

## NOTICE of FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

**State Agency Name:** Serve Idaho, the Governor’s Commission on Service and Volunteerism  
**Federal Agency Name:** AmeriCorps  
**Funding Opportunity Title:** Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 AmeriCorps State and National Public Health AmeriCorps Grants  
**Announcement Type:** Initial Announcement  
**Assistance Listing Number:** 94.006

**Summary Statement:** This is a **continuations-only funding opportunity for current PHA grantees**. Organizations that have current Public Health AmeriCorps awards that will be in program Year 2 or 3 in FY 2024 are considered eligible for continuation funding.

**Disclosure:** Publication of this Notice of Funding Opportunity (Notice) does not obligate AmeriCorps to award any specific number of grants or to commit any particular amount of funding. The actual level, timing, and process of grant funding will be subject to the availability of funding.

### Important Dates

- Continuation applications are due no later than **Wednesday, November 1**, by 4:00 p.m. Mountain Time.
- Successful continuation applicants will be notified by **July 2024**.
- Successful continuation applicants will be issued awards by **September 2024**.

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## FULL TEXT OF THE NOTICE

### A. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

#### **A.1. Purpose of AmeriCorps State and National Public Health AmeriCorps Funding**

AmeriCorps improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. AmeriCorps brings people together to tackle some of the country's most pressing challenges through national service and volunteerism. AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers serve with organizations dedicated to the improvement of communities and those serving. AmeriCorps helps make service a cornerstone of our national culture.

AmeriCorps grants are awarded to eligible organizations (Use Section [C.1. Eligible Applicants](#)) proposing to engage AmeriCorps members in evidence-based or evidence-informed interventions/practices to strengthen communities. An AmeriCorps member is an individual who engages in community service through an approved national service position. Members may receive a living allowance and other benefits while serving. Upon successful completion of their service, members earn a [Segal AmeriCorps Education Award](#) that they can use to pay for higher education expenses or apply to qualified student loans.

Please use the AmeriCorps Focus Areas in [Appendix I](#).

Public Health AmeriCorps is investing significant resources through the American Rescue Plan Act to enable the recruitment, training, and development of a new generation of public health leaders who are ready to respond to the public health needs of the nation by providing public health service in communities. “Public health is the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life, and promoting health through the organized efforts and informed choices of society, organizations, public and private communities, and individuals.” (Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 2021.)

Please use [Appendix II](#) for more information.

Public Health AmeriCorps has two main goals:

- Help meet public health needs of local communities by providing needed capacity and support in state and local public health settings and advancing more equitable health outcomes for communities who are currently or historically underserved.
- Provide pathways to good, quality public health-related careers by providing exposure through onsite experience, training, and more, with a focus on recruiting AmeriCorps members who reflect the communities in which they serve.

Public Health AmeriCorps members will serve primarily in state, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments or in service to public health departments. It is strongly recommended that AmeriCorps members serve in at least teams of two. AmeriCorps has found that placing at least two members at a service site location provides economies of scale and aids in retention of members.

To support the development of public health skills, Public Health AmeriCorps members will be required to complete a 16.1 hour no-cost online training provided through the CDC TRAIN platform during their service term. In addition to the mentorship and hands-on experience provided by grantees and/or host sites, AmeriCorps members will have access to additional optional professional development opportunities provided by AmeriCorps and its partners to foster interest in a public health career.

## **A.2. Funding Priorities**

AmeriCorps released its [2022-2026 Strategic Plan](#) that defines the agency's goals and objectives to advance the agency's mission to improve lives and strengthen communities. AmeriCorps will execute the following goals to better position the agency to respond to national and local needs and help the communities it serves prosper:

1. Partner with communities to alleviate poverty and advance racial equity
2. Enhance the experience for AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers
3. Unite Americans by bringing them together in service
4. Effectively steward federal resources
5. Make AmeriCorps one of the best and most equitable places to work in the federal government

AmeriCorps will invest in existing and new partnerships with non-profit, faith-based, and Tribal organizations, and State Service Commissions, to get things done for America. The agency will prioritize investment in the most critical issues of our time – public health, climate and the environment, and education and economic opportunity – within AmeriCorps' Focus Areas ([Appendix 1](#)) and will increase its efforts to ensure AmeriCorps members, AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers, and community-based volunteers reflect the communities where they serve. We will target our investments toward communities where the need is greatest, particularly those with populations that face racial inequality and poverty. These steps will enable more Americans than ever to strengthen the communities that need it most across the nation through their service.

## **A.3. Performance Goals or Expected Outcomes**

### **National Performance Measures**

AmeriCorps expects continuation applicants to use National Performance Measures in Appendix III as part of a comprehensive performance measurement strategy that relies on both performance and evaluation data to learn from their work and make tactical and strategic adjustments to achieve their goals.

*All continuation applications must include at least one aligned performance measure (output and outcome) that corresponds to the proposed primary intervention. All continuation applications must include Public Health AmeriCorps determined performance measures. Please use Appendix III for the performance measures.*

## **A.4. Program Authority**

Awards under this Notice are authorized by the [National and Community Service Act of 1990](#), as amended, ([42 U.S.C. §12501 et seq.](#))

## B. FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION

### B.1. Estimated Available Funds

AmeriCorps expects high demand for continuation funding. The actual level of funding is subject to the availability of funds.

### B.2. Estimated Award Amount

Award amounts will vary as determined by funding availability. Please use Section E.2. for more information.

### B.3. Period of Performance

The period of performance will be one year and may not begin before September 1, 2024.

### B.4. Type of Award

Award recipients will be assigned to a Serve Idaho grants officer who will be responsible for assessing recipient performance, providing training and technical assistance, and serving as the primary point of contact.

AmeriCorps Operating Grants provide funding for organizations to recruit and host AmeriCorps members. All continuation applications submitted under this NOFO are limited to a Cost Reimbursement grant.

	Cost Reimbursement
Maximum Cost per MSY*	\$27,000
Type of Slots in the National Service Trust**	FT, TQT, HT, RHT, QT, MT, AT
Budget Submission Required	Yes
Availability of Funds linked to enrollment and retention of awarded MSYs	No
Financial Reporting Requirements	Yes
Available to new Applicants	Yes

\* Member Service Year (MSY): One Member Service Year (MSY) is equivalent to a full-time AmeriCorps position (at least 1,700 service hours.)

\*\*FT = Full Time, TQT = Three Quarter Time, HT= Half Time, RHT = Reduced Half Time, QT = Quarter Time, MT = Minimum Time, AT = Abbreviated Time

## C. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

### C.1. Eligible Applicants

Only current Public Health AmeriCorps grantees, also known as PHA continuation applicants, are eligible. Eligible applicants are those organizations that have current Public Health AmeriCorps awards that will be in program Year 2 or 3 in FY 2024.

Applicants must have a valid SAM registration and Unique Entity Identifier to receive an award. Use [Section D.3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management \(SAM\)](#) for more information.

### Types of Applicants

#### 1. State and Territory Service Commissions (for Single-State Applicants)

Continuation applicants that operate in Idaho must apply through tServe Idaho. A Single-State continuation application from a State or Territory with a Commission that is submitted directly to AmeriCorps by the continuation applicant rather than the Commission will be considered noncompliant and will not be reviewed.

### C.2. Cost Sharing or Matching

There is no cost share or matching requirement per the Interagency Agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), which has provided the funding for this program.

### C.3. Other Eligibility Requirements

Under Section 132A(b) of [the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended](#), organizations that have violated a Federal criminal statute may not receive assistance described in this Notice.

Continuation applications that propose to engage in activities that are prohibited under AmeriCorps' statutes, regulations, or the terms and conditions of its awards are not eligible to receive AmeriCorps funding.

Note that under appropriations provisions annually enacted by Congress, if AmeriCorps is aware that any corporation has any unpaid federal tax liability

- that has been assessed;
- for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed; and
- that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability;

that corporation is not eligible for an award under this Notice. However, this exclusion will not apply to a corporation that a federal agency has considered for suspension or debarment and determined that suspension or debarment is not necessary to protect the interests of the federal government.

Pursuant to the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, an organization described in the [Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. §501 \(c\)\(4\)](#) that engages in lobbying activities is not eligible to apply for AmeriCorps funding.

## D. Application and Submission Information

This Notice should be read together with the [AmeriCorps regulations](#), Application Instructions, Performance Measure Instructions, and Mandatory Supplemental Information. These documents are available online at the [Serve Idaho Grant Opportunities webpage](#).

### D.1. Address to Request an Application Package

All information associated with this funding opportunity is available through the [Serve Idaho Grant Opportunities webpage](#). Applicants can also send an email to [kimberly.empey@labor.idaho.gov](mailto:kimberly.empey@labor.idaho.gov) or call (208)332-3570 ext. 3447 for a printed copy of the Notice, Guidance, and Application Instructions.

### D.2. Continuation Funding Information and Requirements

Organizations that have current Public Health AmeriCorps awards that will be in program Year 2 or 3 in FY 2024 are considered continuation applicants.

Continuation applicants must submit an application in order to be eligible to receive funding for the FY 2024 program year. Continuation applicants must follow the requirements for continuation application content as outlined in the Application Instructions.

Please use the Application Instructions for how to request use of unexpended funds.

AmeriCorps does not expect to consider requests for funding greater than the FY 23 award amount; however, continuation applicants may request more AmeriCorps members than were previously awarded.

Continuation application review will also be based on progress reports, the federal financial report, evaluation plans, and AmeriCorps staff's knowledge of the grant program. To be approved for continuation funding, recipients must demonstrate satisfactory performance with respect to key program goals and requirements, as well as compliance with the terms and conditions of the grant.

AmeriCorps reserves the right to award applications in an amount less than the requested level of funding and will document the rationale for doing so. Use Section E. for more information.

### D.3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

All continuation applicants **must** [register with the System for Award Management \(SAM\)](#) and maintain an active SAM registration until the application process is complete. If a continuation applicant is awarded a grant, it must maintain an active SAM registration throughout the life of the award. Use the [SAM Quick Guide for Grantees for more information](#).

SAM registration must be renewed annually. AmeriCorps suggests that continuation applicants finalize a new registration or renew an existing one at least three weeks before the application deadline, to allow time to resolve any issues that may arise. **Continuation applicants must use their SAM-registered legal name and physical address on all grant**

**applications to AmeriCorps. The legal applicant’s name and physical address in eGrants must match exactly the applicant’s SAM-registered information.**

Continuation applications must include a valid Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), which is generated as part of the SAM registration process. AmeriCorps will not make awards to entities that do not have a valid SAM registration and UEI.

Continuation applications must include an Employer Identification Number. The UEI and Employer Identification Number must be entered by the organization’s Grantee Administrator as an organization attribute, and this will apply the information to all applications for the organization.

If a continuation applicant has not fully complied with these requirements by the time AmeriCorps is ready to make a federal award, AmeriCorps may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award and use that determination as a basis for making a federal award to another applicant.

**D.4. Submission Dates and Times**

Continuation applications are due no later than **Wednesday, November 1, 2023, by 4:00 p.m. Mountain Time.**

**D.5. Intergovernmental Review**

This Notice is not subject to [Executive Order 12372](#), “Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs.”

**D.6. Funding Restrictions**

**D.6.a. Award Funding Requirements**

**1. Member Living Allowance**

A living allowance is not considered a salary or a wage. Programs are not required to provide a living allowance 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. For Cost Reimbursement grants, the amount must be included in the proposed budget as either AmeriCorps or grantee share. Exceptions are noted below.

While Fixed Amount grant applicants seeking continuation funding are not required to submit detailed budgets, they are still required to provide a living allowance to members that complies with the minimum and maximum requirements. Exceptions are noted below. Fixed Amount grant applicants should indicate that amount in the continuation application.

**Table: Minimum and Maximum Living Allowance**

<b>Service Term</b>	<b>Minimum # of Hours</b>	<b>Minimum Living Allowance</b>	<b>Maximum Total Living Allowance</b>
Full-time	1,700	\$18,700	\$37,400
Three Quarter-time	1,200	n/a	\$26,180



Half-time	900	n/a	\$18,700
Reduced Half-time	675	n/a	\$14,212
Quarter-time	450	n/a	\$9,724
Minimum-time	300	n/a	\$7,854
Abbreviated-time	100	n/a	\$2,244

**Exceptions to the Living Allowance Requirements**

**Programs existing prior to September 21, 1993**, are not required to offer a living allowance. If an applicant chooses to offer a living allowance, it is exempt from the minimum requirement, but not the maximum requirement set forth in the Living Allowance table in this Notice.

**2. Maximum Cost per Member Service Year (MSY)**

The AmeriCorps cost per MSY is determined by dividing the AmeriCorps share of budgeted grant costs by the number of MSYs requested. It does not include childcare or the value of the education award a member may earn. The maximum amount an applicant may request from AmeriCorps per MSY is determined on an annual basis.

State Service Commission subgrantees/continuation applicants will be held to the maximum cost per MSY for their grant type.

**Table: Maximum Cost per MSY**

<b>Grant Program</b>	<b>Maximum</b>
Individual Competitive State/Territory Program (cost reimbursement)	\$27,000
Multi-state competitive (cost reimbursement)	\$27,000
All non-EAP formula subgrants***	\$27,000*

\*\$18,000 adjusted for inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (As of April 2023 CPI was 0.5 percent).

**3. Segal AmeriCorps Education Award**

AmeriCorps members who successfully complete a term of service will be eligible for an Education Award from the National Service Trust. The amount of the Education Award is linked to the value of the Pell Grant. A member has up to seven years after their term of service to use the Education Award. Use the [Segal AmeriCorps Education Award](#) webpage for more information.

**D.6.b. Indirect Costs**

Application budgets may include indirect costs. Based on qualifying factors, continuation applicants may either use a Federally approved indirect cost rate or a 10 percent *de minimis* rate of modified total direct costs, or may claim certain costs directly, as outlined in [CFR 200.4133](#) states, local governments, and Indian Tribes may use previously approved indirect cost allocation plans. All methods must be applied consistently across all federal awards. Applicants that have a federal negotiated indirect cost rate, or that will be using the 10% *de minimis* rate, must enter that information in the Organization section in eGrants. However,

under section 121(d) of the [National and Community Service Act of 1990](#), as amended and AmeriCorps' regulations at [45 CFR 2521.95](#) and [2540.110](#), no more than five percent of award funds may be used to recover indirect costs on AmeriCorps State and National grants.

Use the [AmeriCorps eGrants Indirect Cost Rate \(IDCR\) User Instructions](#) for how to enter the organization's indirect cost rate. Applicants should not submit documentation addressing the indirect cost rate agreement via email.

Please note: To request a federally negotiated indirect cost rate agreement, when AmeriCorps is the applicable cognizant agency for an organization's indirect costs, the applicant must submit a request to [IndirectCostRate@cns.gov](mailto:IndirectCostRate@cns.gov). The applicant may also obtain instructions and additional information by contacting the email address above.

#### D.7. Other Submission Requirements

### **D.7. Electronic Application Submission in eGrants**

Applicants must submit applications electronically via [eGrants, AmeriCorps' web-based application system](#). Serve Idaho recommends that applicants create an eGrants account and begin the application at least three weeks before the deadline. Applicants should draft the application as a Word document, then copy and paste the text into the appropriate eGrants field no later than 10 days before the deadline.

The applicant's authorized representative must be the person who submits the application. The authorized representative must use their own eGrants account to sign and submit the application. A copy of the governing body's authorization for this official representative to sign must be on file in the applicant's office.

Applicants should contact the [AmeriCorps Hotline](#) at (800) 942-2677 if they have a problem when they create an account, prepare, or submit the application. Information about the [AmeriCorps Hotline hours](#) are also posted on the AmeriCorps Hotline webpage.

Be prepared to provide the application ID, organization's name, and the name of the Notice to which the organization is applying. If the issue cannot be resolved by the deadline, applicants must continue working with the AmeriCorps Hotline to submit via eGrants.

If circumstances make it impossible for an applicant to submit in eGrants, applicants may send a copy of their application via email to [kimberly.empey@labor.idaho.gov](mailto:kimberly.empey@labor.idaho.gov). Applicants must include a written explanation and any other documentation or evidence that supports their inability to submit their application electronically.

**All deadlines and requirements in this Notice also apply to paper applications. AmeriCorps does not accept applications submitted via fax or U.S. Postal Service mail.**

## E. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

### E.1. Application Content

#### Continuation Changes:

Describe any significant application changes in the continuation changes narrative field only. The budget and performance measures sections may also be updated but describe those changes here.

### E.2. Review and Selection Process

#### E.2.a. Application Review

##### Internal Review

AmeriCorps staff will review the continuation changes narrative field and any changes in the budget and/or performance measures.

#### E.2.b. Pre-Award Risk Assessment

AmeriCorps staff will assess the risks to the program posed by each continuation applicant to determine a continuation applicant's ability to manage Federal Funds. Results from this assessment will inform funding decisions. If AmeriCorps determines that an award will be made to a continuation applicant with assessed risks, special conditions that correspond to the degree of assessed risk may be applied to the award. Continuation applicants may not be selected for funding if AmeriCorps determines that the applicant's risks cannot be mitigated.

In assessing risks, AmeriCorps may consider the following criteria:

1. Due Diligence, including:

- Federal debt delinquency
- Suspension and debarment
- Information available through Office of Management and Budget (OMB)- designated repositories of government-wide eligibility qualification or financial integrity information, such as:
  - [U.S. Treasury Bureau of Fiscal Services](#)
  - [System for Award Management \(SAM\)](#)
  - "Do Not Pay"
- Reports and findings from single audits performed under Uniform Administrative Guidance and findings of any other available audits or investigations.
- IRS Tax Form 990
- [Oversight.gov](#)
- Public Litigation Records

2. Past Performance, including:

- Applicant's record in managing previous AmeriCorps awards, cooperative agreements, or procurement awards, including:
  - Timely compliance with applicable reporting requirements
  - Accuracy of data reported
  - Validity of performance measure data reported
  - Conformity to the terms and conditions of previous Federal awards

- Ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on award recipients
- Timely closeout of other awards
- Meeting matching requirements
- Extent to which any previously awarded amounts will be expended prior to future awards
- Meeting National Service Criminal History Check (NSCHC) compliance (Use section F.2.d. [National Criminal History Check Requirements](#) and the [NSCHC webpage](#) for more information)

3. Other Programmatic Risks, Financial, Organizational, Compliance, and Fraud including:
- Publicly available information, including from the applicant organization's website
  - Amount of funding requested by the organization
  - Other elements, such as keyword searches for prohibited activities

Continuation applicants will find information to help them understand pre-award due diligence checks in the AmeriCorps Due Diligence Review Process and Compliance training available on the [Manage Your Grant](#) webpage. This content will help continuation applicants obtain due diligence compliance and remain compliant throughout the grant life.

### **E.2.c. Consideration of Integrity and Performance System Information**

Prior to making any award that exceeds the \$250,000, AmeriCorps is required to review and consider any information about the continuation applicant that is in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through [SAM.gov](#) (See [41 U.S.C. §2313](#)). Additionally, AmeriCorps may expand upon these requirements and use its discretion to review and consider information about any applicant receiving an award, including those under \$250,000.

Any continuation applicant may review information in the designated integrity and performance systems accessible through [SAM.gov](#) and comment on any information about itself that a Federal awarding agency previously entered and is currently in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through [SAM.gov](#).

AmeriCorps may consider comments by any continuation applicant, in addition to the other information in the designated integrity and performance system, in making a judgment about the applicant's integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under federal awards when completing its review of risk posed by the applicant under the [E.2.c. Risk Assessment Evaluation section](#) of this Notice.

### **E.2.d. Selection for Funding**

Pending funding availability, AmeriCorps seeks to award successful continuation applications at FY 23 funding levels. AmeriCorps does not expect that available funding will be able to accommodate expansion requests in this FY 24 continuations award process.

If FY 24 continuation funding requests exceed total funding available, AmeriCorps anticipates that the maximum funds awarded for each FY 24 continuation grantee will be their FY 23 award amount offset by their respective unexpended funds.

Funding awarded to a successful continuation application may be a portion of the amount requested and may be less than the total maximum award described above.

Use the following example to better understand the award process if available funding is less than total continuation award requests received by AmeriCorps:

*FY 23 grantee was awarded \$100,000 in FY 23. The grantee has \$50,000 in unexpended funds. The grantee requests \$100,000 in FY 24 continuation funding. The maximum amount of funding that will be awarded is \$50,000 which would provide the grantee with a total FY 24 budget of \$100,000 (equal to the amount of their FY 23 award).*

If AmeriCorps does not have sufficient funds to provide the maximum award amount described above, AmeriCorps expects to equitably distribute available funding across all successful continuation applications, proportionate to each prior year award amount.

AmeriCorps reserves the right to award continuation applications in an amount other than at the requested level of funding and will document the rationale for doing so.

***AmeriCorps reserves the right to adjust or make changes to the review process, if unforeseen challenges or urgent circumstances make it impossible, impracticable, or inefficient to conduct the review process as planned.***

#### **E.2.f. Applicant Resolution**

AmeriCorps may ask a continuation applicant for information after notification of funding opportunity results to resolve any issues prior to award.

## **F. FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION**

### **F.1. Federal Award Notices**

AmeriCorps will make continuation awards following the selection announcement. AmeriCorps anticipates announcing the results of this funding opportunity by July 2024. All continuation applicants, successful or not, will be notified of funding decisions via email.

Notification of an award is not an authorization to begin activities. The Notice of Grant Award (NGA) signed by the Office of Grant Administration is the authorizing document. An awardee may not expend Federal Funds until the start of the Period of Performance identified on the Notice of Grant Award.

### **F.2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements**

#### **F.2.a. Uniform Guidance**

All awards made under this Notice will be subject to the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance), in [2 CFR Parts 200](#) and [2205](#).

### **F.2.b. Requests for Monitoring or Payment Integrity Information**

AmeriCorps will request documentation from award recipients in order to monitor the grantee and award to ensure compliance with legal requirements, including the [Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019](#). Failure to make timely responses to these requests may result in award funds being placed on manual hold, reimbursement only status, or other remedies may be applied as appropriate.

### **F.2.c. AmeriCorps Terms and Conditions**

All awards made under this Notice will be subject to the FY 2024 AmeriCorps General Terms and Conditions, and the FY 2024 Program-Specific Terms and Conditions for the particular program (when applicable). These Terms and Conditions contain detailed, mandatory compliance and reporting requirements. Current versions of the AmeriCorps General and Program-Specific Terms and Conditions for each of its programs is available on the [AmeriCorps Manage Your Grant webpage](#).

### **F.2.d. National Service Criminal History Check Requirements**

The National Service Criminal History Check (NSCHC) is a specific screening procedure established by law to protect the beneficiaries of national service. We encourage grantees to minimize barriers to service without putting their program beneficiaries at genuine risk. The law requires grantees to conduct and document NSCHCs on persons (including award-funded staff, national service participant, or volunteer) receiving a salary, living allowance, stipend, or education award through a program receiving AmeriCorps funds. This includes staff that receive part of their salary through a subgrant.

- Award recipients and subrecipients must conduct an NSCHC for AmeriCorps members, AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers, and staff funded under, or whose salary is reflected as match on the award. Limited exceptions are described in [45 CFR§2540.201](#).
- AmeriCorps strongly encourages applicants to review the regulations and additional guidance to fully understand how to comply with the requirements. Use the [NSCHC regulations and guidance](#).
- AmeriCorps also strongly encourages award recipients to utilize the two AmeriCorps-approved vendors to conduct the required NSCHCs.
- The cost of conducting NSCHC is an allowable expense under the award and the individual subject to the NSCHC must not be required to cover the cost.
- Failure to fully comply with all NSCHC requirements will result in significant disallowed costs.

Recipients must complete the following criminal history checks:

1. National Sex Offender Public website through [NSOPW.gov](#) (nationwide check);
2. State criminal history record repository or agency-designated alternative for the individual's State of residence and State of service; and
3. Fingerprint-based check of the FBI criminal history record database through the State criminal history record repository or agency-approved vendor.

All checks must be conducted, reviewed, and an eligibility determination made before the individual begins work or service.

An individual is **not eligible** to serve or work in a position subject to the NSCHC requirements if the individual:

- Refuses to consent to a criminal history check;
- Makes a false statement in connection with a criminal history check;
- Is registered, or is required to be registered, on a state sex offender registry or the National Sex Offender Registry; or
- Has been convicted of murder, as defined in 18 U.S.C. 1111.

Use 45 [CFR 2540.200- 2540.207](#) and [National Service Criminal History Check Resources](#) for complete information and FAQs.

### **F.2.e. Official Guidance**

AmeriCorps active Guidance is available on the [agency's Guidance webpage](#). The contents of these documents do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way unless incorporated into a contract or grant agreement. These documents are intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.

### **F.3. Use of Material**

To ensure that materials generated with AmeriCorps funding are available to the public and readily accessible to recipients and non-recipients, AmeriCorps reserves a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to obtain, use, modify, reproduce, publish, or disseminate publications and materials produced under the award, including data, and to authorize others to do so ([2 CFR §200.315](#)).

### **F.4. Reporting**

Recipients are required to submit a variety of reports that are due at specific times during the life cycle of an award. All reports must be accurate, complete, and submitted on time.

Cost Reimbursement grantees are required to provide annual progress reports and semi-annual financial reports through eGrants, AmeriCorps' web-based grants management system and an internal or external evaluation report as required by the AmeriCorps regulations [45 CFR 2522.500-2522.540 and 2522.700-2522.740](#).

In addition, at the end of the award period, a grantee must submit final financial and progress reports that are cumulative over the entire award period and consistent with the closeout requirements. The final reports are due ninety (90) days after the end of the period of performance.

Award recipients will be required to report at [Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act Subaward Reporting System \(FSRS\)](#) on all subawards over \$30,000, and may be required to report on executive compensation for the recipient organization and its subrecipients. Recipients and subrecipients must have the necessary systems in place to collect and report this information. Use [2 CFR Part 170](#) for more information and to determine how these requirements apply.

Once the grant is awarded, recipients will be expected to have in place data collection and data management policies, processes, and practices that provide assurance that they are reporting high quality performance measure data. At a minimum, recipients should have policies, processes, and practices that address the following five aspects of data quality for themselves and for subrecipients (if applicable):

- Data measures what it intends to measure
- Data reported is complete
- Grantee collects data in a consistent manner
- Grantee takes steps to correct data errors
- Grantee actively reviews data for accuracy prior to submission.

Failure to submit accurate, complete, and timely required reports may affect the recipient's ability to secure future AmeriCorps funding.

## **G. FEDERAL AWARDING AGENCY CONTACTS**

For more information, call (202) 606-7508 or email [AmeriCorpsGrants@cns.gov](mailto:AmeriCorpsGrants@cns.gov).

For technical questions and problems with the eGrants system, call the AmeriCorps Hotline at (800) 942-2677, selecting Option 3. Information about the AmeriCorps Hotline hours are also posted on the [AmeriCorps](#) Hotline webpage. Be prepared to provide the application ID, organization's name, and the name of the Notice to which the organization is applying.

## **H. OTHER INFORMATION**

### **H.1. Technical Assistance**

AmeriCorps will host technical assistance calls to answer questions about the funding opportunity and eGrants. AmeriCorps strongly encourages all continuation applicants to participate in these sessions. Information for these technical assistance calls is available on the [AmeriCorps' Funding Opportunities website](#).

Serve Idaho will hold a Training & Technical Assistance call on Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 11:30 AM Mountain Time. This is mandatory for all applicants. A Zoom link will be sent to the applicant after the Intent to Apply form is submitted.

Resources continuation applicants need to effectively manage their grant award, including eGrants instructions, terms and conditions, individual match waiver, pre-award requirements, financial reporting requirements, and training and technical assistance materials are found on the [Manage Your Grant webpage](#).

### **H.2. Re-Focusing of Funding**

AmeriCorps reserves the right to re-focus program dollars under this Notice in the event of disaster or other compelling needs.



## I. IMPORTANT NOTICES

### I.1. Public Burden Statement

Public reporting burden for collection of information under this Notice of Funding is estimated to average six hours per submission, including reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing the application and reporting forms. AmeriCorps informs people who may respond to this Notice of Funding that they are not required to respond unless the OMB control number and expiration date are current valid. (Use [5 CFR 1320.5\(b\)\(2\)\(i\)](#).) This collection is approved under OMB Control #: 3045-0047, Application Instructions, State and National Competitive, New and Continuation, Expiration Date: September 30, 2023.

### I.2. Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 ([5 U.S.C §552a](#)) requires that we notify applicants that the information requested under this Notice of Funding is collected pursuant to [42 U.S.C. §§12592](#) and 12615 of the [National and Community Service Act of 1990 as amended](#), and [42 U.S.C. §4953](#) of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 as amended.

Purposes and Uses - The information requested is collected for the purposes of reviewing grant applications and granting funding requests. Routine uses may include disclosure of the information to Federal, state, or local agencies pursuant to lawfully authorized requests. In some programs, the information may also be provided to Federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to determine the existence of any prior criminal convictions. The information may also be provided to appropriate Federal agencies and contractors that have a need to know the information for the purpose of assisting the government to respond to a suspected or confirmed breach of the security or confidentiality or information maintained in this system of records, and the information disclosed is relevant and unnecessary for the assistance.

Effects of Nondisclosure - The information requested is voluntary; however, to be a recipient of this grant program, disclosure of personal or sensitive information is required to receive federal benefits.

## APPENDIX I - AmeriCorps Focus Areas

### **AmeriCorps Focus Areas**

[The National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended by the Serve America Act](#), emphasizes measuring the impact of service and focusing on a core set of issue areas. In order to carry out Congress's intent and to maximize the impact of investment in national service, and to achieve the goals laid out in AmeriCorps' [Strategic Plan \(2022-2026\)](#), AmeriCorps has the following Focus Areas:

#### **Disaster Services**

Helping individuals and communities prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of disasters and increase community resiliency.

#### **Economic Opportunity**

Improving the economic well-being and security of underserved individuals.

#### **Education**

Improving educational outcomes for underserved people, especially children. AmeriCorps is particularly interested in program designs that support youth engagement and service learning as strategies to achieve high educational outcomes.

#### **Environmental Stewardship**

Supporting communities to become more resilient through measures that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, conserve land and water, increase renewable energy use and improve at-risk ecosystems, especially in underserved households and communities.

#### **Healthy Futures**

Supporting for health needs within communities, including mitigating the impacts of public health crises, access to care, aging in place, public health, and addressing childhood obesity, especially in underserved communities.

#### **Veterans and Military Families**

Improving the quality of life of veterans, military families, caregivers, and survivors.

## APPENDIX II - AmeriCorps Public Health AmeriCorps

### **About the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) works to protect America from health, safety and security threats, both foreign and in the U.S. Whether diseases start at home or abroad, are chronic or acute, curable or preventable, human error or deliberate attack, CDC fights disease and supports communities and citizens to do the same.

CDC increases the health security of our nation. As the nation's health protection agency, CDC saves lives and protects people from health threats. To accomplish its mission, CDC conducts critical science and provides health information that protects our nation against expensive and dangerous health threats and responds when these arise.

The CDC's role includes:

- Detecting and responding to new and emerging health threats
- Tackling the biggest health problems causing death and disability for Americans
- Putting science and advanced technology into action to prevent disease
- Promoting healthy and safe behaviors, communities and environment
- Developing leaders and training the public health workforce, including disease detectives
- Taking the health pulse of our nation

### **About Public Health AmeriCorps**

Public Health AmeriCorps is approximately a \$400 million investment, from the American Rescue Plan Act to support a partnership between CDC and AmeriCorps. The program is recruiting and building a workforce ready to respond to the public health needs of the nation and provide public health service in their own communities around the country.

The partnership is leveraging the expertise of both agencies, capitalizing on AmeriCorps' experience managing public service and workforce development programs, while benefitting from CDC's technical expertise as the country's leading public health agency.

Public Health AmeriCorps members are working across the country, helping to improve the health of communities. The program is opening the door of working in public health to a new generation, bringing new talent to conduct public health activities firsthand.

The program also supports [President Biden's Executive Order \(13996\) on Establishing the COVID-19 Pandemic Testing Board and Ensuring a Sustainable Public Health Workforce for COVID-19 and Other Biological Threats](#) - specifically Section 4. Establishing a Public Health Workforce Program, in which AmeriCorps was named.

The program will help communities address broader the public health needs of vulnerable communities that have been exposed and exacerbated by the pandemic. The program will build on expertise, best practices, and lessons learned from existing CDC, AmeriCorps, and other public health programs.

### **Who is Eligible for a Public Health AmeriCorps Award**

Organizations that meet the AmeriCorps State and National eligibility criteria. Please use [C.1. Eligible Applicants](#) section in the Notice for more information.

#### AmeriCorps Member Position Description

Public Health AmeriCorps members will help state, tribal, territory, county, and local public health agencies and nonprofit organizations meet the public health needs of communities, especially those experiencing health issues exacerbated by the pandemic. AmeriCorps members cannot displace existing employees or volunteers.

Examples of roles that AmeriCorps member activities include:

- Community outreach
- Health education
- Mental health education and awareness, emotional regulation skill building
- Health and social services navigation
- Crisis response (e.g. COVID, Opioids, suicide, mental health)
- Capacity building

### **Desired Skills**

Public Health AmeriCorps members should possess:

- a desire and ability to work with a diverse group of people, particularly those living in low-income and economically distressed neighborhoods;
- a willingness to learn and serve others;
- an ability to work independently and in a team environment successfully; and
- strong organizational, writing, and oral communication skills, and high attention to detail.

## Appendix III: Public Health AmeriCorps Performance Measures

Each applicant is required to select at least one aligned performance measure (output paired with outcome) that corresponds to the proposed primary service activity. Each applicant must choose from the following National Performance Measures:

Focus Area	Objective	Selection Rules		Interventions
		Outputs	Outcomes	
Healthy Futures	Access to Care	H4A: Number of individuals served	<p>H17: Number of individuals with increased health knowledge</p> <p>H18: Number of individuals reporting a change in behavior or intent to change behavior to improve their health</p> <p>H19: Number of individuals with improved health</p> <p>H20: Number of individuals with improved access to medical care</p>	<p>Outreach</p> <p>Education/Training</p> <p>Referrals</p> <p>Medical Services</p> <p>Counseling/Coaching</p> <p>Opioid/Drug Intervention/Harm Reduction</p> <p>Navigation of Services</p> <p>COVID Response/COVID Recovery</p>
Capacity Building	Capacity Building & Leverage	G3-3.4: Number of organizations that received capacity building services	<p>G3-3.10A: Number of organizations that increase their efficiency, effectiveness, and/or program reach*</p> <p>* Each applicant must describe in detail how it will measure the organizational effectiveness, efficiency, or program scale/reach in meeting the public health needs of the community in the Described Instrument section.</p>	<p>Disaster Preparation</p> <p>Disaster Response</p> <p>Disaster Recovery</p> <p>Disaster Mitigation</p>

Each grantee will also be required to track and report the Performance Data Elements in its annual Grantee Progress Report. The three Performance Data Elements are the number of AmeriCorps members:

- recruited from the geographic or demographic communities the program operates,
- with increased knowledge about public health, and
- who remain in the public health field post-service.