



**Corporation for National and Community Service
2018-2019 AmeriCorps State and National Grants- Targeted Priority**

The Arizona Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism (GCSV) is pleased to provide information about the availability of competitive funds in the form of [AmeriCorps](#) grants through the Corporation for National and Community Service's special targeted priority, national competitive funding opportunity.

The CNCS will evaluate all applications received and make award determinations at the national level. Arizona entities that seek to propose an AmeriCorps program to operate within the state are encouraged to apply through the CNCS online grants management system, [eGrants](#). For those applications submitted, the GCSV will pre-screen, rank-order and submit the applications to the CNCS for their evaluation for funding. The total amount of federal funds available for this national competition through the CNCS will depend on annual agency appropriations.

Arizona entities encouraged to apply include: non-profit organizations, state agencies and local governments, elementary and secondary schools, Indian tribes, colleges and universities, community and faith-based organizations, labor organizations, partnerships and consortia, or intermediary organizations representing a combination of these or similar groups, working together. **This funding opportunity is for organizations that propose AmeriCorps programs to operate in Arizona only. See below for the national targeted priority focus areas.**

Applicants apply through the CNCS online grants management system, [eGrants](#), and use the CNCS Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and application and supplemental materials found on this page: [AmeriCorps State and National Grants FY18](#). For more about the AmeriCorps program grants awarded by the CNCS through the national competitive funding last spring, [please visit this page](#).

Basic Information

Issuing Agency	Corporation for National and Community Service
Arizona Contact	Bob Shogren, AmeriCorps Director: (602) 364-2248, bshogren@az.gov
Initial Budget Period	September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2019 (renewable for two additional years)

Timeline

March 23	Notice of Intent to apply emailed to bshogren@az.gov
April 2	Applications due in eGrants
April 9-20	Clarification Period
June 2018	CNCS Award Announcement (expected)





National Targeted Priority Focus Areas

National Funding Priorities (See [Mandatory Supplemental Guidance](#) for further information CNCS defined targeted priority terms). CNCS seeks to prioritize the investment of national service resources in the following areas:
CNCS seeks to prioritize the investment of national service resources in the following areas:

Healthy Futures - reducing and/or preventing prescription drug and opioid abuse

Child Wellness - in one or more of the following areas:

- Reducing and/or preventing child abuse
- Improving outcomes for child victims of abuse
- Improving outcomes for foster youth, including youth aging out of foster care

Infrastructure - working to improve or support improvement of one or more of the following infrastructure categories:

- Aviation
- Bridges
- Dams
- Hazardous Waste
- Inland Waterways
- Levees
- Ports
- Public Parks
- Rail
- Roads
- Schools
- Solid Waste
- Transit
- Wastewater

In order to receive priority consideration for submitting an application within a *Notice* priority(ies), applicants must demonstrate that the priority area is a significant part of the program focus and intended outcomes and must include a high quality program design. Responses that propose programs for the purpose of receiving priority consideration are not guaranteed funding.



Overview of AmeriCorps State Funding Opportunities

AmeriCorps Opportunities

- **National Service:** AmeriCorps is a national service program, similar to a domestic version of the Peace Corps.
- **Competitively Funded Human Resources:** Through state and national competitive grant processes, AmeriCorps provides federal funds to cover the basic costs of a new human resource, giving nonprofits/government agencies the ability to provide evidence-based or evidence-informed direct service to meet a critical community need. Nonprofits/government agencies must also demonstrate sufficient ability to administer an AmeriCorps program.
- **Three-Year Funding:** Grant funded AmeriCorps programs are on a three-year grant cycle. Depending on the success of the program and availability of funds, AmeriCorps program grants may be renewed for a second and third year.
- **Meet Pressing Community Needs:** Based on identified and documented community needs, AmeriCorps programs can help organizations to fill existing gaps in current programming and/or can provide organizations an opportunity to initiate new programs.
- **Extend Organizational Capacity:** AmeriCorps programs can serve as a frontline for innovation aligned with organizational mission to build models to meet community needs, which can be sustained over time through leveraged/new funding streams.
- **Programming Priorities:** AmeriCorps programs address critical needs in the following national priority areas: Education, Environmental Stewardship, Economic Opportunity, Health Futures, Veterans and Military Families and Disaster Services.

AmeriCorps Members

- **Direct Service:** AmeriCorps members primarily provide direct, “boots on the ground” service.
- **Engage Volunteers:** AmeriCorps members also build and strengthen volunteer programs, recruiting and engaging volunteers.
- **Benefits of Service:** Most AmeriCorps members earn a living allowance, can qualify for healthcare and childcare, and earn an education award to pay for or repay costs of higher education/vocational training, and can qualify for student loan forbearance.
- **Member Qualifications:** AmeriCorps programs engage Americans of all ages, backgrounds and abilities in service to their country in their local communities. AmeriCorps members must be at least 17 years of age, meet program specific qualifications, have a high school diploma/GED, are US citizens/permanent residents, and are background checked. Additionally, AmeriCorps earnings are exempted from income consideration for recipients of Social Security Supplemental Income (SSI).

Types of AmeriCorps Program Models

- **Cost Reimbursement** – AmeriCorps members receive a living allowance and an Education Award (budget neutral). Federal budget share covers the basic “employment costs” of AmeriCorps members. Full-time members also qualify for health insurance and childcare (budget neutral) In-kind and cash match of a minimum of 24% of overall budget is required (escalating up to 50% by year ten). Federal share of budget is based on a maximum \$13,830 cost per Member Service Year (MSY), the AmeriCorps FTE equivalent.
- **Fixed Cost** – AmeriCorps members volunteer for a prescribed number of hours and earn an Education Award (budget neutral). Federal budget share helps to cover the cost of administering the program. Federal share of budget is based on a maximum \$13,830 cost per Member Service Year (MSY), the AmeriCorps equivalent of FTE. The Education Award only program (EAP) is based on a maximum federal share of \$800 per Member Service Year (MSY). There is no match required for a fixed-cost grant.
- **Important Note:** In both types of programs, AmeriCorps member slots can be configured in a variety of different ways and can serve in different direct-service roles, based on needs and design of program and can include: full-time (1,700 hours), half-time (900 hour), reduced half-time (675 hours), quarter-time (450 hours), and minimum-time (300 hours). AmeriCorps members may not supervise other members and member service may not supplant existing positions.