

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

Building Better Nonprolits for a Better Texas

The following are FAQ's specific for AmeriCorps\*National applicants proposing placement sites in Texas.

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

## Q. What is the consultation process?

A. The Corporation expects State Commissions and multi-state grantees to consult and coordinate activities at the local level, as specified in Section 131 of the National Community Service Act (NCSA). This consultation is designed to ensure the most effective use of national service resources and lead to enhanced coordination among AmeriCorps programs. After all National applications have been submitted, the Corporation will solicit State Commission input on National applicants proposing to operate in their state.

## Q. What does OneStar Foundation require for the national consultation process?

A. OneStar asks that all National applicants submit the Consultation Form online at: http://www.tfaforms.com/196624. Additionally, in order to know exactly where programs plan to place members, we ask that you complete a Member Placement Chart indicating the Texas placement sites of your proposed members.

#### Q. When do I need to consult with OneStar?

A. Organizations may begin communicating with OneStar from the beginning of their planning process. OneStar is happy to provide assistance during the planning process and to share information about our current AmeriCorps\*State programs to ensure that services between State and National programs are not being duplicated. We ask that all National applicants consult with us prior to the application deadline, which is typically in late January.

### **BUDGET**

## Q. Do I need to include costs in my budget for Unemployment Tax for the members placed in Texas?

- A. No, the Texas Workforce Commission has determined that Living Allowances paid to AmeriCorps members are not considered covered wages under the Texas Unemployment Compensation Act. Therefore, Unemployment Insurance tax may not be budgeted to the grant or paid on AmeriCorps member living allowances.
- Q. Do I need to include costs in my budget for Workers Compensation for the members placed in Texas?
  - A. You may include costs for either workers compensation or accidental death and dismemberment (AD&D).

## Q. Does OneStar have funds available to support members with disabilities at my Texas placement sites?

A. Yes, OneStar receives specific funding to support grantees with reasonable accommodation requests for members and/or potential members. If you need to request funds to provide a reasonable accommodation for a member or potential member, please complete the request form at <a href="http://www.tfaforms.com/167676">http://www.tfaforms.com/167676</a>.

### COMMUNICATION

# Q. I would like to receive information from OneStar Foundation regarding your general activities and events, do you have a newsletter?

A. Yes, to receive email alerts and the OneStar Foundation newsletter, please create an account on the OneStar Foundation website and indicate that you would like to receive our email newsletter. <a href="http://www.onestarfoundation.org/page/registration/">http://www.onestarfoundation.org/page/registration/</a>

## Q. Does OneStar distribute any AmeriCorps specific newsletters?

A. Yes, upon consulting with OneStar, the email address(es) that you provide of the primary contact(s) will be added to the OneStar AmeriCorps Update distribution list. AmeriCorps Updates are sent bi-weekly and include reminders of deadlines and events, program and member highlights from the field, and resources.



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- Q. I would like to speak to someone regarding our AmeriCorps\*National application. Who is the contact for us at the Texas commission?
  - A. All questions should be directed to Elisa Gleeson. Elisa can be reached at <a href="mailto:elisa@onestarfoundation.org">elisa@onestarfoundation.org</a> or 512-287-2029.