



## NOTICE OF FUNDS AVAILABILITY (NOFA)

### **Overview of AmeriCorps State and National Grants FY 2013 (CFDA # 94.006)**

**Submission Deadline: 2/6/2013**

AmeriCorps oversees a number of grant programs, including the *AmeriCorps State and National Grants* competition. This particular competition provides grants to a broad network of public and nonprofit organizations that sponsor AmeriCorps service programs around the country, including hundreds of faith and community based organizations, Indian Tribes, institutions of higher education, and public agencies. These organizations must be proposing to sponsor community service programs in partnership with local organizations in two or more states. Note that organizations proposing to operate in one state must apply through State Commissions (see your state office for more information and application timelines).

This year's AmeriCorps State and National NOFA focuses grant making for fiscal year 2013 in six focus areas identified by the Serve America Act (see NOFA for types of activities to be supported within each focus area): Economic Opportunity; Disaster Services; Education; Veterans and Military Families; Environmental Stewardship; and Healthy Futures. AmeriCorps continues to focus on improving the lives of children, youth, and families within those focus areas.

#### **Purpose:**

To support programs that use service and volunteering to address compelling community needs in at least two states. An organization identifies a community need and designs a program to meet that need through the service of AmeriCorps members and volunteers. Applicants will coordinate and work with local organizations to recruit, train and supervise AmeriCorps members (an individual who engages in community service through an approved national service position).

#### **Eligible applicants include:**

- National non-profit organizations (by which AmeriCorps means organizations that operate in two or more states)
- Consortia formed across two or more states
- Institutions of higher education
- Other nonprofits, including labor, faith-based and other community organizations
- State, county or city government entities
- Indian Tribes or tribal organizations (including tribal colleges)

Applicants must: 1) demonstrate the capacity to administer and monitor a federal, multi-site, multi-state grant; 2) have partners in other states that can operate the program on a local level; and 3) operate an established service program that could reach more beneficiaries or recruit more participants by partnering with AmeriCorps. In addition, applicants must also demonstrate that they are able to secure cash and in-kind resources necessary to support an AmeriCorps program. CNCS will only fund programs that can demonstrate community impact and solve community problems using an evidence-based or evidence-informed approach (e.g. performance data, research, theory of change).

**Award Amount:** Award amounts are based on the member service year (MSY) slots being proposed – one MSY is equivalent to at least 1700 service hours, a full-time AmeriCorps position. (See detail in NOFA). Maximum

amounts allowed per slot vary depending on the type of slot being proposed, with most State and National grant MSY's being reimbursed at a maximum of \$13,300. Enrollment rates have a direct bearing on the number of slots and size of awards approved in continuation grants. New grantees are limited to no more than 50 member slots. Programs must provide required living allowances for all full-time positions. In FY 2011, AmeriCorps national awards ranged in size from \$7,113 to \$2.78M, with the majority of those in the \$100,000-\$200,000 range ([click here for the previous list of National grant applicants and recipients](#)).

**Match Requirements:** As with the award, the match requirements vary depending on the type of grant (fixed or cost reimbursement). "Fixed amount grants" do not stipulate a specific amount to be set aside for match, but it is understood that fixed amount grants do not cover all costs and that grantees are expected to provide the additional resources needed to operate the program (although they don't have to track or report on these amounts). Cost-reimbursement grants, which are most of those awarded, require first-time applicants to match at 24% for the first 3 years. Thereafter the match requirement increases every year to 50% by year 10. Waivers for Indian Tribes, and under special circumstances for other applicants, may reduce – and in the case of Indian Tribes, eliminate – the match requirements.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, SEE THESE AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS:**

- [Click here for AmeriCorps Overview of NOFA](#)
- [Click here to view the Notice of Funds Availability / Notice of Funding Opportunity \(PDF\)](#)
- [Click here to view the Application Instructions \(PDF\)](#)
- [Click here to register for AmeriCorps instructional webinars for potential applicants](#)