

2012 AmeriCorps Request for Applications



Applications due October 21, 2011



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IMPORTANT NOTICE TO APPLICANTS: There are five documents necessary to complete a 2012-13 application for AmeriCorps funding. Please ensure that you have obtained forms from all of the sources listed below:

- (1) 2012 AmeriCorps Request for Applications (RFA),
- (2) 2012 AmeriCorps Application Instructions,
- (3) 2012 AmeriCorps Application Forms,
- (4) Budget Form and Budget Narrative, and
- (5) Partnership Forms & AmeriCorps Program Title Page available only online through the CV website at www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org.

Note: If you are currently funded by CV and need to apply for year two or three of continuation funding, this RFA does not apply to you. Instructions will be e-mailed directly to you by CV at a later time.

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OVERVIEW

State Entity Name:	CaliforniaVolunteers
Funding Opportunity Title:	2012 AmeriCorps Request for Applications
Announcement Type:	Initial Announcement
CFDA Number:	94.006

Dates: Applications are due to CaliforniaVolunteers (CV) by 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time on October 21, 2011.

CaliforniaVolunteers is excited to issue the 2012 *AmeriCorps Request for Applications (RFA)* in support of community partnerships that will engage citizens in meeting state and local community challenges throughout California.

On April 21, 2009, President Obama signed the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, the most sweeping expansion of national service in a generation. This landmark law not only expands service opportunities, but also focuses national service on key outcomes; builds the capacity of individuals, nonprofits, and communities to succeed; and encourages innovative approaches to solving problems.

In alignment with the Serve America Act, this RFA will focus AmeriCorps grantmaking in six Focus Areas identified by the Act:

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

In order to carry out the intent of Congress and maximize the impact of the investment in national service, CV is seeking to fund programs that can solve community problems and demonstrate impact through an evidence-based approach (e.g. performance data, research, theory of change).

CaliforniaVolunteers is committed to providing the most current information available to all applicants. We will rely primarily upon our website, www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org, to keep applicants abreast of changes. Please check our website frequently. Additionally, our website will also provide information on available technical assistance opportunities. If you have questions, please contact us via email at funding@CaliforniaVolunteers.ca.gov.

This *2012 AmeriCorps Request for Applications* should be read together with the AmeriCorps regulations 45 CFR Sections 2520-2550, and the accompanying two documents: 1) *2012 AmeriCorps Application Instructions*, and 2) *2012 AmeriCorps Application Forms*.

For additional state resource and guidance on AmeriCorps, please see the *California AmeriCorps Program Guide* at www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org.

I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. Funding Program Description

Corporation for National and Community Service

The Corporation for National and Community Service (the Corporation) is the federal agency that oversees the AmeriCorps State and National program and other national service programs such as Senior Corps, AmeriCorps VISTA, and Learn and Serve America. The Corporation's mission is to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering. For more than fifteen years, the Corporation—through its Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and Learn and Serve America programs—has helped to engage millions of citizens in meeting community and national challenges through service and volunteer action.

In the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act Congress directed the Corporation to focus national service in areas where service can have a major impact, including education, energy conservation, health, economic opportunity for economically vulnerable individuals, increasing service by and for veterans and providing disaster services.

The Corporation is carrying out the intentions of Congress by targeting AmeriCorps funding in these six focus areas. In accordance with the Act, through the Corporation's 2012 *Notice of Federal Funding Opportunity (Notice)* and its other activities, the Corporation seeks to:

- Direct the power of national service to solve a common set of national challenges.
- Expand opportunities for all Americans to serve.
- Embrace innovative solutions that work.
- Build the enduring capacity of individuals, organizations and communities to effectively use service and volunteering to solve community problems.

Through Governor-appointed State Service Commissions, the Corporation provides grants to public and nonprofit organizations that sponsor service programs around the country, including hundreds of faith-based and community organizations, higher education institutions, and public agencies. Grants assist these groups in recruiting, training, and placing AmeriCorps members to meet state and local community challenges through service and volunteer action.

CaliforniaVolunteers

CaliforniaVolunteers (CV) is the State Service Commission in California. As such, CV is the state entity responsible for increasing the number and impact of Californians engaged in service and volunteering. Karen Baker, the Secretary for Service and Volunteering, leads the organization in consultation with a 25-member Commission appointed by the Governor. The Commission develops and adopts policies that guide the State's AmeriCorps grantmaking process.

As home to the largest and most diverse population in the country, California faces many challenges that need our attention. CaliforniaVolunteers is seeking to invest AmeriCorps resources in programs that are:

Targeted at solving a critical challenge facing California. CaliforniaVolunteers values program models that clearly address an identified critical community issue, not merely the expansion of a single organization's mission. AmeriCorps programs are required to perform activities that are designed, implemented, and evaluated with extensive and broad-based local input. This input is provided in consultation with representatives from the community served and agencies with a demonstrated record of experience in providing services.

Focus on measurable outcomes. CaliforniaVolunteers values strong program designs built to address the community need by logically connecting all performance measure components back to the need. The program design is built to deliver the services that will achieve the desired result and

can quantifiably measure and report on that impact annually. (See *2012 AmeriCorps Application Forms*; Section 6.-*California Performance Measurement Worksheets*)

Uses national service as an appropriate strategy. CaliforniaVolunteers is committed to demonstrating that service is a powerful strategy to address community challenges. Successful program designs clearly identify direct beneficiaries of the stated community need, identify an evidence-based intervention proven to address the need, and clearly articulate why the efforts of an AmeriCorps member is an appropriate strategy to deliver the intervention.

Dedicated to quality. CaliforniaVolunteers seeks to invest in programs that are committed to making a difference and incorporate quality management practices to oversee the program and ensure appropriate investment of public funds. CaliforniaVolunteers values programs which can successfully implement the program design by assuring that the systems and processes necessary for managing and assessing the effectiveness of the program model are in place prior to operation. This includes adequate oversight in the management of each component to assure that the program design and systems are implemented and assessed, and that stakeholder feedback leads to continuous improvement.

AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps provides opportunities for Americans each year to provide intensive results-driven service. AmeriCorps grants support the efforts of national and community-based nonprofit organizations to recruit and deploy AmeriCorps members and the volunteers with whom they serve to tackle unmet community needs. AmeriCorps grants are awarded on a competitive basis to eligible organizations that engaged in evidence-based interventions that utilize AmeriCorps members to strengthen communities.

An AmeriCorps member is an individual who is enrolled in an approved national service position and engages in community service. AmeriCorps members are recruited, trained, supervised, and managed by the funded organization, and may receive a living allowance and other benefits while serving. Upon successful completion of their service, AmeriCorps members are eligible to receive a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award from the National Service Trust. For member eligibility requirements, please visit: http://www.americorps.gov/for_individuals/ready/eligibility.asp.

B. National Service Focus Areas (Focus Areas)

In alignment with the Serve America Act, this AmeriCorps Request for Applications (RFA) will focus grantmaking in six Focus Areas identified by the Serve America Act:

1. **Disaster Services**—Grants will help individuals and communities prepare, respond, recover, and mitigate disasters and increase community resiliency. Grant activities will:
 - increase the preparedness of individuals,
 - increase individuals' readiness to respond,
 - help individuals recover from disasters, and
 - help individuals mitigate disasters.
2. **Economic Opportunity**—Grants will provide support and/or facilitate access to services and resources that contribute to 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, and
 - have improved employability leading to increased success in becoming employed.
3. **Education**—Grants will provide support and/or facilitate access to services and resources that contribute to improved educational outcomes for economically disadvantaged people, especially children. CaliforniaVolunteers is particularly interested in program designs that use a need-based

approach to supporting youth engagement as strategies to achieve high educational outcomes. Grant activities will improve:

- school readiness for economically disadvantaged young children,
 - educational and behavioral outcomes for students in low-achieving elementary, middle, and high schools, and
 - the preparation for and prospects of success in post-secondary education institutions for economically disadvantaged students.
4. **Environmental Stewardship**—Through direct service, grants will contribute to increased energy and water efficiency, renewable energy use, or improving at-risk ecosystems, and support increased citizen behavioral change leading to increased efficiency, renewable energy use, and ecosystem improvements particularly for economically disadvantaged households and economically disadvantaged 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, and
 - increase green training opportunities that may lead to decreased energy and water consumption or improve at-risk ecosystems.
5. **Healthy Futures**—Grants will meet health needs within communities. This will include increased access to care, and reduced childhood obesity. Grants will also provide support and/or facilitate access to services and resources that contribute to the physical health improvement of persons with chronic diseases, or persons at-risk of having chronic diseases. In particular, those that are uninsured, underinsured, or within communities facing significant health disparities. Grant activities will:
- improve access to primary and preventive health care for communities served by CV/Corporation supported programs (access to health care),
 - increase physical health improvement in people that have chronic diseases or are at-risk of having chronic diseases, and
 - increase physical activity and improve nutrition in youth with the purpose of reducing childhood obesity.
6. **Veterans and Military Families**—Grants will positively impact the quality of life of veterans and improve military family strength. Grant activities will increase:
- the number of veterans and military service members and their families served by CV/Corporation supported programs, and
 - the number of veterans and military families members engaged in service provision through CV/Corporation-supported programs.

In addition to the six Focus Areas described above, grants also will provide support for capacity building activities provided by AmeriCorps members. As a rule, CV considers capacity building activities to be *indirect services* that enable CV/Corporation-supported organizations to provide more, better and sustained *direct services*. 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 assessment that identify goals and recommendations.
- Developing new systems and business processes (technology, performance management, training, etc.) or enhancing existing systems and business processes.

C. National Performance Measures

To carry out the intent of Congress and maximize the impact of the investment in national service, CV and the Corporation are seeking to fund programs that can demonstrate community impact and address community problems through an evidence-based approach (e.g. performance data, research, theory of change).

In 2012, the Corporation will implement the third year of the National Performance Measures Pilot. National Performance Measures allow the Corporation to demonstrate the aggregated impact of all AmeriCorps programs. This year, the Corporation has focused and refined the Measures and aligned them with its Strategic Plan. This refinement process included adding a few new Measures to fill data gaps. CaliforniaVolunteers and the Corporation expect to invest a significant amount of available funding to programs working in the six Focus Areas. In particular, CV and the Corporation seek to target two primary tiers and will give priority consideration to the following, in descending order of preference:

- **Tier 1:** Programs that select Priority Measures in Education, Veterans and Military Families and Disaster Services.
- **Tier 2:** Programs that select Priority Measures in Economic Opportunity, Environmental Stewardship, Healthy Futures and Capacity Building.

Funding will not be limited to programs that only fit within the focus areas and strong programs with self-nominated measures will be considered for funding. All applicants responding to this RFA are required to complete and submit their performance measures using the "California Performance Measurement Worksheets" as part of their application, included in the accompanying document: *2012 AmeriCorps Application Instructions*.

To learn more about the six focus areas and the national performance measures and how it can apply to your program, please reference the National Performance Measure starting on page 23 of this RFA as well as the *2012 Notice of Federal Funding Opportunity* at:

http://www.americorps.gov/pdf/2012_state_national_competitive_notice.pdf

D. Available Funding

CaliforniaVolunteers, as the State Service Commission, is the recipient of AmeriCorps grant funding from the Corporation through two separate funding streams: formula and competitive funds. CV subgrants these funds to applicants based on a rank-order. Grants are awarded to organizations that will operate solely in California. Successful applicants will receive grants to support AmeriCorps member positions that will engage members in service to meet critical needs in California.

CaliforniaVolunteers receives formula funds from the Corporation through a population-based allocation. Competitive funds are awarded through a national competition administered by the Corporation to applicants that have competed successfully at both the state and national levels. CaliforniaVolunteers anticipates awarding new, re-competing, and continuation AmeriCorps grants for fiscal year 2012. The actual level of funding will be subject to the availability of annual federal appropriations, which have not yet been made. In awarding funds, continuation grants are considered first, followed by new and re-competing grants. Based on recent experience and expressions of interest, CV anticipates that this AmeriCorps grantmaking year will be highly competitive.

CaliforniaVolunteers' review and selection process will be used to determine applications that will be considered for funding. Some finalists will be nominated for the national competition by CV. Applications submitted to the national competition are not guaranteed AmeriCorps funding at any level. These applications will be sent to the Corporation to be reviewed and scored in the national competition. The Corporation will make final funding decisions for programs that will be funded with competitive funds. If selected for competitive funds, these applications are considered grantees of CV. Unsuccessful applicants will return to a rank-order list for consideration of formula funds following competitive funding announcements. CaliforniaVolunteers anticipates announcing final funding decisions in June.

E. Types of Grants

The following types of AmeriCorps grants are offered through this funding opportunity:

Cost Reimbursement Grants (Non-Fixed Amount)

A cost-reimbursement grant is a standard AmeriCorps operating grant in which all program expenses are based on an approved budget as part of the grant award and are reimbursed through the submission of expense reports to CV. The grant funds can only be spent on costs in the approved budget. A cost-reimbursement grant provides funding to pay for program costs such as member support, operational costs, and administrative costs associated with the implementation of an AmeriCorps program. An applicant that applies for a cost-reimbursement grant must provide and include in the budget cash and/or in-kind match to support its overall program costs. The minimum match level required varies for applicants depending on the number of years an applicant has received AmeriCorps funding. See Table 3 on page 11 for information on match requirements.

Education Award Programs (EAP) Fixed-Amount Grants

An EAP program is an AmeriCorps program that receives minimal funding support. An EAP program receives an award for a specific amount per the number of Member Service Years (MSYs) enrolled. A MSY is equivalent to one full-time AmeriCorps position. An EAP program may request up to \$800 per MSY to implement an AmeriCorps program and use their own or other resources for the majority of members' living allowance and program costs. Because of the minimal financial support, EAP grants are best suited for pre-existing service programs or for organizations with other sources of funding, for whom becoming part of AmeriCorps will add value to their program. There is no match requirement for EAP grants. Unlike the Full-time Fixed-amount grant noted below, EAPs may enroll less-than-full-time members in addition to full-time members.

Full-Time Fixed-Amount Grants

These fixed-amount grants are available for programs that enroll full-time members only. Full-time fixed-amount grants allow programs to apply for a fixed dollar amount of up to \$13,000 per member. The fixed-amount awarded per member is significantly less than the cost of running an AmeriCorps program and the applicant must use their own or other resources for the remaining cost of the program. There is no match required for full-time fixed-amount grants, but successful applicants must still raise the additional funds needed to run the program. The final grant amount that a fixed-amount grantee may retain under its award is tied to the number of service hours completed by each member. If a member completed the term of service and earned the education award, the program is entitled to the full amount approved per MSY. If a member did not complete the term of service, 1700 hours, the program is entitled to the pro-rated approved amount per MSY based on percentage of hours served divided by 1700 hours of service.

Full-time fixed-amount grant applicants in the Education Focus Area will be required to select either a Tier 1 Measure or Tier 3 Education Pilot Measure. Applicants proposing non-Education programs may select from Tiers 1-5. All performance measures may be negotiated prior to grant selection and award. Approved applicants must agree to participate in any relevant evaluations conducted by CV and/or the Corporation.

Professional Corps (Non-Fixed Amount)

These grants are awarded to organizations that propose to operate a Professional Corps program that place AmeriCorps members as teachers, health care providers, police officers, engineers, or other professionals in communities where there is a documented shortage 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. A Professional Corps program may request up to \$2,500 per MSY to implement an AmeriCorps program.

Professional Corps Fixed-Amount Grants

These grants are awarded to organizations that propose to operate a Professional Corps program. The Professional Corps program model places AmeriCorps members as teachers, health care providers, police

officers, engineers, or other professionals in communities where there are an inadequate number of such professions. Applicants can apply for up to \$2,000 per MSY. Applicants are eligible to apply for funding for a portion of program costs, and use their own or other resources to pay the members' living allowance and additional member costs.

An AmeriCorps program that receives a fixed-amount grant (e.g. Full-time Fixed-amount, EAP, Professional Corps Fixed-amount) is like any other AmeriCorps program and is still responsible for adhering to all AmeriCorps Regulations and Provisions such as the administrative and programmatic requirements related to the recruitment, placement, training, and management of members and the required documentation. The exception is that, unlike the cost-reimbursement grant, the fixed-amount grant does not require:

- Compliance with OMB cost principles;
- Federal Financial Reports (FFR); or,
- Match or documentation of match.

F. How to Apply

Organizations that operate solely in California must apply to CaliforniaVolunteers. Organizations that operate in more than one state are eligible to apply for national grants directly from the Corporation. Indian tribes may apply through CV or directly to the Corporation. An Indian Tribe is defined as a federally recognized Indian Tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, including any Native village, regional Corporation, or Village Corporation, as defined under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602), that the United States Government determines is eligible for special programs and service provided under federal law to Indians because of their status as Indians. Indian Tribes also include tribal organizations controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by one of the entities described above.

G. Potential Change to RFA Guidelines and Supplemental Guidance

This *Request for Applications (RFA)* was created in good faith and based on the most recent guidance provided by the Corporation. The amount of funds available for AmeriCorps, as well as new grant limits and requirements, are dependent on the congressional appropriations process yet to be concluded. These factors may require changes to the Corporation's guidance and to this RFA. As necessary, CV will issue all supplemental materials at the earliest possible date. All supplemental materials and updates will be available on the CV website at www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org. **Applicants are advised to check the website on a weekly basis.**

This RFA provides a broad overview of AmeriCorps guidance, highlighting many basic components and rules to provide a general understanding of the complexities and intricacies of AmeriCorps programming and requirements. A companion document, the *California AmeriCorps Program Guide (Guide)*, provides more detail on AmeriCorps program elements and further clarification of federal and state requirements. The full AmeriCorps regulations, 45 CFR § 2520-2550, are available online at www.gpoaccess.gov/ecfr. Successful applicants will be required to comply with these regulations, AmeriCorps provisions, and federal and state policies. Federal funds provided under this grant are identified by the Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 94.006.

The AmeriCorps regulations include the criteria used to select applicants for funding and other pertinent information (Table 1).

Table 1: Program Requirements in the AmeriCorps Regulations

Requirements and Selection	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

H. Authority

These funds will be available under authority of the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.§12571-12595) reauthorized by the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act of 2009.

II. AWARD INFORMATION

A. Grant Period

Grants awarded through this selection process will support programming beginning in the summer of 2012. Unless otherwise specified, CV follows the Corporation’s practice of awarding up to three-year grants, which are evaluated annually for continued funding. Continuation funding is contingent upon satisfactory performance, a grantee’s demonstrated capacity to manage a grant and comply with grant requirements, and the availability of funds. CaliforniaVolunteers reserves the right to adjust the amount of a grant award for subsequent years, or elect not to continue funding, on these bases. Should continuation funds be granted, the program must enter into a contract for every year of the award.

Applications for 2012 must include proposed activities and a detailed proposed budget for the first year of operation. CaliforniaVolunteers expects that programmatic activities for the second and third years of operation will build upon, and be similar in scope to, those of the first year. The project start date may not occur prior to a program’s AmeriCorps contract execution date with CV. AmeriCorps members may not begin service prior to the program entering into a fully executed contract with CV. A program may not certify any hours a member performs prior to the beginning of the member enrollment period.

B. 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

Grant Type	Match Requirement
Cost-Reimbursement Grants including Professional Corps Non-Fixed Amount Grants	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.
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 the Corporation.
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 the Corporation.
Full-time Fixed-Amount Grants	There are no specific match requirements for fixed-amount grants. Grantees pay all program costs over the \$13,000 per MSY provided by the Corporation

Fixed-Amount Grants (EAP, Full-time Fixed-Amount, Professional Corps Fixed-Amount)

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.

Cost Reimbursement Grants

A first-time successful applicant is required to provide a single overall match of 24 percent for the first three-year funding period. Starting with the second three-year cycle, match gradually increases every year to 50 percent by year ten, according to the minimum overall share chart found in 45 CFR § 2521.60 summarized in the following table:

Table 3: Single Match Requirements for Cost Reimbursement Grants

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

Programs may provide their share of operating costs and overall match through cash or in-kind resources, and may use non-Corporation federal funds if specifically allowed by the other federal agency. Matching funds must be verifiable; not be included as match for other federal programs; be necessary and reasonable for the purpose of your program; and, be allowable under Office of Management and Budget (OMB) cost principles. Matching funds must be secured on an annual basis. Use of other federal funds as match requires approval from the other federal agency to use their funds for match on an AmeriCorps grant.

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 the Corporation on the Federal Financial Report.

The living allowance or salary provided to Professional Corps AmeriCorps members does not count toward the matching requirement.

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, 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 include a request as part of the application. Please reference the accompanying document: *2012 AmeriCorps Application Instructions*.

The legal applicant is the entity responsible for meeting matching funds requirements. The legal applicant may request that partnering organizations provide a share of the match necessary to meet matching funds requirements. Applicants must demonstrate sufficient match to meet the minimum requirements, but are advised not to include match in excess of the minimum if sources are uncertain. Failure to secure matching funds identified in the budget may result in adverse audit findings in addition to negatively affecting future grant applications to CV.

C. Cost per Member Service Year (MSY)

An AmeriCorps grant is determined based on the number of AmeriCorps members that a grantee will support. A 1700 hours or full-time AmeriCorps member position is equivalent to one MSY, CV does consider the cost per MSY in making funding decisions. An applicant’s cost per MSY is determined by dividing the total Corporation or federal share of budgeted grant costs by the number of MSYs requested. For example, an applicant requesting 25 MSYs at a cost per MSY of \$13,000 would request \$325,000 (25 x \$13,000). It does not include child care or the value of the education award a member may earn. The maximum amount an applicant may request CV per MSY is determined on an annual basis. Re-competing 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.

CaliforniaVolunteers limits the 2012 cost per MSY for successful new applicants at \$16,000. To be considered for the national competition, the new limit for successful new applicants is \$13,300. Other applicants must follow the guidelines below appropriate to the number of previous funding years the legal applicant and/or proposed program has received funding from CV. CaliforniaVolunteers is responsible to monitor successful applicants' member enrollment and retention to adjust budgets to maintain cost per member, as needed.

Table 4: CaliforniaVolunteers Cost per Member Service Year Limit

Grant Cycle	Grant Years	Maximum Cost Per MSY	
		Formula Grants	Competitive Grants
1	1, 2, 3	\$16,000	\$13,300
2	4, 5, 6	\$15,000	
3	7, 8, 9	\$14,000	
4	10, 11, 12	\$13,000	\$13,000
5	13, 14, 15	\$12,000	\$12,000
6	16, 17, 18	\$11,000	\$11,000
7+	19+	\$10,000	\$10,000

An applicant may apply for a Full-time Fixed-amount grant, provided that the applicant maintains the cost per MSY appropriate to the level established for its number of funding years and that its cost per MSY does not exceed the maximum costs per MSY set by the Corporation. Successful applicants receiving fixed-amount grants must comply to any other requirements determined by the Corporation.

D. Maximum Grant Size

Programs being considered for competitive funds do not have maximum limit; however, grants *generally* do not exceed \$1 million. Applicants that are unsuccessful in their attempt to secure competitive funding will be considered for formula funding, based on their state ranking. Such programs may be subjected to a reduced budget up to \$850,000. New applicants may be awarded up to \$400,000 and re-competing applicants may be awarded up to \$850,000 in formula funds.

E. Minimum Program Size

The minimum program size funded by CV for this application is 20 MSYs. CaliforniaVolunteers believes this MSY requirement is necessary to provide members in quantities that make a substantial difference relative to locally identified needs. Applicants proposing specialized programs that require reduced-hour positions or programs focused on a need that inherently requires a number of AmeriCorps members below the minimum required MSY level must include a compelling rationale as part of its application to CV. Program designs in CVs' 2010-11 portfolio range from 20 MSYs up to 265 MSYs, with an average program size of 45 MSYs.

F. Minimum Number of Members per Service Site

To ensure strong program design and to provide members with at least a minimal mutual support network, successful applicants must place a minimum of two AmeriCorps members at each operating or service site as part of their program design. Requests for waiver from this requirement must show enhanced impact and member support mechanisms.

G. Living Allowance

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. 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 table below and should follow the guidelines below for minimum limits. While Fixed-amount grantees' final grant award does not include a detailed budget, they are still required to provide a living allowance to members that complies with the minimum and maximum requirements.

Table 5: Minimum and Maximum Living Allowance

Term of Service	Minimum # of Hours	Minimum Living Allowance	Maximum Living Allowance
Full-time	1,700	\$12,100	\$24,200
Half-Time	900	\$6,400	\$12,800
Reduced Half-Time	675	\$4,800	\$9,600
Quarter-Time	450	\$3,200	\$6,400
Minimum-Time	300	\$2,150	\$4,300

In most instances, the grant received by an applicant will not cover the full amount of the living allowance provided to members and the applicant must use its own or other resources to supplement member living allowance. Because the minimum living allowance may not fully cover the actual living expenses of members, programs may wish to offer living allowances in excess of the minimum requirements. Programs are prohibited from comparing member living allowance to an “hourly wage” in any recruitment materials, member handbooks, etc.

Exceptions to Living Allowance Requirements

Prior to September 21, 1993

If a program existed prior to the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993 (enacted September 21, 1993), the law does not require a living allowance. 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-full-time members, but if a living allowance is provided, it must comply with the maximum requirements set forth in the Living Allowance section 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 forth in the Living Allowance section above. Professional Corps member salaries are paid entirely by the organizations with which the members serve, and are not included in the budget.

H. Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards

AmeriCorps members serving in a program funded with FY 2012 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 as defined in the table below. The amount of the Education Award is determined on the basis of the Pell Grant award. The member may use the award to pay for current educational expenses at qualified institutions of higher education, or to repay qualified student loans. A member has up to seven years after the term of service has ended to use the award. AmeriCorps members who commence service on or after October 1, 2009, who are age 55 or older at the time they commence service, may, upon successful completion of a term of service, transfer the education award to a child, grandchild, or foster child. Education awards are granted directly to eligible members by the National Service Trust and are not included in the calculation of an AmeriCorps grant.

Table 6: Member Term of Service and FY 12 Education Award

Term of Service	MSYs	Minimum # of Hours	Education Award**
Full Time	1.00	1,700	\$5,550
Half Time	.500	900	\$2,775
Reduced Half Time	.381	675	\$2,114
Quarter Time	.265	450	\$1,468
Minimum Time	.212	300	\$1,175

I. Enrollment Requirements

We expect 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 re compete processes. Re competing grantees that have not achieved full enrollment in the previous year must provide an explanation and a corrective action plan in the application. Applicants that do not fully enroll are likely to receive a decrease in funding in subsequent years.

J. Retention Requirements

We expect grantees to pursue the highest member enrollment 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. Applicants that do not retain members are likely to receive a decrease in funding in subsequent years. We recognize retention rates may vary among equally effective programs depending on the program model. Re competing grantees that have not achieved full retention in the most recently completed program year must provide an explanation and a corrective action plan in the application.

III. ELIGIBILITY

A. Eligible Applicants

Public or private nonprofit organizations, including faith-based and other community organizations; institutions of higher education; government entities within California (e.g., cities, counties); Indian Tribes; labor organizations; partnerships and consortia; and intermediaries planning to subgrant funds awarded are encouraged to apply. Organizations that have been convicted of a Federal crime are disqualified from receiving the assistance described in this RFA.

Pursuant to the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, any 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, serve as a host site for member placements, or act in any type of supervisory role in the program.

B. Community Partnerships Requirements

To maximize community involvement in AmeriCorps that goes beyond AmeriCorps placement sites and the grantee, all applicants are required to develop a program partnership. Successful applicants must have a partnership of at least three independent entities that include *one public and one private* partner (nonprofit or for-profit entity). CaliforniaVolunteers considers 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations to be private entities. CaliforniaVolunteers prefers partners to have a significant role in planning, operating, and sustaining the program (e.g. match contribution, training resources, continuous improvement assessment, etc.). All partners must be identified on the Partnership Form submitted on-line as part of the application.

C. Types of Applicants

For the 2012 competition, there will be several types of applicants seeking AmeriCorps grant funding through this RFA. Details regarding these applicant types are provided below. **“Continuation” programs (i.e., current recipients of AmeriCorps operating grants that are not entering the final year of their current grant period) should NOT use this RFA.**

New Applicants

A “new” applicant is one in which neither the legal applicant, nor primary partnering organizations, nor individuals involved in developing the current AmeriCorps application have developed an AmeriCorps application that has been awarded an AmeriCorps operating grant, or were previously employed as core program staff of a funded program, National Direct organization staff, state commission staff, or Corporation staff in the last five years. CaliforniaVolunteers strongly encourages all new applicants to review technical assistance materials as they become available on the CV website at www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org.

Recompeting Programs

“Recompeting” applicants are programs that have completed a three-year grant cycle (in most instances) and opt to “recompete” for another three-year award. AmeriCorps programs entering the final year of their grant period must submit a new application if they wish to be considered for future AmeriCorps funding. Recompeting programs are reminded that submitting an application does not guarantee success in securing future funding. Recompeting applicants are advised that previous site visit reports, program progress reports, financial reports, and member enrollment and retention rates, will be reviewed as part of the selection process.

Experienced Applicants

Applicants who propose an AmeriCorps program, in which that program has not previously operated, but do not meet the definition of a new applicant, will be deemed experienced applicants.

Previously Funded Programs

The previously funded program designation applies to any program who has previously received an AmeriCorps operating grant from CV or the Corporation in any of the past five completed program years (2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, or 2010-11). Applications will receive this designation if the proposed program is similar in scope and purpose to the program previously operated. This definition holds true even if the legal applicant for the program has changed.

IV. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

A. Basic Selection Criteria

In addition to the focus areas and AmeriCorps values identified in the Funding Opportunity Description Section, reviewers at both the state and national level will assess program design, organizational capability, and cost-effectiveness and budget adequacy. Additional selection factors will be applied to balance the portfolio with regard to program models, program activities, geographic distribution, and communities served as described in 45 CFR §§ 2522.420–2522.448. The weights assigned to each category and sub-category are listed in the table below. The Application Instructions accompanying this RFA provides additional details and recommendation for addressing each selection criteria.

Table 7: Basic Selection Criteria: Categories, Sub-Categories, and Respective Weights

Category	Sub-Categories and Weights
Program Design – 50%	Rationale and Approach (10%)
	Member Outputs and Outcomes (20%)
	Community Outputs and Outcomes (20%)
Organizational Capability – 25%	No sub-categories
Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy - 25%	Cost-Effectiveness (15%)
	Budget Adequacy (10%)

Section 2522.450 of the AmeriCorps regulations addresses types of programs or program models that may receive special consideration in the selection process. Section 2522.455 addresses how you can find out about additional priorities governing the selection process. Section 2522.470 addresses other factors or information the Corporation may consider in making final decisions.

B. CaliforniaVolunteers Review and Selection Process

Applications are selected for funding using an intensive, multi-stage process that includes external Peer Review, CV Staff Review, and CV Commission approval. The 2012 grantmaking process follows the policies published in the *California AmeriCorps Program Guide*, available on the CV website at www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org.

CaliforniaVolunteers' selection and review process occurs in several phases:

Compliance Check

CaliforniaVolunteers staff 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 the Peer Review

Peer Review

The Peer Review is worth 40 percent of an applicant's combined total score. A panel of at least three peer reviewers evaluates the applications against a selection matrix. All external reviewers will be screened for conflict of interest. Applications that meet the minimum "adequate" score threshold established for the Peer Review will advance to the Staff Review. Applications identified for additional assessment will receive a quality control review which may include a second appraisal by a different peer review panel or a CV staff quality control reviewer at the discretion of the AmeriCorps Director.

Staff Review

The staff interview is worth 60 percent of an applicant's combined total score. Those applications that meet the minimum score threshold in the Peer Review process will advance to the CV Staff Review. Following staff assessment, some applicants may receive requests to provide clarifying information. The purpose of "Clarification" is to provide an opportunity for applicants to "fill-in gaps" identified from the Peer or Staff Review process. Clarification may take the form of an in-person interview, conference call, or written response. This new process will be determined at the discretion of the AmeriCorps Director. Please note that failure to respond to CVs' clarification requests in a timely manner will result in removal of applications from funding consideration.

Selection

The primary consideration of selection of AmeriCorps programs is merit. Applicants must meet a minimum score at each review stage in order to be considered for funding. In selecting applicants to participate in the national competition, CV considers criteria in its strategy such as grant request size, cost per MSY, issue area focus, innovation, and past performance. CaliforniaVolunteers has the responsibility to determine the best strategy in selecting applicants for the national competition.

An applicant's score from each review stage is weighted according to the weights assigned to each category and sub-categories as illustrated in Table 7 on page 16. An applicant's final score is created by weighting the scores from the Peer Review and Staff Review processes, 40 percent and 60 percent, respectively.

To help achieve a balanced portfolio, the final selections will take into consideration the following:

- CaliforniaVolunteers' Statewide Geographic Distribution Policy, in which the Commission will seek to ensure a minimum of 40 MSYs in the Los Angeles region and 20 MSYs per the remaining other eight regions as determined by the California's Economic Strategy Panel. In order to achieve geographic parity, a program in an already represented region may be skipped, and another program may be selected. Under no circumstances will the Commission provide formula

funding to an applicant that receives a score that is 10 or more points below the applicant it displaces.

- Ensure a minimum amount of funding for programs led by non-profit and non-state governmental organizations as required by AmeriCorps regulations.

Results of the grant review process are presented to the CV Commission along with staff recommendation of eligible applicants selected to represent California in the national competition. The Commission makes final approval of funding decisions. Commission funding decisions are final—there is no appeal process.

C. Review and Selection Process

Selection Criteria

Each application must clearly describe a project that will effectively deploy AmeriCorps members to solve a significant community need and respond to the following criteria.

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 needs.

Specifically, reviewers will assess the extent to which the applicant:

- Provides persuasive evidence that the identified needs exist in the targeted community(ies).
- Describes the ways in which AmeriCorps members are a highly effective means to solving the identified community needs, including the unique value added by AmeriCorps.
- Describes how the interventions the AmeriCorps members and volunteers are engaged in are both evidence-based and will have a measurable community impact. The intervention is evidence-based if programs can demonstrate community impact and solve community problems through an evidence-based approach (e.g. performance data, research, theory of change.)
- Describes the program components that enable the AmeriCorps members to have powerful service experiences that produce increased community impact and lead to continued civic participation and connectivity with other AmeriCorps and national service participants.
- Convincingly links four major elements: (1) the needs identified, (2) the intervention that will be carried out by AmeriCorps members and community volunteers, (3) the ways in which AmeriCorps members are particularly well-suited to deliver the intervention, and (4) the anticipated outcomes.

Recompeting grantees must describe their efforts and impact to date, and provide persuasive evidence they should continue to be funded.

If a new applicant is already working to meet the community need identified in the application, the applicant should describe how the proposed use of AmeriCorps members will add value, i.e., be more effective than what is currently being implemented, or enhance existing efforts.

2. **Organizational Capability (25 percent)**--Reviewers will assess the extent to which:
 - The organization has the experience, staffing, and management structure to plan, implement and evaluate the proposed program.
 - The organization has secured, or describes an effective plan for securing, the financial and in-kind resources necessary to support program implementation and to demonstrate community stakeholder support.
 - The organization has the ability and structure to ensure its and its subgrantees and/or service locations' compliance with AmeriCorps rules and regulations including prohibited activities.
 - Multi-state applicants have consulted with state and territory service commissions to ensure non-duplication and coordination of Corporation resources.

- Current or previous AmeriCorps grantees filled the member positions they were awarded and retained the AmeriCorps members they enrolled or have provided an explanation for less than 100% enrollment and retention.
- Current or previous AmeriCorps grantees have met performance targets and demonstrated compliance with grant terms and conditions.

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.

For EAPs and Full-time Fixed-amount grants, reviewers will assess:

- The applicant's understanding of total program cost and capacity to raise additional resources beyond the fixed-amount.
- The amount requested per member. Fixed-amount applicants are encouraged to request less than the full maximum amount allowed per MSY. The amount requested is a competitive factor in the selection process.

V. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

A. Notice of Intent to Apply

Please complete and submit the *Notice of Intent to Apply* Form to CV at funding@CaliforniaVolunteers.ca.gov by **4:00 p.m. on October 5, 2011**.

Submission of the Notice of Intent is mandatory and will help CV and the Corporation plan more efficiently for external and internal reviews.

B. Submission to CaliforniaVolunteers

Applicants must complete a "Paper Application" and an "Electronic Submission". The electronic and paper portions of the application are both required. To complete your application, you should:

1. Download the following documents from the CV website at <http://www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org/index.php/Grants/ameriCorps/>):
 - 2012 AmeriCorps Request for Applications (RFA),
 - 2012 AmeriCorps Application Instructions,
 - 2012 AmeriCorps Application Forms, and
 - 2012 Budget and Budget Narrative Forms.
2. Follow the instructions included in the *2012 AmeriCorps Application Instructions* document in completing and submitting your application. The *Application Instructions* document also contains directions for completing your required Electronic Submission.
3. A complete Paper Application must include application checklist items #1-16 as listed on the AmeriCorps Application Checklist.
4. A complete Electronic Submission must include the following:
 - Online submission of the AmeriCorps Program Title Page
 - Online submission of the AmeriCorps Partnership Forms
 - While submitting the AmeriCorps Partnership Forms, attach a copy of the paper application for application checklist items #1-13.

C. Page Limits

You may not exceed 25 double spaced pages in the Program Narratives, including the Executive Summary Page.

Do not submit supplementary materials such as videos, brochures, letters of support, or any other items not requested in these application instructions. CaliforniaVolunteers will not review or return them.

D. Submission Date and Time

Applications (both Paper Application and Electronic Submission) must arrive at CaliforniaVolunteers by October 21, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time in order to be considered.

Please send your Paper Application to:

CaliforniaVolunteers
ATTN: AmeriCorps 2012
1110 K Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Late applications will not be accepted. CaliforniaVolunteers reserves the right to make exceptions under extenuating circumstances.

E. Universal Identifier

Applications must include a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and register with the Central Contractor's Registry (CCR). The DUNS number does not replace an Employer Identification Number.

DUNS numbers may be obtained at no cost by calling the DUNS number request line at (866) 705-5711 or by applying online: <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>.

The website indicates a 24-hour e-mail turnaround time on requests for DUNS numbers; however, we suggest registering at least 30 days in advance of the application due date. Expedited DUNS numbers may be obtained by following instructions found here: <http://smallbusiness.dnb.com/establish-your-business/12334338-1.html>.

CCR is the primary registrant database for the U.S. Federal Government. CCR 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.

We urge applicants that are not already registered with the CCR 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 the CCR. It typically takes 3-5 days to finalize CCR registration. To register online go to www.bpn.gov/CCR.

F. Submission to the Corporation

The Corporation for National and Community Service requires that all applicants submit their applications electronically utilizing the Corporation's web-based application system, eGrants. Applicants selected to represent California in the national competition will submit their applications into eGrants by 2:00 p.m. on January 7, 2012. Applicants selected by CV for formula funding will submit their application in eGrants in June 2012. Please ensure staff availability during these two months to enter your application into eGrants as well as respond to CVs' requests for clarification. CaliforniaVolunteers will provide instructions to this process at a later time.

G. 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).

VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

A. Important Dates

This timeline is subject to change due to Corporation announcements and other events.

October 5, 2011	Mandatory Notice of Intent to Apply Due by 4:00 p.m.
October 21, 2011	Applications due to by 5:00 p.m.
October-November 2011	Peer Review
November-December 2011	Staff Review
December 2011–January 5, 2012	*Clarification for Competitive Candidates
January 13, 2012	**Competitive Applications due in eGrants
June 2012	Funding Results Announced
June 2012	**Formula Applications due in eGrants

* Applicants and their partnership representatives must be available during this timeframe to respond to CVs' clarification requests.

**During this period, applicants must have appropriate staff available to enter and submit application into eGrants.

B. Open Government

In accordance with the Obama Administration's emphasis on open government, the Corporation has moved toward greater openness and transparency in grantmaking. This *Notice* includes a description of the review and selection process in Section V.

The following information pertaining to this competition for new and recomplete applications will be published on the Corporation's website at (<http://nationalservice.gov/about/open/grants.asp>), within a period not to exceed 90 business days after all grants are awarded:

- Blank external review template.
- 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.
- Summary of external reviewer's comments for successful applications.

C. Governing Documents

A grantee's fully executed AmeriCorps contract incorporates the approved application as part of a binding commitment under the grant as well as the AmeriCorps regulations (45 CFR Sections 2520-2550) and grant provisions

D. Reporting Requirements

Selected applicants are required to submit programmatic and/or financial reports as designated by CaliforniaVolunteers.

E. Disaster Funding

CaliforniaVolunteers and the Corporation reserve the right to re-focus program dollars in the event of disaster or other compelling need for service.

VII. CONTACT INFORMATION

This RFA is available at www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org/index.php/Grants/americorps/.

CV is committed to providing the most current information available to all applicants. We will rely primarily upon our website, www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org, to keep applicants abreast of changes. Please check our website frequently. Additionally, our website will also provide information on technical assistance opportunities.

All communication relating to this California only RFA must be directed to Funding@CaliforniaVolunteers.ca.gov. Emails will be returned within a reasonable amount of time. Responses to questions received will be posted on CVs' **Frequently Asked Questions** at www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org/index.php/Grants/americorps/. Applicants are encouraged to submit their questions well in advance of the application deadline as CV is not obligated to respond to questions that are received 48 hours prior to the application due date.

For questions regarding multi-state or Indian Tribes applications submitted directly to the Corporation, please contact:

Corporation for National and Community Service
Phone: (202) 606-7508
TTY: (202) 606-3472
Email: americorpsnational@cns.gov

VIII. NATIONAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Tier 1: Priority Measures (in Disaster Services, Education, and Veterans and Military Families)

Disaster Services
(new) D1: Number of individuals that received CNCS-supported services in disaster preparedness
(new) D2: Number of individuals that received CNCS-supported services in disaster response
(new) D3: Number of individuals that received CNCS-supported services in disaster recovery
(new) D4: Number of individuals that received CNCS-supported services in disaster mitigation
Education
ED21: Number of children that completed participation in CNCS-supported early childhood education programs
ED23: Number of children demonstrating gains in school readiness in terms of social and/or emotional development
ED24: Number of children demonstrating gains in school readiness in terms of literacy skills
ED25: Number of children demonstrating gains in school readiness in terms of numeracy (math) skills
ED2: Number of students that completed participation in CNCS-supported K-12 education programs
ED4A: Number of disadvantaged youth/mentor matches that were sustained by the CNCS-supported program for at least the required time period
ED5: Number of students with improved academic performance in literacy and/or math
(new) ED27: Number 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: Number 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: Number of veterans that received CNCS-supported assistance
(new) V8: Number of veterans' family members that received CNCS-supported assistance
V7: Number of family members of active duty military service members that received CNCS-supported assistance
(new) V9: Number of active duty military service members that received CNCS-supported assistance
V2: Number of veterans engaged in service opportunities as a National Service Participant or volunteer.
V10: Number of military family members engaged in service opportunities as a National Service Participant or volunteer.

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

Economic Opportunity¹
O5: Number of economically disadvantaged individuals, including homeless individuals, receiving housing services
O11: Number of economically disadvantaged individuals, including homeless individuals, transitioned into safe, healthy, affordable housing
Environmental Stewardship²
EN4: Number of acres of national parks, state parks, city parks, county parks, or other public and tribal lands that are improved
EN5: Number of miles of trails or waterways (owned/maintained by national, state, county, city or tribal governments) that are improved and/or created

¹ The 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 Environmental Stewardship measures may also be used to report on your program's performance in providing services in the Disaster Services focus area,

Healthy Futures³
H8: Number of homebound OR older adults and individuals with disabilities receiving food, transportation, or other services that allow them to live independently
(new) H9: Number 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): Number of individuals receiving support, services, education and/or referrals to alleviate long-term hunger
(new) H12: Number of individuals that reported increased food security of themselves and their children (household food security) as a result of CNCS-supported services
Capacity Building
(new) G3-3.1: Number of community volunteers recruited by CNCS-supported organizations or National Service Participants
(new) G3-3.2: Number of community volunteers managed by CNCS-supported organizations or National Service Participants
(new) G3-3.3: Number 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

Tier 3: Pilot Measures

Education
ED1: Number of students who start in a CNCS-supported education program
ED3A: Number of disadvantaged youth/mentor matches that are commenced by CNCS-supported programs
ED7: Number of students with no or decreased disciplinary referrals and suspensions over the course of the CNCS-supported programs' involvement
ED8: Number of youth with decreased substance abuse, arrest, or gang involvement
ED9: Number of students graduating from high school on time with a diploma
ED10: Number of students entering post-secondary institutions
ED11: Number of students earning a post-secondary degree
ED12: Number of CNCS-Supported National Service Participants who begin serving as teachers through a Teacher Corps program
ED13: Number of CNCS-Supported National Service Participants who completed serving as teachers through a Teacher Corps program
ED14: Number of individuals teaching in high need schools
ED15: Number of students in CNCS-supported teacher classrooms with improved academic performance
ED17: Number 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: Number of teachers who have had a positive impact on student learning as determined by observation-based assessments of teacher performance
ED19: Number of individuals receiving certification to teach in schools after their term of service
ED20: Number of children who start in a CNCS-supported early childhood education program
ED22: Number of children accessing high quality early childhood education programs
ED26: Number of students acquiring a GED

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,

Economic Opportunity
O1: Number of economically disadvantaged individuals receiving financial literacy services
O2: Number of economically disadvantaged individuals receiving job training and other skill development services
O3: Number of economically disadvantaged individuals receiving job placement services
O4: Number of housing units developed, repaired, or otherwise made available for low-income individuals, families or people with disabilities
O9: Number of economically disadvantaged individuals with improved financial knowledge
O10: Number of economically disadvantaged individuals placed in jobs
O12: Number of economically disadvantaged National Service Participants who are unemployed prior to their term of service
O13: Number 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
O14: Number 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
O15: Number of economically disadvantaged National Service Participants that secure employment during their term of service or within one year after finishing a CNCS-supported program
O16: Number 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
O17: Number of National Service Participants that complete a college course within one year after finishing a CNCS-supported program
Environmental Stewardship
EN1: Number of housing units of low-income households and structures weatherized or retrofitted to significantly improve energy efficiency
EN2: Number of low-income households home and public building energy audits conducted
EN3: Number 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: Number of tons of materials collected and recycled
Healthy Futures
H1: Number of individuals who are uninsured, economically disadvantaged, medically underserved, or living in rural areas utilizing preventive and primary health care services and programs
H2: Number of clients to whom information on health insurance, health care access and health benefits programs is delivered
H3: Number of clients enrolled in health insurance, health services, and health benefits programs
H4: Number of clients participating in health education programs
H5: Number of children and youth engaged in in-school or afterschool physical education activities with the purpose of reducing childhood obesity
H6: Number of children and youth receiving nutrition education with the purpose of reducing childhood obesity
H7: Number of clients receiving language translation services at clinics and in emergency rooms
Veterans and Military Families
V3: Number of veterans assisted in pursuing educational opportunities
V4: Number of veterans assisted in receiving professional certification, licensure, or credentials
V6: Number of housing units developed, repaired, or otherwise made available for veterans

Capacity Building
(new) G3-3.4 Number of organizations that received capacity building services from CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
(new) G3-3.5: Number 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
(new) G3-3.6: Number of organizations that completed a community assessment identifying goals and recommendations with the assistance of CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
(new) G3-3.7: Hours of service contributed by community volunteers who were recruited by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
(new) G3-3.8: Hours of service contributed by community volunteers who were managed by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
(new) G3-3.9: Number of organizations reporting that capacity building activities provided by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants have helped to make the organization more efficient
(new) G3-3.10: Number of organizations reporting that capacity building activities provided by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants have helped to make the organization more effective
(new) G3-3.11: Number 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
(new) G3-3.12: Number 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
(new) G3-3.13: Number 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
(new) G3-3.14: Number 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
(new) G3-3.15: Number 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
(new) G3-3.16: Dollar value of cash resources leveraged by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
(new) G3-3.17: Dollar value of in-kind resources leveraged by CNCS-supported organizations or national service participants
(new) G3-3.18: Number 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
(new) G3-3.19: Number 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