ABOUT AMERICORPS

volunteerflorida

Volunteer Florida's 1,366 AmeriCorps members serve in 29 programs at nonprofits, schools, faith-based organizations and government agencies across Florida.

WHAT IS AMERICORPS?

AmeriCorps is a national service program that provides opportunities for participants, called "AmeriCorps members," to serve their communities. During their year of service, AmeriCorps members receive a modest living allowance. Upon completion of service, AmeriCorps members receive a college scholarship to help pay for college costs or student loans.

DOES AN AMERICORPS GRANT COVER ALL COSTS OF OPERATING THE PROGRAM?

A beginning match requirement of 24% is required in order to qualify for an AmeriCorps grant, which can be cash or in-kind leverage. Federal funding that is granted and administered by Volunteer Florida covers the majority of costs to support AmeriCorps members. Match requirements help to meet the operational costs associated with managing our programs.

HOW DOES AMERICORPS WORK?

Non-profits, faith-based organizations, schools and government agencies are eligible to apply and compete for funding for an AmeriCorps program. This funding is granted by the Corporation for National and Community Service and administered by Volunteer Florida. AmeriCorps members are selected and managed by their host organization, and spend a year addressing issues most critical to the organization's mission.

WHAT TYPES OF ACTIVITIES CAN AMERICORPS MEMBERS DO?

- mentoring
- tutoring
- maintain park trails
- job training
- volunteer recruitment
- community outreach
- violence prevention and awareness
- public safety
- respite care to seniors
- disability inclusion
- disaster preparedness

Full-time AmeriCorps members serve 35-40 hours per week for an entire year; half-time members serve 20-25 hours per week. AmeriCorps members also help organizations to engage the community by training and recruiting community volunteers. On average, one AmeriCorps member leverages 6-10 community volunteers.

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