



Key Programs Differences for National Service Members

	AmeriCorps VISTA	AmeriCorps NCCC	AmeriCorps State
Member eligibility to serve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 18 years old U.S. Citizen or legal permanent resident Screened with a background check. Must not have been convicted of murder or a sex offense. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age 18-24 with varying education levels and all across the U.S. U.S. Citizen or legal permanent resident Screened with a fingerprinted, national agency criminal background check (FBI) and checked against the national sex offender database. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least 17 years old U.S. Citizen or legal permanent resident Screened with a background check. Must not have been convicted of murder or a sex offense.
Member term of service	Full-time for 12 months	Full-time for 10 months	Full, part, minimum, quarter-time not to exceed 12 months
Member benefits of service	<p>Members receive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Segal AmeriCorps Education Award or post-service stipend Modest living allowance Healthcare allowance Forbearance or deferment on qualified student loans while in service, and payment of accrued interest on deferred loans 1 year of noncompetitive status for federal jobs Training and professional development 	<p>Members receive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eligible to receive a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award A living allowance of approximately \$4,000 for the 10 months of service (about \$200 every two weeks before taxes) Housing Meals Healthcare benefits 	<p>Members may receive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Segal AmeriCorps Education Award Modest living allowance Healthcare benefits Childcare subsidy Student loan forbearance or deferment while in service Payment on accrued interest on deferred loan Training and professional development
Type of member service	Capacity building activities that focus on poverty alleviation; incidental direct service only	Direct Service	Direct Service
Sample member service activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Write grants and raise funds Recruit and train volunteers Build new partnerships Develop social media strategies Design databases for tracking donors, volunteers, or program outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help build and refurbish homes for low income citizens Support after-school programs and other activities for youth Provide immediate assistance with national disaster relief/recovery Construct wheelchair ramps and assemble playgrounds Develop recycling programs Create nature trails and make park improvements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mentoring Tutoring Career Coaching Connect families to community supports Environmental restoration Teach physical/health education Literacy training Provide early education Neighborhood development

Key Program Differences for Sponsor Organizations

	AmeriCorps VISTA	AmeriCorps NCCC	AmeriCorps State
Sponsor organization eligibility	Any private or public nonprofit, public agency or tribal organization including local governments, higher education institutions and state entities. Proposed project must be designed to reduce poverty	Any nonprofit, governmental, or tribal organization including local governments, higher education institutions and state entities. Projects must: address compelling community needs; have clearly stated and planned tasks including materials, technical expertise, and sponsor support; involve the community; provide orientation and training as well as opportunities for member growth; and have a plan for sustainability after NCCC finishes.	Any private or public nonprofit, public agency or tribal organization including local governments, higher education institutions and state entities.
Project length	Three years	Typically 6-8 weeks although shorter timeframes may be available	Up to 12 months; grants committed up to 3 years with annual renewals.
Minimum members requested	3 members per year (can be split between partner organizations)	Typically a team of 8-12 members including a team leader	10-20 members per project year; service can occur at one location or with partner sites.
Member living allowance and benefits	Administered and paid by CNCS	Administered and paid by CNCS	Paid by grant and match resources.
Member supervision, office space, and other operational support costs	Project contributes 100% of the operating costs in cash or in-kind (including member supervision and office space); some support money may be available	No direct fee for service or cost share. Sponsors provide project supplies and materials, technical support and direction, a schedule of work, basic lodging, and meals or access to kitchen.	New programs must contribute a minimum of 24% of the total program costs in cash and in-kind support.
Member recruitment and training	Project is responsible for recruitment. CNCS provides an orientation to the VISTA program. Project is responsible for on-site orientation and project-related training.	NCCC is responsible for recruitment of members and some training (team building, leadership, diversity). Sponsor is responsible for orientation and project-related training.	Applicant is responsible for member recruitment and training.
Application submission process	Begins with a Concept Paper submitted to the Corporation State Office. Upon review, potential sponsors will be invited to submit a full application.	Begins with a Concept Form. Upon review, potential sponsors will be invited to submit a full application or contacted for more information.	At minimum, two grant cycles offered per year; one in the spring and fall.
Application Timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sept/Oct - Concept Papers requested • Nov - Full applications due Dec – Grants awarded • Mar-June – VISTA Recruitment • June – Aug – VISTAs begin service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 project timeframes available in the year. (Mar-Apr, May-June, July-Aug, Sept-Nov) • Concept forms due ~4 months out; applications due ~3 months out • Contact Jeff Moeur at jmoeur@cns.gov for specific dates 	Each grant cycle is approximately six months. New programs start in August/September.
Reporting requirements	Programs report quarterly in first year, often reduced to semiannually thereafter.	Sponsors are required to review project outputs following completion of project	Quarterly programmatic and fiscal reporting requirements.

Ohio National Service Contact Information

	AmeriCorps VISTA	AmeriCorps NCCC	AmeriCorps State
Managed by	CNCS Ohio State Office	NCCC Iowa Regional Campus	ServeOhio
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