational unit within the legally responsible organization. (For example, indicate "National University" instead of "Liberal Arts Department.")
   b. Your organization's DUNS number (received from Dun and Bradstreet). This is a required field.
   c. The name of the primary organizational unit that will undertake the assistance activity, if different from 5. a.
   d. Your organization's complete address with the 9 digit ZIP+ 4 code.
   e. The name and contact information of the project director or other person to contact on matters related to this application.
6. Enter your Employer Identification Number (EIN) as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service.
7. Item 7. a.: Enter the appropriate letter in the box.
   Item 7. b.: Please enter the characteristic(s) that best describe your organization.

	K-12 Education		**Nonprofit Organizations**
1	School (K-12)	11	Community-Based Organization
2	Local Education Agency	12	Faith-Based Organization
3	State Education Agency	13	Chamber of Commerce/ Business Association
		14	Community Action Agency/ Program
	Higher Education	15	Service/Civic Organization
4	Vocational/Technical College	16	Volunteer Management Organization
5	Community College	17	Self-Incorporated Senior Corps Project
6	2-year College	18	Statewide Association
7	4-year College	19	National Non-Profit (Multistate)
8	Hispanic Serving College or University	20	Local Affiliate of National Organization
9	Historically Black College or University	21	Tribal Organization (Non-government)
10	Tribally Controlled College or University	22	Other Native American Organization
	Government		
23	Local Government-Municipal	28	Other State Government
24	Health Department	29	Tribal Government Entity
25	Law Enforcement Agency	30	Area Agency on Aging
26	Governor's Office	31	U.S. Territory
27	State Commission/Alternative Administrative Entity		

8. Check the appropriate box for type of application and enter the appropriate letter(s) in the lower boxes:
   - Check "New" if your organization has never held a competitive AmeriCorps State or National grant before. If your organization had a state formula grant, check "New."
   - Check "New Application/Previous Grantee" if your organization has held an AmeriCorps State or National grant in the past and this application is for a new grant.
   - Check "Continuation" if you are a grantee applying for an additional year of funding within an existing multi-year grant project period. AmeriCorps State and National grants are typically awarded for three-year periods.
9. Filled in for your convenience.

10. Use the following list of CFDA (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance) numbers for the applicable program listing, or other source if so instructed in the Notice: 94.006 AmeriCorps State and National.

11. Enter the project title.
    a. When applying for a “Continuation” or “Amendment” applicants should use the same title as used for their existing grant program. When applying as a “New Applicant/Previous Grantee” if the application is for re-funding of a previous grant program, use the same title as was used in the prior grant program if appropriate (i.e., if the program is unchanged).
    b. Enter the name of the program initiative, if any, as provided in the instructions corresponding to the NOFA for which you are applying; otherwise, leave blank.

12. List only the largest political entities affected (e.g., counties, and cities). Please include the two-letter abbreviation with both letters capitalized for each state where you plan to operate. Separate each two letter state abbreviation with a comma. For city or county information, please follow each one with the two-letter capitalized state abbreviation.

13. (See item 8) “New” application or “New application/previous grantee:” Enter the dates for the proposed three-year project period. “Continuation” or “Amendment” application: Enter the dates of the approved three-year project period.

    Performance Period: this appears only in eGrants, and is for the use of staff only.

14. Leave blank, staff use only.

15. Estimated Funding. Check the appropriate box to indicate the grant year for which funding is being requested. Enter the amount requested or to be contributed **during this budget period** on each appropriate line, as shown below. The value of in-kind contributions should be included in these amounts, as applicable. For revisions (See item 8), if the action will result in a dollar change to an existing award, include **only** the amount of the change. For decreases, enclose the amounts in parentheses.

    a. **Federal**: The total amount of federal funds being requested in the budget.
    b. **Applicant**: The total amount of the applicant share as entered in the budget.
    c. **State**: The amount of the applicant share that is coming from state sources.
    d. **Local**: The amount of the applicant share that is coming from local governmental sources (e.g., city, county and other municipal sources).
    e. **Other**: The amount of the applicant share that is coming from non-governmental sources.
    f. **Program Income**: The amount of the applicant share that is coming from income generated by programmatic activities (i.e., use of the additive option where program income is used to increase the size of the program).
    g. **Total**: The applicant's estimate of the total funding amount for the agreement.

16. Pre-filled for your convenience. This program is excluded from coverage by Executive Order 12372.

17. Check the appropriate box. This question applies to the applicant organization, not the person who signs as the authorized representative. Categories of debt include delinquent audit allowances, loans, and taxes. If Yes, attach an explanation.

18. The person who signs this form must be the applicant’s authorized representative. A copy of the governing body’s authorization for this official representative to sign must be on file in the applicant’s office.

NOTE: Falsification or concealment of a material fact, or submission of false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations to any department or agency of the United States Government may result in a fine of not more than $10,000 or imprisonment for not more than five (5) years, or both. (18 U.S.C. § 1001)

APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

Standard Form 424 (Rev. 2-2007) Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION:
☒ Application ☒ Non-Construction

2. a. DATE SUBMITTED:	**3. a. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE:**	3. b. STATE APPLICATION IDENTIFIER:
2. b. APPLICATION IDENTIFIER:	**4. a. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY:**	4. b. FEDERAL IDENTIFIER: (Staff Only)

5. APPLICANT INFORMATION

5. a. LEGAL NAME: 5. b. ORGANIZATIONAL DUNS: 5. c. ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT (DEPARTMENT/DIVISION):	5. e. NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO BE CONTACTED ON MATTERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION *(give area code):*
5. d. ADDRESS *(give street address, city, county, state and zip code):* STREET: CITY: COUNTY: STATE: COUNTRY:	NAME: TELEPHONE NUMBER: ( ) - FAX NUMBER: ( ) - EMAIL: INTERNET E-MAIL ADDRESS: WEBSITE:
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER *(EIN):*	**7. a. TYPE OF APPLICANT: *(enter appropriate letter in box)*** A. State H. Independent School District B. County I. State Controlled Institution of Higher Learning C. Municipal J. Private University D. Township K. Indian Tribe E. Interstate L. Individual F. Intermunicipal M. Profit Organization G. Special District N. Private Non-Profit Organization O. Federal Government P. HQ Internal Organizations Q. State Education Agency R. Territory S. Other (specify)_____ 7. b. CNCS APPLICANT CHARACTERISTICS *Enter appropriate codes:*
8. TYPE OF APPLICATION ☐ NEW ☐ NEW/PREVIOUS GRANTEE ☐ CONTINUATION ☐ REVISION If Revision, enter appropriate letter(s) in box(es): A. AUGMENTATION B. BUDGET REVISION: C. NO COST EXTENSION to _____ *(enter date)* E. OTHER (*specify below*) _____	**9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY:** Corporation for National and Community Service
10. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER:	**11. a. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT:**
12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT *(List Cities, Counties, States, etc.):*	11.b. CNCS PROGRAM INITIATIVE (IF ANY):

13. PROPOSED PROJECT: START DATE: ENDING DATE: **14. Performance Period (Staff Use Only_**

15. ESTIMATED FUNDING: Check applicable box: Yr 1: ☐ Yr.2: ☐ Yr.

a. FEDERAL	$
b. APPLICANT	$
c. STATE	$
d. LOCAL	$
e. OTHER	$
f. PROGRAM INCOME	$
g. TOTAL	$

16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?
a. YES. THIS PREAPPLICATION/APPLICATION WAS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESSS FOR REVIEW ON:
DATE _____
b. NO. ☒ PROGRAM IS NOT COVERED BY E.O. 12372

17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT?
☐ YES If "Yes," attach an explanation. ☐ NO

18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION/PREAPPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT, THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DULY AUTHORIZED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT WILL COMPLY WITH THE ATTACHED ASSURANCES IF THE ASSISTANCE IS AWARDED.

a. TYPED NAME OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE:	b. TITLE:	c. TELEPHONE NUMBER:
d. SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE:		e. DATE SIGNED:

ATTACHMENT B: Performance Measures Instructions for New & Recompeting Applicants (eGrants Performance Measures Section)

eGrants Performance Measures Module Instructions

About the Performance Measures Module

In the performance measures module, you will:

- Provide information about your program's connection to CNCS focus areas and objectives
- Show MSY and slot allocations
- Create one or more aligned performance measure
- Set targets and describe data collection plans for your performance measures

Home Page

- To start the module, click the "Begin" button on the Home Page.
- As you proceed through the module, the Home Page will summarize your work and provide links to edit the parts of the module you have completed. You may also navigate sections of the module using the tab feature at the top of each page.
- Once you have started the module, clicking "Continue Working" will return you to the tab you were on when you last closed the module.
- To edit the interventions, objectives, MSYs, and slot allocations for your application, click the "Edit Objectives/MSYs/Slots" button.
- After you have created at least one aligned performance measure, the Home Page will display a chart summarizing your measures. To edit a performance measure, click the "Edit" button. To delete a measure, click "Delete." To create a new performance measure, click the "Add New Performance Measure" button.

Objectives Tab

An expandable list of CNCS focus areas appears on this tab. When you click on a focus area, a list of objectives from the CNCS strategic plan appears. A list of common interventions appears under each objective.

- First, click on a focus area.
- Then, click on an objective and select all interventions that are part of your program design.

  Interventions are the activities that members and volunteers will carry out to address the problem(s) identified in the application. Select "other" if one of your program's interventions does not appear on the list. Repeat these actions for each of your program's focus areas. Select "other" for your focus area and/or objective if your program activities do not fall within one of the CNCS focus areas or objectives.
- Choose your program's primary focus area from the drop-down list. Only the focus areas that correspond to the objectives you selected above appear in the list.
- Next, select the primary intervention within your primary focus area. You will be required to create an aligned performance measure that contains your primary intervention.

You may select a secondary focus area and a secondary intervention. The primary and secondary focus area may be the same if you have more than one intervention within the focus area.

MSYs/Slots Tab

On this tab, you will enter information about the allocation of MSYs and slots across the focus areas and objectives you have selected.

- Begin by entering the total MSYs for your program.
- Next, enter the number of MSYs your program will allocate to each objective.

Only the objectives that were selected on the previous tab appear in the MSY chart. If some of your program's objectives are not represented in the chart, return to the previous tab and select additional objectives. The MSY chart must show how all your program's resources are allocated.

As you enter MSYs into the MSY column of the chart, the corresponding percentage of MSYs will calculate automatically. When you have finished entering your MSYs, the total percentage of MSYs in the chart must be 100%. The total number of MSYs in the chart must equal the number of MSYs in your budget (+/- 1 MSY).

- In the slots column, enter the number of members that will be assigned to each objective.

  Some members may perform services across more than one objective. If this is the case, allocate these members' slots to all applicable objectives. For example, if one member works on both school readiness and K-12 success, allocate one slot to each of these objectives. It is acceptable for slots in this table to exceed total slots requested in the application due to double counting members' service across multiple objectives.

Performance Measure Tab

This tab allows you to create sets of aligned performance measures for all the grant activities you intend to measure. You must create at least one aligned performance measure that includes your primary intervention. You may create additional aligned performance measures.

- To create an aligned performance measure, begin by selecting an objective. The list of objectives includes those you selected on the objectives tab.
- Provide a short, descriptive title for your performance measure.
- Briefly describe the problem your program will address in this performance measure.
- Select the intervention(s) to be delivered by members and member-supported volunteers.

  The list of interventions includes the ones you selected previously for this objective. Select only the interventions that will lead to the outcomes of this aligned performance measure. If you selected "other" as an intervention and wish to include an applicant-determined intervention in your aligned performance measure, click "add user intervention" and enter a one or two word description of the intervention.
- Select output(s) for your aligned performance measure.

  The output list includes only the National Performance Measure outputs that correspond to the objectives you have selected. If you do not wish to select National Performance Measures, you may create an applicant-determined output by clicking "Add User Output."
- Select outcome(s).

  If you have selected a National Performance Measures output with a corresponding National Performance Measures outcome, these outcomes will be available to select. If you have not selected a National Performance Measures output, or if there is no corresponding outcome, create an applicant-determined outcome by clicking "Add User Outcome."
- For Capacity Building National Performance Measures, you may select optional end outcomes. Complete the corresponding drop-down box for any end outcome selected.
- Enter the number of MSYs and slots your program will allocate to achieving the outcomes you have selected in this performance measure.

  Because programs are not required to measure all grant activities, the number you enter does not have to correspond to the MSY chart you created on the MSY/Slots tab; however, the total number of MSYs across all performance measures within a single objective cannot exceed the total number of MSYs previously allocated to that objective. Slots may be double-counted across performance measures, but MSYs may not.
- Click "next" to proceed to the data collection tab.

  Later you can return to this tab to create additional aligned performance measures.

Data Collection Tab

On this tab, you will provide additional information about your interventions, instruments and plan for data collection.

- Describe the design and dosage (frequency, intensity, duration) of the interventions you have selected.
- Expand each output and outcome and enter data collection information.
- Select the data collection method you will use to measure the output or outcome.
- Describe the specific instrument(s) you will use to measure the output or outcome. Include the title of the instrument(s), a brief description of what it measures and how it will be administered, and details about its reliability and validity if applicable.
- Enter the target number for your output or outcome. Targets must be numbers, not percents.
- For applicant-determined outputs and outcomes, enter the unit of measure for your target. The unit of measure should describe the population you intend to count (children, miles, etc.). Do not enter percents or member hours as units of measure.
- After entering data collection information for all outputs and outcomes, click "Mark Complete." You will return to the Performance Measure tab. If you wish to create another performance measure, repeat the process. If you would like to continue to the next step of the module, click "Next."

Summary Tab

The summary tab shows all of the information you have entered in the module.

- To print a summary of all performance measures, click "Print PDF for all Performance Measures."
- To print one performance measure, expand the measure and click "Print This Measure."
- Click "Edit Performance Measure" to return to the Performance Measure tab.
- Click "Edit Data Collection" to return to the Data Collection tab.
- "Click Validate Performance Measures" to validate this module prior to submitting your application.

ATTACHMENT C: Performance Measures Instructions for Continuation Applicants (eGrants Performance Measures Section)

AmeriCorps Performance Measures

To begin entering performance measures, from your eGrants grant application page select Performance Measures.

All applicants must complete Steps 1-6. Then, if you are:

- Entering applicant-determined performance measures, follow steps 7A-18A.
- Opting in to the National Performance Measures, follow steps 7B-17B.

Step 1: Select Characteristics
To begin, click one or more boxes in the "Grant Characteristics"

Step 2: Select Focus Areas
Select the Focus Area in which your primary service activity fits. You may also select "Capacity Building" if this is a significant area of member activity. If your primary service activity does not fit into a Focus Area, select "Other" and skip to Step 5. You may select multiple Focus Areas to represent significant areas of AmeriCorps member activity. Do not include multiple Focus Areas to describe the same activity. Select the Focus Area that best describes the activity.

Step 3: Choose whether to Opt-in to National Performance Measures
When you select a Focus Area, eGrants automatically pre-populates the selection "No" in response to the question "Will you be using a national performance measure related to this Focus Area?"

- Leave this selection as "No" if you do not want to participate in the National Performance Measures for that Focus Area.
- Change the selection to "Yes" if you want to opt-in to the National Performance Measures for that Focus Area.

You must consult the "National Performance Measures Instructions" to determine which performance measures are appropriate for your program: http://www.americorps.gov/for_organizations/funding/nofa_detail.asp?tbl_nofa_id=91. You may also find resources at this link to be helpful: http://www.nationalserviceresources.org/national-performance-measures/home. If you selected "Other" as your only Focus Area, you will skip this step as there are no National Performance Measures for "Other."

Step 4: Complete the MSY Chart(s)
For each Focus Area selected, complete a Member Service Years (MSY) Chart. If you have selected Capacity Building or Other, complete an MSY Chart for these selections as well. Click the "view/edit MSY Slots" orange link. There are two sets of numbers to enter in each MSY Chart. First, for each slot type, enter the number of members that will be providing service in that Focus Area.

Second, enter the percent of time that members of each slot type will spend on activities in that Focus Area. Use whole numbers to represent the percent. Do not use a % or a decimal. (For example, for 100 percent, type "100.") eGrants will calculate the total MSYs for each slot type, then aggregate the MSYs for the entire chart in the "Total MSYs Devoted to Priority" field at the bottom of the chart.

Note that MSYs in each category should be mutually exclusive. Do not double count MSYs. The total MSYs across all Focus Areas, Capacity Building, and Other should not exceed the total MSYs requested in the budget.

Step 5: Add a Service Category
For each Focus Area selected above, as well as Capacity Building and Other, you must select a Primary Service Category. Click the "Add a Service Category" orange link. Select your Focus Area from the drop-down menu and click "Go" (See Attachement B for a list of service categories.) Select your Service Category from the options provided in the pop-up menu. The Service Category you select will determine the Indicator drop-down options in later steps.

If this is the first or only Service Category you select, eGrants will automatically check "Primary" to indicate this is your primary activity. To select more than one Service Category, simply click the "add a service category" link. Only one Service Category should be indicated as the primary per Focus Area. You may add additional service categories if appropriate for your program design. Additional service categories may be labeled as "Secondary."

Step 6: Add a Performance Measure

You must create at least one aligned set of Performance Measures representing your Primary Service Activity, which is achieved through either National Performance Measures or applicant-determined performance measures. An aligned measure includes and output and an outcome.

If you have opted-in to National Performance Measures, you will see the links for both "add a national performance measure" and "add an applicant performance measure." If you have not opted-in to National Performance Measures, you will only see the link for "add an applicant performance measure."

Choose National Performance Measures or Applicant-Performance Measures or

- Follow the instructions 7A: 17A for each aligned set of applicant-determined measures you need to create
- Follow the instructions for 7B: 17B for each aligned set of national performance measures you need to create

Applicant Performance Measures

Step 7A: Add a Performance Measure
Follow the instructions for 7A: 18A for each applicant-determined performance measure you will create. Begin by creating the Performance Measure Output and then repeat steps 13A-18A to create an aligned Intermediate Outcome.

Step 8A: Select a Focus Area
The Focus Area drop-down box will consist of all the focus areas that were initially select in the main Focus Area section.

Step 9A Add Performance Measure Title
Give this performance measure a title, usually 3 to 4 words that describe the activity, and enter it in the text box.

Step 10A: Select a Service Category
Service Category is a drop-down menu of choices based on your earlier identification of Service Categories; select one and continue by pressing the "go" button

Step 11A: Describe Strategies to Achieve Result
Briefly describe the intervention that will lead to the outcome you are proposing. Keep statements to one or two paragraphs with a maximum of 500 characters.

Step 12A: Select a Result Type
You will need to select the Result Type that you intend to track for this activity, output or intermediate outcome, and click "Add New Results Section." You should begin each aligned measure with the selection of an Output Measure.

Step 13A: Write a Result Statement
Enter 1-2 sentences stating the expected output or outcome.

Step 14A: Select an Indicator
Select an Indicator from the drop- down menu. If the options provided do not include the Indicator you are measuring, select "other" and describe the Indicator in the text box that will appear.

Step 15A: Write a Target Description
In 250 characters or less, include a description of the target. Be sure to include how you determine what is counted in this target. For example: 100 parents will attend the eight-week parenting skills/drop-out prevention class.

Step 16A: Select a Target Number or Percent
Write the number from your target statement in the Target box and indicate whether it is a whole number or percent

Step 17A: Identify your Instruments
Describe the Instruments that will be used to measure your output/outcome in 250 characters or less. These are specific tools to collect information such as a behavior checklist, tally sheet, attitude questionnaire, or interview protocol.

Step 18A: Write a Performance Measure Statement
Provide the expected result and target combined into one or two sentences in 1,000 characters or less.

Once you have completed the output performance measurement information, do the same for your intermediate outcome and/or additional measures, if necessary. Begin by identifying the Result Type as "intermediate outcome" and complete Steps 13A through 18A again. If you would like to enter an "end outcome", you may do so by completing Steps 13A through 18A again. End outcomes are not required.

National Performance Measures

Follow the instructions for **7B –17B** for each aligned set of National Performance Measures you need to create. You will use these instructions to complete measures if you have opted in to National Performance Measures for any Focus Area. Please refer to National Performance Measures Instructions for complete instructions for aligning measures.

- If you select the Education Focus Area and opt-in to National Performance Measures, you are only allowed to select National Performance Measures. You are not allowed to add any additional, applicant-determined measures.
- If you select the Disaster Services, Economic Opportunity, Environmental Stewardship, Healthy Futures, or Veterans Focus Areas, or Capacity Building, and opt-in to National Performance Measures, you will enter your National Performance Measures. If you choose, you may add additional, applicant-determined Measures after you enter the National Performance Measures.

Step 7B: Add a National Performance Measure

Click the "add a national performance measures" orange link. Then select the Focus Area. Only those Focus Areas that were checked as participating in the National Performance Measures will be displayed.

Step 8B: Add a Performance Measurement Title

Give this performance measure a title, usually 3-4 words that describe the activity, and enter it in the text box. Continue by pressing the "go" button.

Step 9B: Describe Strategies to Achieve Result

Briefly describe the intervention that will lead to the outcome you are proposing. Keep statements to one or two paragraphs with a maximum of 500 characters.

Step 10B: Select a Result Type

You will need to select the Result Type that you intend to track for this activity, output or intermediate outcome, and click "Add New Results Section." You should begin each aligned measure with the selection of an Output Measure.

Step 11B: Select the Indicator

This is where you select your National Performance Measure. There is a drop-down list containing the National Performance Measures for the Focus Areas that you have selected. Once you select your first National Performance Measure, eGrants will provide onscreen instructions about other National Performance Measures you must use in conjunction with this measure or if you need to add an applicant-determined intermediate outcome. If you need to add an applicant-determined intermediate outcome measure, you will select "Other" from the pop-up list.

Step 12B: Write Result Statement

Enter 1-2 sentences stating the expected output or outcome.

Step 13B Write a Target Description

In 250 characters or less, include a description of the target. Be sure to include how you determine what is counted in this target. For example: 100 parents will attend the eight-week parenting skills/drop-out prevention class.

Step 14B: Select a Target Number

Write the number in the Target box from your target description. You are only allowed to use a number.

Step 15B: Identify your Instruments

Describe the Instruments that will be used to measure your output/outcome in 250 characters or less. These are specific tools to collect information such as a behavior checklist, tally sheet, attitude questionnaire, or interview protocol. Check for guidance on appropriate instruments posted at the National Performance Measures resource page: http://nationalserviceresources.org/national-performance-measures/home

Step 16B: Write a Performance Measures Statement

Provide the expected result and target combined into one or two sentences (1,000 characters or less).

Step 17B: Create Aligned Measure

After completing the output performance measurement information, do the same for your intermediate outcome. Begin by identifying the Result Type, and then complete Steps 11B to 16B again.

Once you complete entering an aligned measure as defined by the National Performance Measure, you will return to Step 7 and create any other aligned measures to report member activities in Focus Areas or other areas of service either by:

- **Following Steps 7A: 18A for an applicant-determined measure or**
- **Following Steps 7B: 17B for an aligned National Performance Measure**

ATTACHMENT D: Detailed Budget Instructions (eGrants Budget Section)

Section I. Program Operating Costs

Complete Section I, Program Operating Costs, of the Budget Worksheet by entering the "Total Amount," "CNCS Share," and "Grantee Share" for Parts A-I, for Year 1 of the grant, as follows:

A. Personnel Expenses

Under "Position/Title Description," list each staff position separately and provide salary and percentage of effort as percentage of FTE devoted to this award. Each staff person's role listed in the budget must be described in the application narrative and each staff person mentioned in the narrative must be listed in the budget as either CNCS or Grantee share. Because the purpose of this grant is to enable and stimulate volunteer community service, do not include the value of direct community service performed by volunteers. However, you may include the value of volunteer services contributed to the organization for organizational functions such as accounting, audit work, or training of staff and AmeriCorps members.

B. Personnel Fringe Benefits

Under "Purpose/Description," identify the types of fringe benefits to be covered and the costs of benefit(s) for each staff position. Allowable fringe benefits typically include FICA, Worker's Compensation, Retirement, SUTA, Health and Life Insurance, IRA, and 401K. You may provide a calculation for total benefits as a percentage of the salaries to which they apply or list each benefit as a separate item. If a fringe benefit amount is over 30%, please list covered items separately and justify the high cost. Holidays, leave, and other similar vacation benefits are not included in the fringe benefit rates, but are absorbed into the personnel expenses (salary) budget line item.

C. Travel

1. *Staff Travel*

   Describe the purpose for which program staff will travel. Provide a calculation that includes itemized costs for airfare, transportation, lodging, per diem, and other travel-related expenses multiplied by the number of trips/staff. Where applicable, identify the current standard reimbursement rate(s) of the organization for mileage, daily per diem, and similar supporting information. Reimbursement should not exceed the federal mileage rate unless a result of applicant policy and justified in the budget narrative. Only domestic travel is allowable.

   Serve DC expects applicants to include funds in this line item for travel for staff and site staff to attend CNCS-sponsored technical assistance meetings. There are two to three such opportunities per year, including the Financial Management Institute and the Annual Grantee Meeting in Washington, DC in the fall. Please note that Serve DC limits the CNCS portion of the budgeted travel expense to $2,000.

   Please itemize costs. For example: Two staff members will attend the Annual Grantee Meeting in Washington, DC. Two staff X $750 airfare + $50 ground transportation + (1 day) X $400 lodging + $35 per diem = $2,470 for Annual Grantee Meeting.

2. *Member Travel*

   Describe the purpose for which members will travel. Provide a calculation that includes itemized costs for airfare, transportation, lodging, per diem, and other related expenses for members to travel outside their service location or between sites. Costs associated with local travel, such as bus passes to local sites, mileage reimbursement for use of car, etc., should be included in this budget category. Travel costs for members can only be service-related. Where applicable, identify the current standard reimbursement rate(s) of the organization for mileage, daily per diem, and similar supporting information.

D. Equipment

Equipment is defined as tangible, non-expendable personal property having a useful life of more than one year AND an acquisition cost of $5,000 or more per unit (including accessories, attachments, and modifications). Any items that do not meet this definition should be entered in E. Supplies below. Purchases of equipment are limited to 10% of the total CNCS funds requested. If applicable, show the unit cost and number of units you are requesting. Provide a brief justification for the purchase of the equipment under Item/Purpose.

E. Supplies

Include the amount of funds to purchase consumable supplies and materials, including member service gear and equipment that does not fit the definition above. You must individually list any single item costing $1,000 or more. Except for safety equipment, sub-grantees may only charge the cost of member service gear to the federal share if it includes the AmeriCorps logo. Sub-grantees may also add the AmeriCorps logo to their own local program uniform items using federal funds. Please note that your program will be

using the AmeriCorps logo in the budget description. All safety gear may be charged to the federal share, regardless of whether it includes the AmeriCorps logo. All other service gear must be purchased with non-CNCS funds.

F. Contractual and Consultant Services

Include costs for consultants related to the project's operations, except training or evaluation consultants, who will be listed in Sections G. and H., below. The daily rate limit is $750/day.

G. Training

1. *Staff Training*
   Include the costs associated with training staff on project requirements and training to enhance the skills staff need for effective project implementation, i.e., project or financial management, team building, etc. If using a consultant(s) for training, indicate the estimated daily rate.

2. *Member Training*
   Include the costs associated with member training to support them in carrying out their service activities. You may also use this section to request funds to support training in Life after AmeriCorps. If using a consultant(s) for training, indicate the estimated daily rate, not to exceed the daily rate limit.

H. Evaluation

Include costs for project evaluation activities, including additional staff time or subcontracts, use of evaluation consultants, purchase of instrumentation, and other costs specifically for this activity not budgeted in Personnel Expenses. This cost does not include the daily/weekly gathering of data to assess progress toward meeting performance measures, but is a larger assessment of the impact your project is having on the community, as well as an assessment of the overall systems and project design. Indicate daily rates of consultants, where applicable.

I. Other Program Operating Costs

Allowable costs in this budget category should include when applicable:

- Criminal history background checks for all members and for all employees or other individuals who receive a salary, education award, living allowance, or stipend or similar payment from the grant (federal or non-federal share).
- Office space rental for projects operating without an approved indirect cost rate agreement that covers office space. If space is budgeted and it is shared with other projects or activities, the costs must be equitably pro-rated and allocated between the activities or projects.
- Utilities, telephone, internet and similar expenses that are specifically used for AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps project staff, and are not part of the organization's indirect cost allocation pool. If such expenses are budgeted and shared with other projects or activities, the costs must be equitably pro-rated and allocated between the activities or projects.
- Recognition costs for members. List each item and provide a justification in the budget narrative. Gifts and/or food in an entertainment/event setting are not allowable costs.
- Applicants are encouraged to include funding for reasonable accommodations and expenses related to ensuring disability inclusion with the AmeriCorps program.

Section II. Member Costs

Member Costs are identified as "Living Allowance" and "Member Support Costs." Your required match can be federal, state, local, or private sector funds.

A. Living Allowance

The narrative should clearly identify the number of members you are supporting by category (i.e., full-time, half-time, reduced-half-time, quarter-time, minimum-time) and the amount of living allowance they will receive, allocating appropriate portions between the CNCS share (CNCS Share) and grantee match (Grantee Share).

The proposed budget must include a living allowance for a full-time member is between $12,100 (minimum) and $24,200 (maximum) per member except as noted below.

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.

While full-time fixed-amount grant applicants don't submit detailed budgets, they are still required to provide a living allowance to members that comply with the minimum and maximum requirements. Full-time fixed-amount grant applicants are not required to identify that amount in the application.

In eGrants, enter the total number of members you are requesting in each category. Enter the average amount of the living allowance for each type of member. In addition, enter the number of members for which you are not requesting funds for a living allowance, but for which you are requesting education awards.

B. Member Support Costs

Consistent with the laws of the states where your members serve, you must provide members with the benefits described below.

- **FICA:** Unless exempted by the IRS, all projects must pay FICA for any member receiving a living allowance, even when CNCS does not supply the living allowance. If exempted, please note in the narrative. In the first column next to FICA, indicate the number of members who will receive FICA. Calculate the FICA at 7.65% of the total amount of the living allowance.
- **Worker's Compensation**: Some states require worker's compensation for AmeriCorps members. You must check with State Departments of Labor or State Commissions where members serve to determine if you are required to pay worker's compensation and at what level. If you are not required to pay worker's compensation, you must obtain Occupational, Accidental, Death and Dismemberment coverage for members to cover in-service injury or accidents.
- **Health Care:** You must offer or make available health care benefits to full-time members in accordance with AmeriCorps requirements. Except as stated below, you may not pay health care benefits to less-than-full-time members with CNCS funds. You may choose to provide health care benefits to less-than-full-time members from other sources (i.e., non-federal) but the cost cannot be included in the budget. Less-than-full-time members who are serving in a full-time capacity for a sustained period of time (such as a full-time summer project) are eligible for health care benefits. In your budget narrative, indicate the number of members who will receive health care benefits. CNCS will not pay for dependent coverage.
- **Unemployment Insurance and Other Member Support Costs**: Include any other required member support costs here. Some states require unemployment coverage for their AmeriCorps members. You may not charge the cost of unemployment insurance taxes to the grant unless mandated by state law. Programs are responsible for determining the requirements of state law by consulting State Commissions, legal counsel, or the applicable state agencies.

Section III. Administrative/Indirect Costs

Definitions

Administrative costs are general or centralized expenses of the overall administration of an organization that receives CNCS funds and do not include particular project costs. These costs may include administrative staff positions. For organizations that have an established indirect cost rate for federal awards, administrative costs mean those costs that are included in the organization's indirect cost rate agreement. Such costs are generally identified with the organization's overall operation and are further described in Office of Management and Budget Circulars A-21, A-87, and A-122.

Options for Calculating Administrative/Indirect Costs (choose either A OR B): Applicants choose one of two methods to calculate allowable administrative costs – a CNCS-fixed percentage rate method or a federally approved indirect cost rate method. Regardless of the option chosen, the CNCS share of administrative costs is limited to 5% of the total CNCS funds actually expended under this grant. Do not create additional lines in this category.

A. CNCS-Fixed Percentage Method

Five Percent Fixed Administrative Costs Option

The CNCS-fixed percentage rate method allows you to charge administrative costs up to a cap without a federally approved indirect cost rate and without documentation supporting the allocation. If you choose the CNCS-fixed percentage rate method (Section IIIA in eGrants), you may charge, for administrative costs, a fixed 5% of the total of the CNCS funds expended. In order to charge this fixed 5%, the grantee match for administrative costs may not exceed 10% of all direct cost expenditures.

1. To determine the maximum CNCS share for Section III: Multiply the sum of the CNCS funding shares of Sections I and II by 0.0526. This is the maximum amount you can request as Corporation share. The factor 0.0526 is used to calculate the 5% maximum amount of federal funds that may be budgeted for administrative (indirect) costs, rather than 0.0500, as a way to mathematically compensate for determining Section III costs when the total budget (Sections I + II + III) is not yet established. Enter this amount as the CNCS share for Section III A.

2. To determine the Grantee share for Section III: Multiply the total (both Corporation and grantee share) of Sections I and II by 10% (0.10) and enter this amount as the grantee share for Section III A.

3. Enter the sum of the CNCS and grantee shares under Total Amount.

   State Commission 1% Fixed Amount: Applicants must budget 1.05% of the CNCS Share of Sections I and II to the State Commission Fixed Amount. This amount is the total that Serve DC can retain to administer the subgrant(s).

   To calculate this amount: Multiply the sum of the Corporation shares of Sections I and II by 1.05% (i.e. 0.0105). Enter this amount as the Corporation share for Section IIIA, line item: Commission Fixed Amount.

If a commission elects to retain a share of the 5% of federal funds available to programs for administrative costs, that decision is identified within each subgrant's budget. To calculate these fractional shares, within Section III of the subgrant budget**, one-fifth (20%) of the federal dollars budgeted for administrative costs is allocated to the commission's share and four-fifths (80%) of the federal dollars budgeted for administrative costs are allocated to the program's share. The allocation between commission and program shares would be calculated as follows:**

([Section I] + [Section II] x 0.0526) x (0.20) = Commission Share

([Section I] + [Section II] x 0.0526) x (0.80) = Subgrantee Share

If a commission elects to retain a share that is less than 1% budgeted for administrative costs, adjust the calculation above, as appropriate.

B. Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate

If you have a federally approved indirect cost rate and choose to use it, the rate will constitute documentation of your administrative costs, including the 5% maximum payable by CNCS. Specify the Cost Type for which your organization has current documentation on file, i.e., Provisional, Predetermined, Fixed, or Final indirect cost rate. Supply your approved IDC rate (percentage) and the base upon which this rate is calculated (direct salaries, salaries and fringe benefits, etc.). It is at your discretion whether or not to claim your entire IDC rate to calculate administrative costs. If you choose to claim a lower rate, please include this rate in the Rate Claimed field.

1. Determine the base amount of direct costs to which you will apply the IDC rate, including both the CNCS and Grantee shares, as prescribed by your established rate agreement (i.e., based on salaries and benefits, total direct costs, or other). Then multiply the appropriate direct costs by the rate being claimed. This will determine the total amount of indirect costs allowable under the grant.
2. To determine the CNCS share: Multiply the sum of the CNCS funding share in Sections I and II by 0.0526. This is the maximum amount you can claim as the CNCS share of indirect costs.

   As Serve DC elects to retain a share of the 5% of federal funds available, please note the percentage or amount in the text. There is no separate line item to show this calculation.
3. To determine the Grantee share: Subtract the amount calculated in step b (the CNCS administrative share) from the amount calculated in step a (the Indirect Cost total). This is the amount the applicant can claim as grantee share for administrative costs.

Source of Match

In the "Source of Match" field that appears at the end of Budget Section III, enter a brief description of the Source of Match, the amount, the match classification (Cash, In-kind, or Not Available) and Match Source (State/Local, Federal, Private, Other or Not Available) **for your entire match**. Define any acronyms the first time they are used.

ATTACHMENT E: Budget Worksheet (eGrants Budget Section)

Section I. Program Operating Costs

A. Personnel Expenses

Position/Title/Description	Qty	Annual Salary	% Time	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals						

B. Personnel Fringe Benefits

Purpose/Description	Calculation	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals				

C. 1. Staff Travel

Purpose	Calculation	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals				

C. 2. Member Travel

Purpose	Calculation	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals				

D. Equipment

Item/ Purpose/Justification	Qty	Unit Cost	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals					

E. Supplies

Purpose	Calculation	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals				

F. Contractual and Consultant Services

Purpose	Calculation	Daily Rate	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals					

G. 1. Training

Purpose	Calculation	Daily Rate	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals					

G. 2. Member Training

Purpose	Calculation	Daily Rate	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals					

H. Evaluation

Purpose	Calculation	Daily Rate	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals					

I. Other Program Operating Costs

Purpose	Calculation	Daily Rate	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals					
Subtotal Section I:			Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share

Section II. Member Costs

A. Living Allowance

Item	# Mbrs	Allowance Rate	# w/o Allowance	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Full Time (1700 hrs)						
Half Time (900 hrs)						
1st Year of 2-Yr Half Time						
2nd Year of 2-Yr Half Time						
Red. Half Time (675 hrs)						
Qtr. Time (450 hrs)						
Min. Time (300 hrs)						
Totals						

B. Member Support Costs

Purpose	Calculation	Daily Rate	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals					
Subtotal Section II:			Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Subtotal Sections I + II:					

Section III. Administrative/Indirect Costs

A. CNCS-fixed Percentage Rate

Purpose	Calculation	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals				

B. Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate

Cost Type	Cost Basis	Calculation	Rate	Rate Claimed	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Total Sections I + II + III:					Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Budget Total: Validate this budget Required Match Percentages:					Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share

Source of Match

Source(s), Type, Amount, Intended Purpose				
	Private	State and/or Local	Federal	Sources
In-kind	$	$	$	
Cash	$	$	$	
Total	$	$	$	

ATTACHMENT F: Detailed Budget Instructions for Fixed-amount Grants (eGrants Budget Section)

These instructions apply only to applicants for fixed-amount grants, including education award programs (EAPs).

EAP and Fixed-amount Grant applicants may only request a fixed amount of funding per MSY. Therefore, Fixed-amount applicants are not required to complete a detailed budget. In addition, the matching requirements in 45 CFR §§ 2521.40– 2521.95 do not apply to EAP and other Fixed-amount grant applicants. If you are applying for a Stipended Fixed-amount grant, you must pay at least the minimum living allowance listed in the NOFO for each type of position you are proposing.

Budget Section II. AmeriCorps Member Positions

Member Positions

Identify the number of members you are requesting by category (i.e. full-time, half-time, reduced half-time, quarter-time, minimum-time) and list under the column labeled **#w/o Allow** (without CNCS-funded living allowance**.) Leave all other columns blank.**

The total number of member service years (MSY) will automatically calculate at the bottom of the Member Positions chart. The MSY are calculated as follows:

Member Positions	Calculation	MSY
_ Full-time (1700 hours)	(#_ members x 1.000)	=
_ 1-Year Half-time (900 hours)	(#_ members x 0.500)	=
_ Reduced half-time (675 hours)	(#_ members x 0.3809524)	=
_ Quarter-time (450 hours)	(#_ members x 0.26455027)	=
_ Minimum-time (300 hours)	(#_ members x 0.21164022)	=
	Total MS	

* Grantees receive the total amount for 2-Year Half-time members in the first year. Therefore, 2-Year Half-time members serving in their second year are not included in the calculation for funds.

Under "Calculation," you will enter the calculation for your grant request. Applicants may request up to $800 per member service year (MSY).

Display your calculation in the following format:

Total # of MSYs x MSY amount
(up to $800 for EAP, $2, for Professional Corps and $13,000 for Stipended Fixed Amount)
= Total Grant Request $

Type the total amount requested in the "Total Amount" & "CNCS Share" columns. Leave the "Grantee Share" blank. See example below (applies to a Stipended Fixed Amount grant):

Purpose	Calculation	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	edit	del
Program Grant Request	47.5 MSY X $9,500/MSY	$451,250	$451,250	$0	view	
Subtotal		$451,250	$451,250	$0		

ATTACHMENT G: Budget Worksheet for Fixed-Amount Grants (eGrants Budget Section)

Complete the fields for the # w/o Allowance only.

Item	# Mbrs	Allowance Rate	# w/o Allow	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share		
Full Time (1700 hrs)								
1Yr Half Time (900 hrs)								
2Yr Half Time (1st Yr)								
2Yr Half Time (2nd Yr)								
Red Half Time(675 hrs)								
Qtr. Time (450 hrs)								
Min. Time (300 hrs)								
Subtotal							MSY	Cost/MSY

Member Positions

Purpose	Calculation	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Program Grant Request				
Subtotal				

ATTACHMENT H: Budget Checklist

Below is a checklist to help you make certain that you submit an accurate budget narrative that meets AmeriCorps requirements. Note: This does not apply to Fixed-amount Grants.

In Compliance?	Section I. Program Operating Costs
Yes □ No □	Costs charged under the Personnel line item directly relate to the operation of the AmeriCorps project? Examples include costs for staff that recruit, train, place, or supervise members as well as manage the project.
Yes □ No □	Staff indirectly involved in the management or operation of the applicant organization is funded through the administrative cost section (Section III.) of the budget? Examples of administrative costs include central management and support functions.
Yes □ No □	Staff fundraising expenses are not charged to the grant? You may not charge AmeriCorps staff members' time and related expenses for fundraising to the federal or grantee share of the grant. Expenses incurred to raise funds must be paid out of the funds raised. Development officers and fundraising staff are not allowable expenses.
Yes □ No □	All positions in the budget are fully described in the narrative?
Yes □ No □	The types of fringe benefits to be covered and the costs of benefit(s) for each staff position are described? Allowable fringe benefits typically include FICA, Worker's Compensation, Retirement, SUTA, Health and Life Insurance, IRA, and 401K. You may provide a calculation for total benefits as a percentage of the salaries to which they apply or list each benefit as a separate item. If the fringe amount is over 30%, please list separately.
Yes □ No □	Holidays, leave, and other similar vacation benefits are not included in the fringe benefit rates but are absorbed into the personnel expenses (salary) budget line item?
Yes □ No □	The purpose for all staff and member travel is clearly identified?
Yes □ No □	You have budgeted funds for staff travel to CNCS sponsored meetings in the budget narrative under Staff Travel?
Yes □ No □	Funds to pay relocation expenses of AmeriCorps members are not in the federal share of the budget?
Yes □No □	Funds for the purchase of equipment (does not include general use office equipment) are limited to 10% of the total grant amount?
Yes □ No □	All single equipment items over $5000 per unit are specifically listed?
Yes □ No □	Justification/explanation of equipment items is included in the budget narrative?
Yes □ No □	All single supply items over $1000 per unit are specifically listed?
Yes □ No □	You only charged to the federal share of the budget member service gear that includes the AmeriCorps logo and noted that the gear will have the AmeriCorps logo, with the exception of safety equipment?
Yes □ No □	Are all consultant services budgeted below the maximum federal daily rate of $750/day? Is the daily rate noted in all sections of the budget narrative where consultants are proposed?
Yes □ No □	Does the budget reflect adequate budgeted costs for project evaluation?
Yes □ No □	Have you provided budgeted costs for criminal history checks of members and grant-funded staff that are in covered positions per 45 CFR 2522.205?
Yes □ No □	Are all items in the budget narrative itemized and the purpose of the funds justified?

In Compliance?	Section II. Member Costs
Yes □ No □	Are the living allowance amounts correct? Full-time AmeriCorps members must receive at least the minimum living allowance. **Note:** Programs in existence prior to September 21, 1993 may offer a lower living allowance than the minimum. If such a program chooses to offer a living allowance, it is exempt from the minimum requirement, but not from the maximum requirement.
Yes □ No □	Living allowances are not paid on an hourly basis? They may be calculated using service hours and program length to derive a weekly or biweekly distribution amount. Divide the distribution in equal increments that are not based on the specified number of hours served.
Yes □ No □	Is FICA calculated correctly? You must pay FICA for any member receiving a living allowance. Unless exempted by the IRS, calculate FICA at 7.65% of the total amount of the living allowance.
Yes □ No □	Is the Worker's Compensation calculation correct? Some states require worker's compensation for AmeriCorps members. Check with your local State Department of Labor or State Commission to determine whether or not you are required to pay worker's compensation and at what level (i.e., rate). If you are not required to pay worker's compensation, you need to provide similar coverage for members' on-the-job injuries through their own existing coverage or a new policy purchased in accordance with normal procedures (i.e., Death and Dismemberment coverage).
Yes □ No □	Health care is provided for full-time AmeriCorps members only (unless part-time serving in a full-time capacity)? If your project chooses to provide health care to other half-time members, you may not use federal funds to help pay for any portion of the cost. Projects must provide health care coverage to all full-time members who do not

	have adequate health care coverage at the time of enrollment or who lose coverage due to participation in the project. In addition, projects must provide coverage if a full-time member loses coverage during the term of service through no deliberate act of his/her own.
Yes □ No □	Unemployment insurance is only budgeted if state law requires it?

In Compliance?	Section III. Administrative/Indirect Costs
Yes □ No □	Applicant has chosen Option A: CNCS-fixed percentage method and the maximum federal share of administrative costs does not exceed 5% of the total federal funds budgeted? To determine the federal administrative share, multiply all other budgeted federal funds by .0526.
Yes □ No □	Applicant has chosen Option A: CNCS fixed percentage method and the maximum grantee share is at 10% or less of total budgeted funds?
Yes □ No □	Applicant has chosen Option B: federally approved indirect cost rate method and documentation submitted to CNCS if multi-state, state or territory without commission or Indian Tribe applicant? Administrative costs budgeted include the following: (1) indirect costs such as legal staff, central management and support functions; (2) costs for financial, accounting, audit, internal evaluations, and contracting functions; (3) costs for insurance that protects the entity that operates the project; and (4) the portion of the salaries and benefits of the director and any other project administrative staff not attributable to the time spent in direct support of a specific project.
Yes □ No □	Applicant has chosen Option B: The maximum grantee share does not exceed the federally approved rate, less the 5% CNCS share?
Yes □ No □	Applicant has chosen Option B: the type of rate, the IDC rate percentage, the rate claimed and the base to which the rate is applied has been specified?

In Compliance?	Match
Yes □ No □	Is the overall match being met at the required level, based on the year of funding?
Yes □ No □	For all matching funds, the source(s) [private, state and local, and federal], the type of contribution (cash or in-kind), and the amount (or an estimate) of match, are clearly identified in the narrative and in the Source of Match field in eGrants?

ATTACHMENT I: Alternative Match Instructions

Grantees are required to meet an overall matching rate that increases over time. You have the flexibility to meet the overall match requirements in any of the three budget areas, as long as the minimum match of 24% for the first three years, and the increasing minimums in years thereafter, are maintained. See 45 CFR §§ 2521.35–2521.90 for the specific regulations.

Special Circumstances for an Alternative Match Schedule

Under certain circumstances, applicants may qualify to meet alternative matching requirements that increase over the years to 35% instead of 50% as specified in the regulations at §2521.60(b). To qualify, you must demonstrate that your program is either located in a rural county or in a severely economically distressed community as defined below.

A. Rural County

In determining whether a program is rural, CNCS will consider the most recent Beale code rating published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for the county in which the program is located. Any program located in a county with a Beale code of 6, 7, 8 or 9 is eligible to apply for the alternative match requirement. See Attachment K for the Table of Beale codes.

B. Severely Economically Distressed County

In determining whether a program is located in a severely economically distressed county, CNCS will consider the following list of county-level characteristics. See Attachment J for a list of website addresses where this publicly available information can be found.

- The county-level per capita income is less than or equal to 75 percent of the national average for all counties using the most recent census data or Bureau of Economic Analysis data
- The county-level poverty rate is equal to or greater than 125 percent of the national average for all counties using the most recent census data
- The county-level unemployment is above the national average for all counties for the previous 12 months using the most recently available Bureau of Labor Statistics data
- The areas served by the program lack basic infrastructure such as water or electricity

C. Program Location

Except when approved otherwise, CNCS will determine the location of your program based on the legal applicant's address. If you believe that the legal applicant's address is not the appropriate way to consider the location of your program, you must provide relevant facts about your program location in your request. CNCS will, in its sole discretion, determine whether some other address is more appropriate for determining a program's location.

If your program is located in one of these areas, see the instructions below for applying for this alternative match schedule. You must submit your request to the alternative schedule at least 60 days before the AmeriCorps application is due. CNCS will review your request and notify you within 30 days if you qualify for the alternative schedule and provide instructions for entering your budget into eGrants under the Alternative Match Schedule.

If approved for the alternative schedules, programs will base their budget in the upcoming application on the approved alternative match. The alternative match requirement will be in effect for whatever portion of the three-year project period remains or if applying as a new grantee, for the upcoming three-year grant cycle.

D. Instructions for the Alternative Match Schedule

Please submit requests to Serve DC. Serve DC will then forward the approved request to CNCS for consideration.

Submit e-mail applications by November 16, 2012 to:

- **State Programs:** submit to Serve DC.
- **Serve DC (on behalf of state programs):** submit to ACAlternateMatchScheduleRequests@cns.gov
- **Email subject line:** AmeriCorps Alternative Match Request

Send your request in memo format. You must respond to each item below. Please include both the item and your response in your request.

1. **Basis of Request**
   a. Identify the basis for your request as either a rural county or a severely economically distressed community as described above.
   b. Describe where your program operates and include the address of the legal applicant.
2. **Rural Counties**
   c. Describe the economic conditions.

d. Confirm that your county has a Beale code of 6, 7, 8, or 9.

3. Economically Distressed Counties

a. Provide your county per-capita income, poverty, and unemployment levels.
b. Demonstrate that your county per-capita income, poverty, and unemployment levels are above or below the national averages. Identify the data source(s) used to make your determination.
c. Provide any other statistics you deem relevant to demonstrate your county is economically distressed.

4. Program Location

If you believe the location of your program should not be based on the address of the legal applicant, describe your justification for requesting an alternative location(s).

5. Other

Provide any other justification and information for your request that is not presented in the responses to the above.

ATTACHMENT K: Beale Codes and County-Level Economic Data

Rural Community

Beale codes are published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and are used to classify counties as being more urban or more rural. Counties are designated on a scale from one to nine according to the following descriptions:

2003 Beale Codes		
Code#	Metropolitan Type	Description
1	Metropolitan	Counties in metro areas of 1 million population or more
2	Metropolitan	Counties in metro areas of 250,000 to 1 million
3	Metropolitan	Counties in metro areas of fewer than 250,000
4	Non-metro	Urban population of 20,000 or more, adjacent to a metropolitan area
5	Non-metro	Urban population of 20,000 or more, not adjacent to a metropolitan area
6	Non-metro	Urban population of 2,500 to 19,999, adjacent to a metropolitan area
7	Non-metro	Urban population of 2,500 to 19,999, not adjacent to a metropolitan area
8	Non-metro	Completely rural or less than 2,500 urban population, adjacent to a metropolitan area
9	Non-metro	Completely rural or less than 2,500 urban population, not adjacent to a metropolitan area

Any program located in a county with a Beale code of 6, 7, 8, or 9 is eligible to apply for the alternative match.

Severely Economically Distressed Community

The following table provides the website addresses where the publicly available information on county-level economic data including per capita income, poverty rate, and unemployment levels can be found.

Website	Explanation
www.econdata.net	**Econdata.Net**: This site Links to a variety of social and economic data by states, counties and metro areas.
http://www.bea.gov/regional/	**Bureau of Economic Analysis' Regional Economic Information System (REIS)**: Provides data on per capita income by county for all states except Puerto Rico.
www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe/index.html	**Census Bureau's Small Area Poverty Estimates**: Provides data on poverty and population estimates by county for all states except Puerto Rico.
www.census.gov/main/www/cen2000.html	**Census Bureau's American Fact-finder**: Provides all 1990 and 2000 census data including estimates on poverty, per capita income and unemployment by counties, states, and metro areas including Puerto Rico.
www.bls.gov/lau/home.htm	**Bureau of Labor Statistics' Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)**: Provides data on annual and monthly employment and unemployment by counties for all states including Puerto Rico.
http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/RuralUrbanContinuumCodes/	**US Department of Agriculture's Rural-Urban Continuum Codes (Beale codes)**: Provides urban rural code for all counties in US.

ATTACHMENT L: Assurances & Certifications (eGrants Review, Authorize and Submit Section)

Instructions

By signing and submitting this application, as the duly authorized representative of the applicant, you certify that the applicant will comply with the Assurances and Certifications described below.

a) Inability to certify
Your inability to provide the assurances and certifications listed below will not necessarily result in denial of a grant. You must submit an explanation of why you cannot do so. We will consider your explanation in determining whether to enter into this transaction. However, your failure to furnish an explanation will disqualify your application.

b) Erroneous certification or assurance
The assurances and certifications are material representations of fact upon which we rely in determining whether to enter into this transaction. If we later determine that you knowingly submitted an erroneous certification or assurance, in addition to other remedies available to the federal government, we may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

c) Notice of error in certification or assurance
You must provide immediate written notice to us if at any time you learn that a certification or assurance was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous because of changed circumstances.

d) Definitions
The terms “covered transaction”, “debarred”, “suspended”, “ineligible”, “lower tier covered transaction”, “participant”, “person”, “primary covered transaction”, “principal”, “proposal”, and “voluntarily excluded” as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of the rules implementing Executive Order 12549. An applicant shall be considered a “prospective primary participant in a covered transaction” as defined in the rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact us for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.

e) Assurance requirement for subgrant agreements
You agree by submitting this proposal that if we approve your application you shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by us.

f) Assurance inclusion in subgrant agreements
You agree by submitting this proposal that you will obtain an assurance from prospective participants in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions that the participants are not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction.

g) Assurance of subgrant principals
You may rely upon an assurance of a prospective participant in a lower-tier covered transaction that is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless you know that the assurance is erroneous. You may decide the method and frequency by which you determine the eligibility of your principals. You may, but are not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.

h) Non-assurance in subgrant agreements
If you knowingly enter into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the federal government, we may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

i) Prudent person standard
Nothing contained in the aforementioned may be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the assurances and certifications required. Your knowledge and information is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

ASSURANCES

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify, to the best of my knowledge and belief, that the applicant:

- Has the legal authority to apply for federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial, and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-federal share of project costs) to ensure proper planning, management, and completion of the project described in this application.

- Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States, and if appropriate, the state, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
- Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their position for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
- Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
- Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the nineteen statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 CFR 900, Subpart F).
- Will comply with all federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. 1681-1683, and 1685-1686). which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability (d) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) The Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) The Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) sections 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. 290dd-3 and 290ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
- Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of federal or federally assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of federal participation in purchases.
- Will comply with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. 1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
- Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C 276a and 276a-77), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C 276c and 18 U.S.C. 874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 327-333), regarding labor standards for Federally assisted construction sub-agreements.
- Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires the recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is $10,000 or more.
- Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved state management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C 1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
- Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C 1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
- Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16U.S.C. 469a-l et seq.).
- Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.

- Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
- Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§ 4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
- Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act of 1984, as amended, and OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.
- Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, application guidelines, and policies governing this program.
- Will comply with all rules regarding prohibited activities, including those stated in applicable Notice, grant provisions, and program regulations, and will ensure that no assistance made available by the Corporation will be used to support any such prohibited activities.
- Will comply with the nondiscrimination provisions in the national service laws, which provide that an individual with responsibility for the operation of a project or program that receives assistance under the national service laws shall not discriminate against a participant in, or member of the staff of, such project or program on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, political affiliation, disability, or on the basis of religion. (NOTE: the prohibition on religious discrimination does not apply to the employment of any staff member paid with non-Corporation funds or paid with Corporation funds but employed with the organization operating the project prior to or on the date the grant was awarded. If your organization is a faith-based organization that makes hiring decisions on the basis of religious belief, your organization may be entitled, under the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, 42 U.S.C. § 2000bb, to receive federal funds and yet maintain that hiring practice, even though the national service legislation includes a restriction on religious discrimination in employment of staff hired to work on a Corporation-funded project and paid with Corporation grant funds. (42 U.S.C. §§ 5057(c) and 12635(c)). For the circumstances under which this may occur, please see the document "Effect of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act on Faith-Based Applicants for Grants" on the Corporation's website at: http://www.usdoj.gov/archive/fbci/effect-rfra.pdf.
- Will comply with all other federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination, including any self-evaluation requirements. These include but are not limited to: (a)Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. 1681-1683, and 1685-1686). which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps (d) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) The Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) The Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) sections 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. 290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; and (i) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
- Will provide, in the design, recruitment, and operation of any AmeriCorps program, for broad-based input from – (1) the community served, the municipality and government of the county (if appropriate) in which the community is located, and potential participants in the program; and (2) community-based agencies with a demonstrated record of experience in providing services and local labor organizations representing employees of service sponsors, if these entities exist in the area to be served by the program;
- Will, prior to the placement of participants, consult with the appropriate local labor organization, if any, representing employees in the area who are engaged in the same or similar work as that proposed to be carried out by an AmeriCorps program, to ensure compliance with the nondisplacement requirements specified in section 177 of the NCSA;
- Will, in the case of an AmeriCorps program that includes or serves children, consult with the parents or legal guardians of children in developing and operating the program;
- Will, before transporting minor children, provide the children's parents or legal guardians with the reason for the transportation and obtain the parent's or legal guardian's permission for such transportation, consistent with state law;
- Will, in the case of an AmeriCorps program that is not funded through a State, consult with and coordinate activities with the State Commission for the state in which the program operates.

- Will ensure that any national service program carried out by the applicant using assistance provided under section 121 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 and any national service program supported by a grant made by the applicant using such assistance will address unmet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs through services that provide a direct benefit to the community in which the service is performed;
- Will comply with the nonduplication and nondisplacement requirements set out in section 177 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, and in the Corporation's regulations at § 2540.100;
- Will comply with the grievance procedure requirements as set out in section 176(f) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 and in the Corporation's regulations at 45 CFR § 2540.230;
- Will provide participants in the national service program with the training, skills, and knowledge necessary for the projects that participants are called upon to perform, including training on prohibited activities;
- Will provide support services to participants, such as information regarding G.E.D. attainment and post-service employment, and, if appropriate, opportunities for participants to reflect on their service experiences;
- Will arrange for an independent evaluation of any national service program carried out using assistance provided to the applicant under section 121 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 or, with the approval of the Corporation, conduct an internal evaluation of the program;
- Will apply measurable performance goals and evaluation methods, which are to be used as part of such evaluation to determine the program's impact on communities and persons served by the program, on participants who take part in the projects, and in other such areas as required by the Corporation;
- Will ensure the provision of a living allowance and other benefits to participants as required by the Corporation;
- Has not violated a Federal criminal statute;
- If a state applicant, will ensure that the State subgrants will be used to support national service programs selected by the State on a competitive basis;
- If a state applicant, will seek to ensure an equitable allocation within the State of assistance and approved national service positions, taking into consideration such factors as the locations of the programs, population density, and economic distress;
- If a state applicant, will ensure that not less than 60% of the assistance will be used to make grants to support national service programs other than those carried out by a State agency, unless the Corporation approves otherwise.

CERTIFICATIONS

Certification: Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters
This certification is required by the government-wide regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 2 CFR Part 180, Section 180.335, *What information must I provide before entering into a covered transaction with a Federal agency?*

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify, to the best of my knowledge and belief, that neither the applicant nor its principals:

- Is presently excluded or disqualified;
- Has been convicted within the preceding three years of any of the offenses listed in § 180.800(a) or had a civil judgment rendered against it for one of those offenses within that time period;
- Is presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State, or local) with commission or any of the offenses listed in § 180.800(a); or
- Has had one or more public transactions (Federal, State, or local) terminated within the preceding three years for cause or default.

Certification: Drug Free Workplace
This certification is required by the Corporation's regulations implementing sections 5150-5160 of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (P.L. 100-690), 45 CFR Part 2545, Subpart B. The regulations require certification by grantees, prior to award, that they will make a good faith effort, on a continuing basis, to maintain a drug-free workplace. The certification set out below is a material representation of fact upon which reliance will be placed when the agency determines to award the grant. False certification or

violation of the certification may be grounds for suspension of payments, suspension or termination of grants, or government-wide suspension or debarment (see 45 CFR Part 2542, Subparts G and H).

As the duly authorized representative of the grantee, I certify, to the best of my knowledge and belief, that the grantee will provide a drug-free workplace by:

A. Publishing a drug-free workplace statement that:

   a) Notifies employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace;

   b) Specifies the actions that the grantee will take against employees for violating that prohibition; and

   c) Informs employees that, as a condition of employment under any award, each employee will abide by the terms of the statement and notify the grantee in writing if the employee is convicted for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace within five days of the conviction;

B. Requiring that a copy of the statement described in paragraph (A) be given to each employee who will be engaged in the performance of any Federal award;

C. Establishing a drug-free awareness program to inform employees about:

   a) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;

   b) The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;

   c) Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and

   d) The penalties that the grantee may impose upon them for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;

D. Providing us, as well as any other Federal agency on whose award the convicted employee was working, with written notification within 10 calendar days of learning that an employee has been convicted of a drug violation in the workplace;

E. Taking one of the following actions within 30 calendar days of learning that an employee has been convicted of a drug violation in the workplace:

   a) Taking appropriate personnel action against the employee, up to and including termination; or

   b) Requiring that the employee participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for these purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;

F. Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs (A) through (E).

Certification: Lobbying Activities

As required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code, as the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify, to the best of my knowledge and belief, that:

- No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the applicant, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer of Congress in connection with the awarding of any federal contract, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, or modification of any federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement;

- If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with this federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the applicant will submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions;

- The applicant will require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subcontracts at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients will certify and disclose accordingly.

Erroneous certification or assurance

The assurances and certifications are material representations of fact upon which we rely in determining whether to enter into this transaction. If we later determine that you knowingly submitted an erroneous certification or assurance, in addition to other remedies available to the federal government, we may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

Notice of error in certification or assurance
You must provide immediate written notice to us if at any time you learn that a certification or assurance was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous because of changed circumstances.

Definitions
The terms “debarment”, “suspension”, “excluded”, “disqualified”, “ineligible”, “participant”, “person”, “principal”, “proposal”, and “voluntarily excluded” as used in this document have the meanings set out in 2 CFR Part 180, subpart I, “Definitions.” A transaction shall be considered a “covered transaction” if it meets the definition in 2 CFR part 180 subpart B, “Covered Transactions.”

Assurance requirement for subgrant agreements
You agree by submitting this proposal that if we approve your application you shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by us.

Assurance inclusion in subgrant agreements
You agree by submitting this proposal that you will obtain an assurance from prospective participants in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions that the participants are not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction.

Assurance of subgrant principals
You may rely upon an assurance of a prospective participant in a lower-tier covered transaction that is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless you know that the assurance is erroneous. You may decide the method and frequency by which you determine the eligibility of your principals. You may, but are not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.

Non-assurance in subgrant agreements
If you knowingly enter into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the federal government, we may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

Prudent person standard
Nothing contained in the aforementioned may be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the assurances and certifications required. Your knowledge and information is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

Certification - Grant Review Process (State Commissions Only)
I certify that in conducting our review process, we have ensured compliance with the National and Community Service Act of 1990, the Corporation's peer review requirements, and all state laws and conflict of interest rules.

ASSURANCES AND CERTIFICATIONS

Assurance Signature
NOTE: Sign this form and include in the application.

SIGNATURE: _____

By signing this assurances page, you certify that you agree to perform all actions and support all intentions in the Assurances section.

Organization Name:

Program Name:

Name and Title of Authorized Representative:

Signature:

Date:

Certification Signature
NOTE: Sign this form and include in the application.

SIGNATURE: _____

By signing this certification page, you certify that you agree to perform all actions and support all intentions in the Certification sections of this application. The three Certifications are:

- Certification: Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters
- Certification: Drug-Free Workplace
- Certification: Lobbying Activities

Organization Name:

Program Name:

Name and Title of Authorized Representative:

Signature:

Date:

ATTACHMENT M: Beneficiary Populations/Grant Characteristics

- AmeriCorps member Population: Communities of Color
- AmeriCorps member Population: Low-income individuals
- AmeriCorps member Population: Native Americans
- AmeriCorps member Population: New Americans
- AmeriCorps member Population: Older Americans
- AmeriCorps member Population: People with Disabilities
- AmeriCorps member Population: Rural Residents
- AmeriCorps member Population: Veterans, Active Military, or their Families
- AmeriCorps member Population – Economically disadvantaged young adults/Opportunity Youth
- AmeriCorps member Population – None of the above
- Geographic Focus: Rural
- Geographic Focus: Urban
- Encore Program
- Faith- and community-based organizations
- Governor and Mayor Initiative
- SIG/Priority Schools