AmeriCorps*Texas
2019-2020 Introductory Call

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What is AmeriCorps?

- AmeriCorps is a program that gives individuals the opportunity to serve a community in a long-term way using a variety of approaches and solutions.

- 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

- The Corporation for National and Community Service or CNCS is the federal agency that administers the AmeriCorps program.

- AmeriCorps*Texas means that the entirety of the program activities occur within one state, Texas.

- OneStar Foundation serves as the National Service Commission for Texas. OneStar serves as the pass-through agency for administering the AmeriCorps*Texas program.

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.

- 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.

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

AmeriCorps Members

- 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
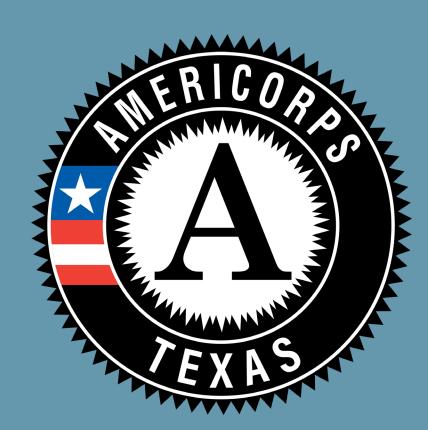
- What do AmeriCorps Members receive for their service?

  - 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 successfully completing a term of service.

  - Professional Development

Questions?

AmeriCorps*Texas 2019-2020 Funding Opportunity

- 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/4698593

- Notice of Intent to Apply Form:
  - Due by **Friday, March 2, 2019**

- New/Recompete Applications:
  - Due by **March 21, 2019**

Terminology

- Funding Type
  - Competitive
  - Formula
- Grant Type
  - Cost Reimbursement
  - Fixed Amount
- Application Type
  - New
  - Recompete
  - Previous
  - Continuation

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

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.

New programs are those that have not previously received an AmeriCorps State or National grant, are not currently managing a 2018-2019 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.

Eligibility Information

- Organization Types (*have a DUNS and register in SAM*)
  - Institutions of Higher Education
  - Local Governments
  - Nonprofit Organizations
- New Applicant Restrictions
  - May request as few as 10 MSYs 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.

- 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

Applicants should ensure that proposed activities align with a CNCS focus area. Most likely one area, however a program might apply as a multi-focused intermediary.

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

Service Term	MSY Value
Full-Time	1.00
Three-Quarter Time	.700
Half-Time	.500
Reduced Half-Time	.3809524
Quarter-Time	.26455027
Minimum-Time	.21164022

Grant Program	Maximum Cost per MSY
Cost Reimbursement	$15,192
Fixed Amount	$15,192
Professional Corps	$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.

- **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.
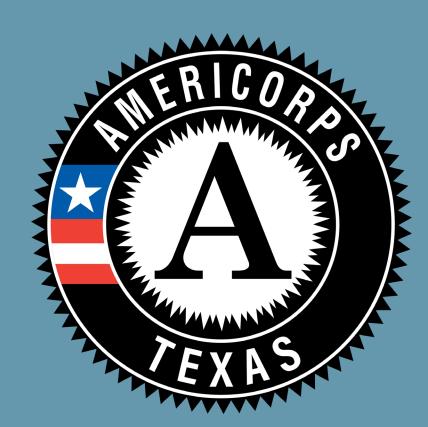 - (total CNCS ÷ total MSYs)

- 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.

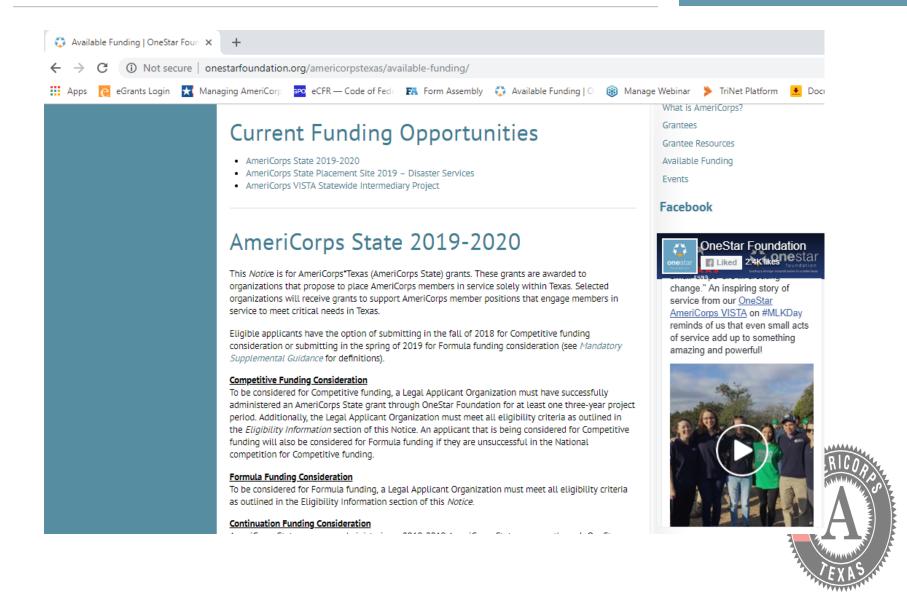| AmeriCorps Funding Year	1, 2, 3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+
Matching Requirements	24%	26%	30%	34%	38%	42%	46%	50%

Questions?

2018-2019 Funding Opportunity Information

Important Dates

- **March 1, 2019** – Notice of Intent to Apply Deadline

- **March 21, 2019** – Application Deadline

- **June 14, 2019** – Application Notification

- **September 1, 2019** – Earliest available Budget Period Start

Informational Sessions

- AmeriCorps Program Design Informational Session
  - Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 10:00am CST

- AmeriCorps Budget Informational Session
  - Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 10:00am CST

- Creating the Application Informational Session
  - Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at 10:00am CST

- AmeriCorps Open Forum Session
  - Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 10:00am CST

Resources

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
  - [2018 General Terms and Conditions](#)
  - [2018 Specific Terms and Conditions](#)
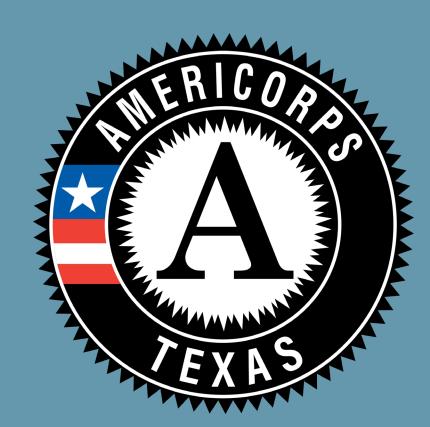 - [2018 OneStar Terms and Conditions](#)

FAQs

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. Is there a specific logic model template?

4. When I go into eGrants, it shows the due date as 1/30/2019. Have I missed the deadline?

Questions?

For Assistance After this Webinar

- For questions about this opportunity, contact:
  - Elisa Gleeson
  - Senior Grants Management Specialist
  - OneStar Foundation
  - Email: elisa@onestarfoundation.org
  - Phone consultation available by appointment only. Email Elisa to schedule.