

# AmeriCorps Texas 2021-2022 Introductory Notice of Funding Opportunity Call

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## What is AmeriCorps?

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- AmeriCorps places thousands of people into intensive service positions each year, where they learn valuable skills, earn money for education, and develop a strong sense of civic responsibility.
- AmeriCorps programs serve their members by creating jobs and providing pathways to opportunity as they enter the workforce.
- For Members, AmeriCorps is a great way to get hands-on experience and earn money for higher education while making a real difference in the lives of others.



## AmeriCorps State



**AmeriCorps**



onestar  
foundation



- **AmeriCorps** is the federal agency that administers the AmeriCorps program.
- **OneStar Foundation** serves as the National Service Commission for Texas and is the pass-through agency for administering the AmeriCorps Texas program.
- **AmeriCorps Texas** means that the entirety of the program activities occur within Texas



## AmeriCorps Members



- AmeriCorps Members are individuals recruited by you to serve in your program.
- AmeriCorps Members provide direct service to address the need identified by your organization.
- Members sign agreements to serve with your program for a defined Term-of-Service. The Term-of-Service reflects a start and end date of service as well as the number of hours required to be served during that period.



## AmeriCorps Member Term of Service

- Each organization will determine the member types that make the most sense for their program.
- Organizations may select one member-type or a combination of types.
- The application requires that organizations identify the number and type of AmeriCorps members that they would like.
- New organizations must request a minimum of 10 AmeriCorps Members per grant year. With a plan to scale to 20 members by the beginning of year three

Member Type	Service Hours
Full-Time	1,700
Reduced Full-Time	1,200
Half-Time	900
Reduced Half-Time	675
Quarter-Time	450
Minimum-Time	300
Abbreviated-Time	100



## AmeriCorps Members

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### ■ Who can serve as an AmeriCorps Member?

- U.S. Citizen, U.S. Nationals or Lawful Permanent Residents of the United States
- At least 17 years of age
  - *No upper age limit*
- High School Graduate or GED Recipient
  - *Or working towards this goal*
- Subject to National Service Criminal History Checks



## AmeriCorps Members

### ■ What do AmeriCorps Members receive for their service?

- Living Allowance
  - *Only Full-Time AmeriCorps Members are required to receive a living allowance.*
- Health Insurance & Child Care assistance
  - *Only Full-Time AmeriCorps Members are eligible to receive this benefit.*
- Student Loan deferment while in service
- Education Award upon successful completion of a term-of-service.
- Professional Development





Questions?

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# AmeriCorps Texas 2021-2022 Funding Opportunity



## 2021-2022 AmeriCorps Texas Grant Process

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- New and Recompete Applicants are **REQUIRED** to submit a Notice of Intent to Apply Form
  - Forms must be completed online and can be accessed here:  
<https://www.tfaforms.com/4850462>
    - Due by **Friday, February 19, 2021**
  - ***New/Recompete Applications:***
    - Due in eGrants by **Thursday, March 11, 2021**



## Terminology

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### ■ Funding Type

- Competitive
- Formula

### ■ Grant Type

- Cost Reimbursement
- Fixed Amount

### ■ Application Type

- New
- Re compete
- Previous
- Continuation



## Funding, Grant and Application Type

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**New programs** are those that have not previously received an AmeriCorps State or National grant, are not currently managing a 2020-2021 AmeriCorps program, or are submitting an application for a program design or funding type for which they have not previously received AmeriCorps State or National funding.

**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.

**Formula funding** means that OneStar funds your application with money available to us through a population-based formula allocation.



## Eligibility Information

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- **Organization Types** *(have a DUNS Number and are registered in SAM)*
  - Institutions of Higher Education
  - Local Governments
  - Nonprofit Organizations
  - Indian Tribes
- **New Applicant Restrictions**
  - May request as few as 10 MSYs (Member Service Year) in the first year; however, you must include in the application a growth plan to support 20 MSYs by the third year of funding.
  - No more than 50 member positions (slots) to organizations receiving an AmeriCorps grant for the first time.
  - Not eligible to apply for a Fixed Amount award.
  - Not eligible to apply for Abbreviated Time member slots



## Eligibility Information

### ■ Additional Eligibility Considerations

- Professional Corps
  - *Must demonstrate that the community in which it will place AmeriCorps members serving as professionals has an inadequate number of said professionals*
- Tutoring Requirements
- Independent Financial Statement Audit
- Single Audit (*if applicable*)
- Prior experience administering state and/or federal grant funds
  - *An organization that has served as an AmeriCorps VISTA placement site over the past two years meets this requirement.*



## Program Focus

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**Applicants should ensure that proposed activities align with at least one CNCS focus area, however a program might select multiple and apply as a multi-focused intermediary.**

- Disaster Services
- Economic Opportunity
- Education
- Environmental Stewardship
- Healthy Futures
- Veterans and Military Families



## Grant Funding

Service Term	Hours	MSY Value
Full-Time	1,700	1.0
Three-Quarter Time	1,200	.7
Half-Time	900	.5
Reduced Half-Time	675	.3809524
Quarter-Time	450	.26455027
Minimum-Time	300	.21164022
Abbreviated-Time	100	.05627705

Grant Program	Maximum Cost Per MSY
Cost-Reimbursement	\$16,300
Full-Time Fixed Amount	\$16,300
Education Award Program	\$800 or \$1,000
Professional Corps (Cost Reimbursement and Fixed)	\$1,000

### ■ MSY: Member Service Year

- To meet the minimum MSY requirement you may use any combination of member types to align with your program design.

#### - Example MSY Calculations

- 1 MSY = 1 Full-Time Member @1700 hours
- 1MSY = 4.73 Minimum-Time Members @ 300 hours/each
  - $1/.21164022 = 4.73$

### ■ Cost Per MSY

- Calculation used to indicate the maximum amount of federal funds that can be requested for your program.
- Based on the number of MSYs requested.
- (total CNCS ÷ total MSYs)

### ■ Sample Calculations:

- 20 MSYs \* \$16,300 = \$326,000(up to amount)
- 10 MSYs \* \$16,300 = \$163,000 (up to amount)

## Grant Funding

### ■ Cost Reimbursement

- Organizations will need to have sufficient cash flow available to support the program operation. Requests for reimbursement may be made as frequently as twice a month or as infrequently as quarterly.

### ■ Matching Requirements

- Match can be either from Cash or In-Kind resources.
- See Appendix E of the Application Instructions for information on the Alternative Matching schedule.

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





Questions?

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# 2021-2022 Funding Opportunity Information

## AmeriCorps Texas 2021-2022

This *Notice* is for AmeriCorps Texas (AmeriCorps State) grants. These grants are awarded to organizations that propose to place AmeriCorps members in service solely within Texas. Selected organizations will receive grants to support AmeriCorps member positions that engage members in service to meet critical needs in Texas.

Eligible applicants have the option of submitting in the fall of 2020 for Competitive funding consideration or submitting in the spring of 2021 for Formula funding consideration (see *Mandatory Supplemental Guidance* for definitions).

### Competitive Funding Consideration

To be considered for Competitive funding, a Legal Applicant Organization must have successfully administered an AmeriCorps Texas grant through OneStar Foundation for at least one three-year project period. Additionally, the Legal Applicant Organization must meet all eligibility criteria as outlined in the *Eligibility Information* section of this *Notice*. An applicant that is being considered for Competitive funding will also be considered for Formula funding if they are unsuccessful in the National competition for Competitive funding.

### Formula Funding Consideration

To be considered for Formula funding, a Legal Applicant Organization must meet all eligibility criteria as outlined in the *Eligibility Information* section of this *Notice*.

### Continuation Funding Consideration

AmeriCorps Texas programs administering a 2020-2021 AmeriCorps Texas program through OneStar Foundation that are in the first or second year of their three-year project period are required to submit a Continuation application in order to continue operation for 2021-2022.

## Important Dates

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**OneStar Foundation** on Friday

Congrats to Equal Heart's Texas Service Corps for being recognized for Most Impactful Service at this year's Excellence in AmeriCorps Awards!

From late March through early July, Texas Service Corps placed 270 AmeriCorps members with 28 organizations to address rising demand for the nonprofit food pantry system in Texas. These members helped provide over 20 million pounds of food to 900,000 Texans.

With service sites from Abilene to El Paso to Port Arthur, Texas

**Twitter**

Tweets by @onestarfdn



**OneStar Foundation** @onestarfdn

Where do we go from here? Join us in exploring the paths forward for the nonprofit sector during these turbulent times. OneStar will be discussing findings from our #COVID19 impact report on a webinar panel this Thursday hosted by



## Important Dates

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- **February 19, 2021** – Notice of Intent to Apply Deadline
- **March 11, 2021** – Application Deadline
- **No later than early June 2021**– Application Notification
- **September 1, 2021** – Earliest available Budget Period Start



## Informational Sessions

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- **AmeriCorps Program Design Informational Session**
  - Thursday, January 7, 2021 at 11:00am CST
- **AmeriCorps Budget Informational Session**
  - Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 11:00am CST
- **Performance Measure Informational Session**
  - Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 11:00am CST
- **Creating the Application Informational Session**
  - Thursday, January 28, 2021 at 11:00am CST
- **AmeriCorps Open Forum Session**
  - Thursday, February 4, 2021 at 11:00am CST



## Resources

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The AmeriCorps program is a Federally funded program. As such, the following requirements apply to the program activities and funds expended as part of the program.

- National and Community Service Act of 1990 (amended by Serve America Act)
  - [42 USC 12501 et seq., and 45 CFR 2510 et seq.](#)
- AmeriCorps Regulations
  - [45 CFR 2520-2550](#)
- Uniform Grants Guidance
  - <https://www.ecfr.gov>
- AmeriCorps Terms and Conditions
  - [2020 General Terms and Conditions](#)
  - [2020 Specific Terms and Conditions](#)
  - [2020 OneStar Terms and Conditions](#)



## FAQs

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1. Could you explain what costs are covered for the formula grants, i.e. what does the grantee have to cover and what does CNCS cover?
2. Do you have any resources on companies that offer AmeriCorps Member health insurance plans?
3. When I go into eGrants, it shows the due date as 1/30/2019. Have I missed the deadline?





Questions?

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For Assistance After this Webinar

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**For questions about this opportunity, contact:**

Taylor Wolter

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OneStar Foundation

Email: [taylor@onestarfoundation.org](mailto:taylor@onestarfoundation.org)

Zoom consultation available by appointment only. Email Taylor to schedule.

