

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

**Federal Agency Name:** AmeriCorps  
**Funding Opportunity Title:** FY 2025 AmeriCorps Seniors Senior Demonstration Program Zero-Dollar Continuations and Renewals  
**Announcement Type:** Amended Announcement  
**Assistance Listing Number:** 94.017

**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.

**Summary Statement:** This funding opportunity is for existing zero-dollar AmeriCorps Seniors Senior Demonstration Program grantees.

AmeriCorps Seniors Senior Demonstration Programs are different from Foster Grandparent, Senior Companion, and RSVP programs because they are comprised of a distinct programmatic difference that allows AmeriCorps Seniors to learn innovative programming that involves older adults.

Organizations that currently receive an AmeriCorps Seniors’ zero-dollar Senior Demonstration Program grant must submit a continuation or renewal application (as appropriate) if they wish to continue their project under the AmeriCorps Seniors umbrella. If incumbent grantees fail to apply, their current grants will end on June 30, 2025.

This FY 2025 Senior Demonstration Program Notice is revised. AmeriCorps is continuing to review all applicable executive orders and corresponding guidance issued by the Office of Management and Budget and the Office of Personnel Management. AmeriCorps is taking proactive action to ensure alignment with President Trump’s executive orders, related directives, and the Trump-Vance Administration priorities.

**Important Dates:**

- Applications are due **Friday, March 21, 2025, at 5:00 pm ET**, for continuation and renewal projects.
- Successful applicants will be issued awards by June 2025
- Update posted March 7, 2025

**Contents**

**A. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION ..... 4**

A.1. Purpose of AmeriCorps Seniors’ Senior Demonstration Program Funding ..... 4

A.2. Funding Priorities ..... 4

A.3. Performance Goals or Expected Outcomes ..... 5

A.4. Program Authority.....	6
<b>B. FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>6</b>
B.1. Estimated Available Funds.....	6
B.2. Period of Performance.....	6
B.3. Type of Award.....	6
<b>C. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>7</b>
C.1. Eligible Applicants.....	7
C.2. Cost Sharing or Match.....	7
C.3. Other Eligibility Requirements .....	7
<b>D. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>8</b>
D.1. Address to Request an Application Package .....	8
D.2. Content and Form of Application Submission .....	8
D.2.a. Application Content .....	8
D.2.b. Page Limits .....	9
D.3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM).....	9
D.4. Submission Dates and Times .....	10
D.4.a. Application Submission Deadline.....	10
D.4.b. Additional Documents Deadline .....	10
D.4.c. Late Applications .....	10
D.5. Intergovernmental Review.....	11
D.6. Funding Restrictions.....	11
D.6.a. Award Funding Requirements .....	11
D.6.b. Indirect Costs .....	11
D.6.c. Pre-Award Costs.....	12
D.7. Other Submission Requirements.....	12
D.7.a. Electronic Application Submission in eGrants .....	12
D.7.b. Submission of Additional Documents .....	13
<b>E. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION.....</b>	<b>13</b>
E.1. Continuation Applications for Incumbent Zero-Dollar Grantees.....	13
Updated 3/7/25: E.1.a. Executive Summary, E.1.b. Program Design, and E.1.c. Organizational Capability .....	14
Updated 3/7/25: E.1.d. Other .....	14
E.1.e. Work Plans/Performance Measures .....	14
E.1.f. Budget.....	14
E.2. Renewal Applications for Incumbent Zero-Dollar Grantees .....	15
E.2.a. Executive Summary .....	15
E.2.b. Program Design .....	16
E.2.c. Organizational Capability.....	18
E.2.d. Other Narrative.....	19
E.2.e. Work Plans/Performance Measures .....	19
E.2.f. Budget Section 1 and Section 2 .....	20
E.3. Application Review and Selection Process.....	20
E.3.a. Initial Application Compliance and Eligibility Review .....	21
E.3.b. Application Review .....	21

E.3.c. Applicant Clarification.....	21
E.3.d. Pre-Award Risk Assessment.....	21
E.3.e. Consideration of Integrity and Performance System Information.....	22
E.3.f. Selection for Grant Awards .....	23
<b>F. FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION.....</b>	<b>23</b>
F.1. Federal Award Notices .....	23
F.2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements .....	24
F.2.a. Uniform Guidance .....	24
F.2.b. Requests for Monitoring or Payment Integrity Information.....	24
F.2.c. AmeriCorps Terms and Conditions.....	24
F.2.d. National Service Criminal History Check Requirements.....	24
F.2.e. Official Guidance.....	25
F.3. Use of Material .....	25
F.4. Reporting.....	25
<b>G. FEDERAL AWARDED AGENCY CONTACTS .....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>H. OTHER INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>26</b>
H.1. Technical Assistance.....	26
<b>I. IMPORTANT NOTICES .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>APPENDIX A - LIST OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES .....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>APPENDIX B - PERFORMANCE MEASURES .....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>APPENDIX C - TERMS AND DEFINITION .....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>APPENDIX D - LITMOS RESOURCES .....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>APPENDIX E - GRANT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS .....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>APPENDIX F - FOCUS AREAS .....</b>	<b>28</b>
AmeriCorps Focus Areas .....	28

## **A. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

### **A.1. Purpose of AmeriCorps Seniors' Senior Demonstration Program Funding**

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.

The Senior Demonstration Authority, as written in the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 under Title II, Part E—Demonstration Programs, Section 231 Authority of the Director authorizes the Director of AmeriCorps Seniors to make grants to or enter into contracts with public or nonprofit organizations for the purposes of demonstrating innovative activities involving older Americans as volunteers.

AmeriCorps Seniors Senior Demonstration Program projects are modeled after the AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparent Program, RSVP, and Senior Companion Program but offer something different to allow AmeriCorps Seniors to learn new ways of engaging older adults in service. While Senior Demonstration Program projects follow the regulations of the program they are modeled after, they are expected to include flexibilities in their application that allow AmeriCorps Seniors to learn from different models. As such, Senior Demonstration Program projects are expected to test a flexibility, such as in volunteer age (e.g., engage adults ages 50 and older), in income threshold for stipends (e.g., pay a stipend to older adults earning up to 400 percent of the federal poverty guidelines), in stipend amount (e.g., pay a higher stipend or alternative incentive), in volunteer mix (e.g., use volunteers that receive stipends and do not receive stipends within the same project), and/or other flexibilities as described in their application.

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

AmeriCorps will invest in existing and new partnerships with non-profit (including faith-based) organizations, institutions of higher education, Tribal organizations, and local/state government entities and will prioritize investment within AmeriCorps' Focus Areas ([Appendix E](#)). We will target our investments toward communities where the need is greatest. These steps will enable more Americans than ever to strengthen the communities that need it most across the nation through their service.

AmeriCorps Seniors funding priorities for the Senior Demonstration Program are:

- To the extent possible, consider if these priority areas will fit with your renewal application:
  - Programs focused on early learning and those that prepare AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers to enter early learning careers.
  - Organizations that serve people with arrest and conviction records and provide meaningful reentry opportunities.
  - Programs that support strengthening communities (meaning projects that foster respect within communities, strengthen relationships across lines of difference, forge a sense of common civic purpose, and seek to solve a community problem and diminish polarization) and provide training in

community-strengthening skills and techniques to AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers.

- Projects that propose to raise public awareness about the challenges and needs of family caregivers and the role that older adult volunteers can play in helping to overcome some of those challenges. Innovative service projects that can be executed by older adults will be given priority consideration. These projects can include those that:
  - Advance partnerships that promote greater engagement for older adult support for family caregivers.
  - Optimize well-being of family caregivers by strengthening services and supports, i.e., services to help caregivers manage their own health/emotions/physical stress, helping to find and secure other trustworthy/affordable services or supports, and those that prevent caregiver isolation.
  - Develop volunteer roles that integrate older adults as volunteers who serve as part of a care coordination for clients and ongoing support for family and other caregivers.
  - Develop interventions where elders can support caregivers in tribal communities.
  - Spur innovations that engage older adults in intergenerational activities that help increase access to information and services for caregivers.

Senior Demonstration Program applicants should present a plan to recruit and support volunteers ages 55 and over (or another age such as over the age of 50 as described in the application) to engage in community-driven interventions to address unmet community needs. Programs may use other AmeriCorps Seniors programming (Foster Grandparent, RSVP, or Senior Companion Programs) as the basis of program development **but must offer something different from these programs as a way for AmeriCorps Seniors to learn new program ideas.**

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

#### **National Performance Measures**

AmeriCorps expects applicants to use National Performance Measures 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.

Incumbent zero-dollar grantees are required to use the specific performance measures outlined in this Notice for their continuation or renewal application. Depending on the beneficiaries your program will serve, you may refer to the performance measure instructions in Appendix B for the program you are modeled after. Although the Senior Demonstration Program is different from the Foster Grandparent, RSVP, and Senior Companion Programs, the structure of these performance measures is a useful guide.

- [Appendix B: AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Performance Measure Instructions](#) for performance measures for non-stipended volunteers.
- [Appendix B: AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparent Program Performance Measure Instructions](#) for performance measures for stipended volunteers working with school children.
- [Appendix B: AmeriCorps Seniors Senior Companion Program Performance Measure Instructions](#) for performance measures for stipended volunteers working with other older adults.

Applicants must identify a Primary Focus Area and include at least work plan in the selected Primary Focus Area. The Primary Focus Area should represent the area in which the applicant aims to make the most impact.

All proposed volunteers and the intended impact of their service must be represented in the narratives, in a work plan, and in the budget.

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

Awards under this Notice are authorized by 199N of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended, ([42 U.S.C. 12501 et seq.](#)) and section 231 of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 ([42 U.S.C. 4950 et seq.](#)).

## **B. FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION**

### **B.1. Estimated Available Funds**

**For Continuation and Renewal Applications for Incumbent Zero-Dollar Grantees:** These grants are \$0 federal share. Funding to support these programs are non-AmeriCorps funds.

### **B.2. Period of Performance**

**For Renewal Applications for Incumbent Zero-Dollar Grantees:** Program and budget period should be July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026.

**For Continuation Applications for Incumbent Zero-Dollar Grantees:** Program and budget period should be July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026.

AmeriCorps Seniors reserves the right to adjust the amount of an award or elect not to continue funding.

### **B.3. Type of Award**

FY 2025 Continuation and Renewal Senior Demonstration Program grants will be awarded for zero dollars. Award recipients will be assigned to an AmeriCorps portfolio manager, who will be responsible for reviewing recipient performance, providing training and technical assistance, and serving as the primary point of contact for the AmeriCorps Seniors grant.

## C. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Only incumbent grantees with a current zero-dollar Senior Demonstration Program grant are eligible to submit a continuation or renewal application under this NOFO.

### C.1. Eligible Applicants

The following non-Federal entities (all of which are defined in [2 CFR 200.1](#) or [42 U.S.C. 12511\(21\)](#)) are eligible for AmeriCorps grants:

- Indian Tribes
- institutions of higher education
- local governments
- nonprofit organizations
- states and US Territories

In addition to Indian Tribes as defined in [2 CFR 200.1](#), Tribal organizations that are controlled, authorized, or chartered by Federally recognized Indian Tribes are also eligible to apply. If an entity applies for an award as a tribal organization that is controlled or chartered by one or more Indian Tribes [, and the organization does not meet any of the other applicant eligibility types,] the organization must provide copies or links to documentation which demonstrates that the organization is controlled or chartered by a federally recognized Indian Tribe. If an entity applies as an organization authorized by a federally recognized Tribe, or multiple specific federally recognized tribes, it must submit a resolution or other authorization, adopted by the Tribal Council (or comparable tribal governing body) of each Indian Tribe. The authorization(s) must identify the entity applying for an AmeriCorps award by name as a tribal organization that is authorized by the Indian Tribe(s) for the purpose of applying for AmeriCorps funding (or federal grant funds generally).

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

### C.2. Cost Sharing or Match

#### **For Continuation and Renewal Applications for Incumbent Zero-Dollar Grantees:**

Incumbent grantees that receive \$0 from AmeriCorps will not have a match requirement.

### C.3. Other Eligibility Requirements

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. In addition, grantees must certify that the activities under this grant comply with all applicable Executive Orders and do not include any activities promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) that violate any applicable Federal anti-discrimination laws.

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**

All AmeriCorps Seniors Senior Demonstration Program applicants must provide requested information.

For all applicants, this Notice should be read together with the AmeriCorps Seniors regulations, AmeriCorps Seniors Grant Application Instructions, and the AmeriCorps Seniors Performance Measure Instructions indicated in Section A.2. Senior Demonstration Program projects should follow the AmeriCorps Seniors regulations of the program they are modeled after. Any proposed demonstration flexibilities, such as paying stipends to volunteers with incomes up to 400 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, should be clearly described in the application.

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

All information associated with this funding opportunity is available through the AmeriCorps Seniors webpages.

Applicants can also send an email to [AmeriCorpsSeniors@americorps.gov](mailto:AmeriCorpsSeniors@americorps.gov) for a printed copy of the Notice and Guidance.

### **D.2. Content and Form of Application Submission**

#### **D.2.a. Application Content**

Complete applications must include the following elements:

- Standard Form 424 (SF-424) Face Sheet: This is automatically generated when applicants complete the data elements in the eGrants system.
- Narrative Sections: Please see Section E in this NOFO for information on how to complete the Narrative Sections for each type of application.
  - Executive Summary: This is a brief description of the proposed program. Executive Summaries **must** match the language templates as provided in the Notice. Executive Summaries of all compliant applications are made available to the public following grant awards.
  - Strengthening Communities
  - Recruitment and Development
  - Program Management
  - Organizational Capability
  - Other



- Work Plans/Performance Measures
- Standard Form 424A Budget
- Clarification Summary: This section will be used if there are items that need to be resolved post review. Applicants should not include any information in this narrative at the time of original submission.
- Authorization, [Assurances](#), and [Certifications](#)

### **D.2.b. Page Limits**

**For Renewal Applications for Incumbent Zero-Dollar Grantees:** Applications may not exceed 15 double-spaced pages as according to the pages printed out from eGrants.

**For Continuation Applications for Incumbent Zero-Dollar Grantees:** Applications may not exceed 22 double-spaced pages as according to the pages printed out from eGrants.

**For All Applicants:** The application sections that count toward the page limit are the:

- SF-424 Face Sheet
- Executive Summary
- Strengthening Communities, Recruitment and Development, Program Management, Organizational Capability, and Other narratives.

The application page limit does not include the Budget, Work Plans/Performance Measures, or any required additional documents. Text entered into the Clarification Summary narrative at the time of original submission will not be read or reviewed. The Clarification Summary narrative will be used after receipt and review of your application to address resolution items, if applicable.

Please note that the length of the application as a word processing document may differ from the length of the document printed out from eGrants. The character limits in eGrants do not align with page limits set in the Notice. **AmeriCorps Seniors strongly encourages applicants to print out the application from the “Review and Submit” tab in eGrants prior to submission in order to confirm that the application does not exceed the page limit.**

AmeriCorps Seniors will not consider the results of any alternative printing methods when determining if an application complies with the page limit. Reviewers will also not consider material that is over the page limit, even if eGrants allows applicants to enter and submit additional text.

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

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

SAM registration must be renewed annually. AmeriCorps suggests that 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. **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.**

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.

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 an 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**

##### **D.4.a. Application Submission Deadline**

Applications are due not later than **Friday, March 21, 2025, by 5:00 pm Eastern Time** for continuation and renewal projects.

AmeriCorps will not consider applications submitted after the deadline, except as noted in [Section D.4.c. Late Applications](#). AmeriCorps reserves the right to extend the submission deadline. AmeriCorps will post a notification in the event of an extended deadline on AmeriCorps' website.

##### **D.4.b. Additional Documents Deadline**

Additional documents are due by the application submission deadline. See *Sections D.4.a. Application Submission Deadline* and *D.7.b. Submission of Additional Documents* for more information.

##### **D.4.c. Late Applications**

All applications received after the submission deadline published in this Notice, of **Friday, March 21, 2025, at 5:00 pm Eastern Time**, are presumed to be non-compliant. To overcome this presumption, the applicant must:

- submit a written explanation or justification of the extenuating circumstance(s) that caused the delay, including:
  - the timing and specific cause(s) of the delay
  - the ticket number if a request for assistance was submitted to the AmeriCorps Hotline
  - any information provided to the applicant by the AmeriCorps Hotline
  - any other documentation or evidence that supports the justification
- ensure that AmeriCorps receives the written explanation or justification and any other evidence that substantiates the claimed extenuating circumstance(s), via email to [AmeriCorpsSeniors@americorps.gov](mailto:AmeriCorpsSeniors@americorps.gov) no later than 24 hours after the application deadline as stated in the Notice

Communication with AmeriCorps staff, including an applicant's portfolio manager, is not a substitute for a written explanation or justification of the extenuating circumstance that caused the delay as outlined above. Applicants are required to continue working in [eGrants, AmeriCorps' web-based application system](#), and with the AmeriCorps Hotline to submit the application. AmeriCorps will determine whether or not to accept a late application on a case-by-case basis.

Applicants that do not meet the application submission deadline and do not submit a written explanation or justification or any other evidence to overcome the presumption of non-compliance within the published timeframe will be deemed noncompliant. If AmeriCorps sustains a noncompliant determination, the application will not be reviewed or selected for award.

AmeriCorps will *not* consider an advance request to submit a late application. Please carefully review and follow the guidance in this section and submit your application as soon as possible.

## **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**

#### **For Continuation and Renewal Applications for Incumbent Zero-Dollar Grantees:**

Awards under this Notice are not subject to cost share or matching requirements as these are \$0 grants.

There are also limitations on the use of Federal funds to recover indirect costs. As provided in [2 CFR 200.306\(c\)](#), unrecovered indirect costs may be included as part of an applicant's cost sharing or matching requirements.

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

Application budgets may include indirect costs. Based on qualifying factors, applicants may either use a federally approved indirect cost rate or a 15 percent *de minimis* rate of modified total direct costs, or may claim certain costs directly, as outlined in [2 CFR 200.413](#). 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 or *de minimis* rate must enter that information in the Organization section in eGrants.

The instructions for how to enter the organization's indirect cost rate are located here: [eGrants Indirect Cost Rate User Instructions](#). 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.6.c. Pre-Award Costs**

Pre-award costs, where authorized, are allowed after receiving written approval from the Office of Grant Administration.

### **D.7. Other Submission Requirements**

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

Applicants must submit applications electronically via [eGrants, AmeriCorps' web-based application system](#). AmeriCorps 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.

**NEW/UPDATED:** 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. The authorized representative and the project director may not be the same person and may not have the same email address. Please ensure different names are entered in your eGrants program information. Applications will be returned for corrections if the authorized representative and the project director have the same contact information.

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. [AmeriCorps Hotline hours](#) are also posted on the website.

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. Applicants should refer to Section D.4.c for the late application process.

If circumstances make it impossible for an applicant to submit in eGrants, applicants may send a paper copy of the application via overnight carrier below. Applicants must include a written explanation and any other documentation or evidence that support their inability to submit their application electronically.

AmeriCorps  
ATTN: Office of AmeriCorps Seniors, Senior Demonstration Program Application  
250 E Street, SW, Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20525

Please use a non-U.S. Postal Service carrier to avoid security-related delays. **All deadlines and requirements in this Notice also apply to paper applications. AmeriCorps does not accept applications submitted via fax or email.**

#### **D.7.b. Submission of Additional Documents**

Applicants are required to submit the following additional documents by the application submission deadline:

1. All renewal applicants regardless of funding level are required to submit an [Operational and Financial Management Survey \(OFMS\)](#). Please submit the OFMS using the [link to the online form](#), where you will be required to submit your response electronically. Forms submitted as a Word document, PDF, or any other document format may not be accepted.
2. Tribal organization eligibility documentation (See Section C.1 *Eligible Applicants*), if applicable.

Failure to submit the required additional documents, following the email instructions in this section, by the deadline may have a negative effect on the assessment of your application.

***Do not submit any items that are not requested in this Notice. AmeriCorps will not review or return them.***

### **E. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION**

#### **E.1. Continuation Applications for Incumbent Zero-Dollar Grantees**

Because eGrants is our system of record, it is critical that previous information remains and that you update only where specified in this Notice.

**Updated 3/7/25:** Please do not make any revisions to the narratives aside from the Other Narrative except those necessary to ensure compliance with applicable Executive Orders. For more information on Executive Orders, please refer to the White House website [Presidential Actions - The White House](#).

**Define Geographical Service Area:** Ensure your service area as identified in the “Areas Affected by the Project” field accurately reflects your geographical service area. List the state(s) and county, parish, or tribal land names only—do not list cities, towns, etc. Do not include any other information. When entering the Areas Affected by the Project, use the following formats as appropriate:

**If serving counties or parishes in one state**

Vermont: Addison, Orange, Washington

**If serving a tribal land**

Arizona: Fort Yuma-Quechan Tribal lands

**If serving counties or parishes in multiple states**

Arkansas: Crittenden

Mississippi: DeSoto

Tennessee: Fayette, Shelby

**Updated 3/7/25: E.1.a. Executive Summary, E.1.b. Program Design, and E.1.c. Organizational Capability**

Do not make any adjustments to the following sections: Strengthening Communities, Recruitment and Development, Program Management, or Organizational Capability except when necessary to ensure compliance with applicable executive orders. For more information on Executive Orders, please refer to the White House website [Presidential Actions - The White House](#). If you have additional updates for any of these sections unrelated to executive orders, please see Section E.1.d. Other Narrative for instructions.

1. Review the Executive Order Gov. Delivery message sent to grantees on February 11, 2025.
2. Assess the application narratives for noncompliant activities and remove or update any language related to noncompliant activities.

**Updated 3/7/25: E.1.d. Other**

Please use headings or titles to help organize information within the Other Narrative.

**E.1.d.i. FY 25 Programmatic Updates:**

Please add a heading in the Other Narrative called "FY25 Programmatic Updates."

- If you will be making adjustments to your program that would normally impact the application narratives or work plans, briefly summarize these changes under "FY25 Programmatic Updates." Changes may include but are not limited to the number of unduplicated volunteers or Volunteer Service Years, recruitment, organizational policies or procedures, staffing changes, and/or adding or revising work plans
- If you will not be making any adjustments in FY25, please add "N/A" under "FY25 Programmatic Updates."

**E.1.e. Work Plans/Performance Measures**

Information will automatically copy from your previous awarded application into your continuation application. Grantees should take this opportunity to revise work plans to accurately reflect the number of active volunteers in your program who are working towards achieving the National Performance Measures. You should also align your work plans to current community needs. If you make any changes to the work plans, please briefly summarize the changes in the Other narrative under "FY25 Programmatic Updates."

**E.1.f. Budget**

Incumbent zero-dollar grantees may complete as much of the budget form as they wish, but they must at least demonstrate in their budget that they have non-federal funding to support:

- A full-time project director, or a part-time project director if the grantee has negotiated this with AmeriCorps Seniors.
- One staff person, primarily the Project Director, to attend the AmeriCorps Seniors annual convening or, in the event an in-person convening does not occur, funds to attend another training event. The recommended amount is \$2,000. Long-distance

travel funds may be re-budgeted later if not fully spent depending on actual travel activities.

- Stipends or incentives for AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers who qualify for them.
- Recognition for AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers.
- Volunteer insurance as required by the AmeriCorps Seniors program regulations after which the project is modeled.

## **E.2. Renewal Applications for Incumbent Zero-Dollar Grantees**

All organizations who submit a renewal application are required to review and update the executive summary, narratives and work plan for the entire three years of the grant cycle. Previous grant information will auto-populate. However, check to ensure there have not been changes to the application requirements in this Notice and that all narrative fields have been adequately addressed. Update sections as needed.

**Updated 3/7/25:** Ensure your planned activities and programming comply with applicable executive orders. For more information on Executive Orders, please refer to the White House website [Presidential Actions - The White House](#).

**Define Geographical Service Area:** Ensure your service area as identified in the “Areas Affected by the Project” field accurately reflects your geographical service area. List the state(s) and county, parish, or tribal land names only—do not list cities, towns, etc. Do not include any other information. When entering the Areas Affected by the Project, use the following formats as appropriate:

**If serving counties or parishes in one state**

Vermont: Addison, Orange, Washington

**If serving a tribal land**

Arizona: Fort Yuma-Quechan Tribal lands

**If serving counties or parishes in multiple states**

Arkansas: Crittenden

Mississippi: DeSoto

Tennessee: Fayette, Shelby

### **E.2.a. Executive Summary**

Please fill in the blanks of these sentences to complete the Executive Summary. Do not deviate from the template below.

“The **[1. Name of the organization]** proposes to have **[2. Number of unduplicated]** AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers who will **[3. specific service activities]** in **[4. the locations the AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers will serve]**. {(If applicable) AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers will serve **[5. XX number]** Volunteer Service Years (VSYs) each year.} The primary focus area of this project is **[6. fill in AmeriCorps Focus Area]**. {(If applicable)} Other priorities include **[7. List priority areas to be**

**addressed.}] AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers will be responsible for [8. fill in the anticipated outcome (s)]. The AmeriCorps investment of \$0 will be supplemented by \$[9. fill in the anticipated level of non-AmeriCorps resources/match]."**

**Must provide the following:**

1. name of the organization applying under this Notice
2. total number of unduplicated AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers serving; should match the total number of unduplicated volunteers in your work plans
3. brief list of the service activities the members will be doing
4. the locations where the AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers will serve; for example, service sites or counties
5. the number of Volunteer Service Years, if applicable to the project. One Volunteer Service Year, or VSY, equals 1,044 hours of volunteer service.
6. the primary AmeriCorps Focus Area as selected in the Performance Measure Module
7. other priorities to be addressed by the project, if applicable
8. brief list of the anticipated outcome(s) of service
9. the amount of match from non-AmeriCorps resources, which should match the grantee share of the budget

**A sample Executive Summary might look like:**

*The ABC School proposes to have 20 AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers tutor and mentor preschool children at Head Start Academy in Crystal County, VA. AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers will be trained to use phonics and writing to develop reading growth of five-year-olds. AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers will serve 18 Volunteer Service Years each year. The primary focus area of this project is Education. Other priorities include programming that focuses on early learning. AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers will be responsible for 40 preschool students reading at first-grade level. The AmeriCorps investment of \$0 will be supplemented by \$50,000 in private sector funds.*

**E.2.b. Program Design**

Reviewers will consider the quality of the application's response in relation to the criteria below. Do not assume all sub-criteria are of equal value.

Text with strikethrough throughout this section has been removed and is not allowable activity. Highlighted text has been revised.

**Updated 3/7/25: E.2.b.i. Strengthening Communities - narrative section of eGrants**

Reviewers will consider the extent to which applications:

- Describe the needs of the community where volunteers will be serving, including data and any relevant details and sources.
- Describe the organization's commitment to equity when addressing critical community needs, as reflected in the organization's mission and vision.



- Describe the communities to be served by the proposed project, including race, sex, gender, income, and other demographics relevant to the community to be served.
- Outline the project and interventions that address the stated community needs. Include information about the target population and the roles of the volunteers.
- Provide rationale for engaging AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers to deliver the intervention(s) and how they will make a significant contribution to address the stated need(s).
- Explain why the number of AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers is adequate for addressing the stated need(s). Include how your previous experience with your community and expected volunteer engagement has informed the number of volunteers.

### **Updated 3/7/25: E.2.b.ii Recruitment and Development - narrative section of eGrants**

Reviewers will consider the extent to which applications:

- Detail a plan to support successful recruitment of AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers best suited to serve the community, for example, from geographic or demographic communities in which the program operates.
- Detail plans to ensure volunteers receive training needed to comply with regulations and succeed in the service activities described in the work plans.
- Describe a plan to retain and recognize volunteers, including:
  - strategies to create an environment that supports volunteers in service, to foster an inclusive service culture where all identities, backgrounds, talents, and capabilities are welcome.
  - plans to keep volunteers engaged in their service activity over the course of grant funding.
- Describe the elements of your demonstration program that are different from other AmeriCorps Seniors programs, including but not limited to:
  - If you will provide an hourly stipend of greater than \$4 or have an alternative incentive structure, please describe the amount of stipend or incentive, how/when the incentives are earned and paid, and other information related to the stipend or alternative incentives. How did you establish the stipend amount?
  - If you will pay a stipend or provide alternative incentives to volunteers who are between 200 and 400 percent of the federal poverty level, please describe what considerations led the program to implement this flexibility.
  - If you will use volunteers as site or team leaders to mentor, assist, or coordinate volunteers at the sites, please describe the roles of the team leaders. Include a list of their duties and any stipend or incentive structure for compensating the team or site leaders.
  - If you will require a lower number of service hours from stipended volunteers than 5 hours a week/260 hours a year, please describe the service hour requirements you have. How did you establish those requirements?
  - If you will recruit volunteers ages 50 and older, please include the number of volunteers you propose to have that are ages 50 to 54 and the number ages 55 and older.
  - If you are proposing any other demonstration elements, please clearly describe them, including the structure of the demonstration element and the expected impact on the project.

- Describe how the demonstration elements used in your program have impacted recruitment and retention of AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers.

### **E.2.c. Organizational Capability**

#### **Updated 3/7/25: E.2.c.i. Program Management - narrative section of eGrants**

Reviewers will consider the extent to which applications:

- Describe plans to develop volunteer stations to provide meaningful service opportunities that address stated community needs. Include strategies to recruit external partners if applicable.
- Describe your volunteer station management plan, including how you will ensure volunteer stations are:
  - providing guidance and training to volunteer station supervisors and volunteers.
  - meeting program regulations, priorities, and expectations.
  - providing training and assistance to volunteer station staff that ensures volunteer safety while in service. fosters the creation of safe, inclusive spaces for volunteers of all identities, backgrounds, talents, and capabilities.

#### **Updated 3/7/25: E.2.c.ii Organizational Capability- narrative section of eGrants**

Reviewers will consider the extent to which applications:

- Describe the organizational infrastructure to ensure sound programmatic and fiscal oversight, including any history with managing federal grants. Include infrastructure such as:
  - Governance and risk management, such as accounting, personnel management, and purchasing.
  - Staffing, training, and data and financial management software.
  - Compliance with internal organizational policies as well as program regulations, priorities, and expectations (statutes, the Code of Federal Regulations, and related policies).
- Describe the extent to which the organization has sufficient policies, procedures, controls, and staff and volunteer training in place to:
  - prevent, detect, and mitigate the risk of fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement, including an assessment of appropriate segregation of duties, internal oversight activities, measures to prevent timekeeping fraud, etc.
  - report, without delay, any suspected criminal activity, waste, fraud, and abuse to both the AmeriCorps Office of the Inspector General and AmeriCorps.
  - prevent and detect non-compliance and enforce compliance with AmeriCorps rules and regulations including those related to prohibited activities and criminal history checks at the grantee and service site locations.
  - comply with reporting requirements, including timely and accurate submission of reports.

- Describe a plan to participate and complete trainings related to implementing the AmeriCorps Seniors Senior Demonstration Program such as project management, volunteer recruitment, station management, project progress reports, criminal history checks, National Performance Measures, etc. Both AmeriCorps and non-AmeriCorps offered trainings may be included in the description.
- List titles and position descriptions for all staff assigned to this project and explain how these positions will ensure the accomplishment of program outcomes and requirements. Include names of any staff who may already be employed by your organization and plans to recruit staff for any open positions.
- Describe your organization's experience with, and/or plans that include, the community being served. This can include explanation regarding the development of a Board of Directors, agency staff and leadership, and/or volunteers that adequately reflect the community.

#### **E.2.d. Other Narrative**

Please use headings or titles to help organize information within the Other Narrative.

#### **E.2.d.i. Data Collection and Evaluation - enter your response in Other narrative section of eGrants**

Evaluation is a tool for improvement and increases your program's ability to serve people more efficiently and effectively. To ensure there is a quality evaluation plan:

- Describe your data collection system, including the process for collecting and maintaining high-quality performance data from your organization and stations, analyzing the data, and how this will ensure timely and accurate reporting to AmeriCorps.
- Explain how you will use performance and evaluation data to measure project outputs and outcomes, learn from your work, and make data- and evidence-informed tactical and strategic adjustments to achieve your goals.

For more information about evaluation plans and data collection methods, please visit the AmeriCorps [Evidence Readiness Resources](#) and the [AmeriCorps National Performance Measurement Core Curriculum](#) web pages.

#### **E.2.e. Work Plans/Performance Measures**

Reviewers will assess whether each individual work plan includes:

- a description of the specific community need being addressed by the individual work plan, including local data or statistics on the target population and the extent of the specific need for this work plan
- a description of the service activity that will address the community need for the individual work plan, including the intervention the AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers will implement or deliver and the duration and dosage of that intervention
- An output and outcome pairing that is eligible for this Notice and that aligns with the description of community need and service activity as defined for the individual work plan
  - The output includes a target number that is appropriate for the service activity description and number of volunteers assigned

- If the work plan is for Other Community Priorities, the output should be "1".
  - The outcome includes a target number that is appropriate for the service activity description and number of volunteers assigned. The outcome target should not equal the output target.
    - This is not applicable for an Other Community Priorities work plan
- An output and outcome instrument description that describes how these will be measured
- The number of unduplicated volunteers that will be assigned to this work plan as their primary service
- The number of total volunteers that will contribute to this work plan

Across all work plans, reviewers will assess whether:

- The total number of unduplicated volunteers matches what is in the Executive Summary
- The work plans connect back to the Strengthening Communities narrative and demonstrate how the organization will address the overall needs of their community

### **E.2.f. Budget Section 1 and Section 2**

Incumbent zero-dollar grantees who are submitting renewals should complete a three-year budget. When itemizing expenses for the entire multi-year term, applicants can either put all 3 years in one line item or create separate line items for each year (for example, if the amount will vary each year). If using separate line items for each year, clearly indicate which year the expense applies to.

Incumbent zero-dollar grantees may complete as much of the budget form as they wish, but they must at least demonstrate in their budget that they have non-federal funding to support:

- A full-time project director, or a part-time project director if the grantee has negotiated this with AmeriCorps Seniors.
- One staff person, primarily the Project Director, to attend the AmeriCorps Seniors annual convening or, in the event an in-person convening does not occur, funds to attend another training event. The recommended amount is \$2,000. Long-distance travel funds may be re-budgeted later if not fully spent depending on actual travel activities.
- Stipends or incentives for AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers who qualify for them.
- Recognition for AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers.
- Volunteer insurance as required by the AmeriCorps Seniors regulations.

See the [Grant Application Instructions](#) for guidance on completing the Budget Section 1 and Section 2 in eGrants.

### **E.3. Application Review and Selection Process**

AmeriCorps will engage Staff Reviewers with relevant knowledge and expertise to assess and provide input on the eligible applications. The review and selection process is intended to produce a diversified set of high-quality programs that represent the priorities and strategic

considerations described in this Notice. The determinations made by AmeriCorps reviewers may be different from what the applicant self-determined upon submission of its application. The stages of the review and selection process follow:

### **E.3.a. Initial Application Compliance and Eligibility Review**

AmeriCorps will conduct an initial Compliance and Eligibility Review to determine if an application meets the eligibility requirements published in this Notice and advances to the next stage of the review process.

An application is compliant if the applicant:

- is an eligible organization
- submitted an application by the submission deadline

Reviewing for eligibility is intended to ensure that only those applications that are eligible for award are further reviewed. However, determinations of eligibility can take place at any point during the application review and selection process. Applicants that are determined to be ineligible will not receive an award.

### **E.3.b. Application Review**

#### **Internal Review**

AmeriCorps Staff Reviewers will assess the applications based on the Program Design, Organizational Capability, and Cost-Effectiveness, and Budget Adequacy Selection Criteria (E.1, E.2, or E.3). Staff Reviewers will also consider the priorities and strategic considerations detailed in this Notice. All Staff Reviewers will be screened for conflicts of interest.

### **E.3.c. Applicant Clarification**

AmeriCorps may ask an applicant for clarifying information. AmeriCorps staff will use this information to make funding recommendations. A request for clarification does not guarantee an award. Applicants may be recommended for funding even if they are not asked for clarifying information. An applicant's failure to respond to a request for clarification adequately and in a timely manner may result in the removal of its application from consideration.

### **E.3.d. Pre-Award Risk Assessment**

AmeriCorps staff will assess the risks to the program posed by each applicant to determine an applicant's ability to manage federal awards. This evaluation is in addition to those about the applicant's eligibility and the quality of its application on the basis of the Selection Criteria (E.1, E.2, or E.3). Results from this assessment will inform award decisions. If AmeriCorps determines that an award will be made to an applicant with assessed risks, special conditions that correspond to the degree of assessed risk may be applied to the award. Applicants may not be selected for an award 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. Operational and Financial Management, including:

- financial stability
- [Operational and Financial Management Survey \(OFMS\)](#)

3. Past Performance, including:

- an applicant's record in managing previous AmeriCorps awards, cooperative agreements, or procurement awards, including:
  - timeliness of compliance with applicable reporting requirements
  - accuracy of data reported
  - validity of performance measure data reported
  - conformance to the terms and conditions of previous federal awards
  - applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on award recipients
  - timely closeout of other awards
  - meeting matching requirements
  - the extent to which any previously awarded amounts will be expended prior to future awards
  - National Service Criminal History Check (NSCHC) compliance. See section F.2.d. National Criminal History Check Requirements and the [NSCHC webpage](#) for more information

4. **Updated 3/7/2025:** Other Programmatic Risks, including:

- publicly available information, including from the applicant organization's website
- amount of funding requested by the organization
- other elements considered relevant per Program Office, such as prohibited activities and/or compliance with applicable Trump-Vance administration Executive Orders

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](#) website, under the Training and Technical Assistance section. This content will help applicants obtain due diligence compliance and remain compliant throughout the grant life.

### **E.3.e. 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 applicant that is in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently FAPIIS) (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 applicant, at its option, may review information in the designated integrity and performance systems accessible through FAPIIS 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 FAPIIS.

AmeriCorps may consider comments by any 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 Risk Assessment Evaluation section of this Notice.

### **E.3.f. Selection for Grant Awards**

The review and selection process are designed to:

- identify how well eligible applications are aligned with the application selection criteria (E.1, E.2, or E.3 as appropriate for the application type)
- build a diversified portfolio based on the following strategic considerations:
  - AmeriCorps Funding Priorities (See Section A.2. *Funding Priorities*)
  - meaningful representation of
    - geographic area
    - rural communities
    - small and medium programs
    - faith-based organizations
    - focus areas
    - innovative community strategies for identified funding priorities
    - AmeriCorps Seniors Director's discretion to advance strategic goals

In selecting applicants to receive awards under this Notice, the AmeriCorps Seniors Director will endeavor to include a diversified portfolio of applications based on staff recommendations, alignment with selection criteria, and strategic considerations.

AmeriCorps reserves the right to award 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. Any such adjustments or changes will not affect the selection criteria (E.1, E.2, or E.3) that will be used to assess applications.***

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

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

AmeriCorps will make awards following the selection announcement. AmeriCorps anticipates announcing the results of this funding opportunity by June 2025 contingent on the

availability of congressional appropriations. All 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 signed by the Office of Grant Administration Grant Award Specialist 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 2025 AmeriCorps General Terms and Conditions, and the FY 2025 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 [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. Zero-Dollar grantees are not required to conduct National Service Criminal History Checks.

- Award recipients and subrecipients must conduct an NSCHC for AmeriCorps members, AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers, and all 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. See [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 individuals 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.

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

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

AmeriCorps Seniors active guidance is available on the agency's Guidance webpage: <https://www.americorps.gov/about/agency-overview/official-guidance>. 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 Seniors funding are available to the public and readily accessible to recipients and non-recipients, AmeriCorps Seniors 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**

Grantees 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.

All grantees are required to provide annual project progress reports and progress report supplementals through eGrants, AmeriCorps' web-based grants management system. Grantees who receive funding from AmeriCorps Seniors are required to provide semi-annual financial reports through eGrants.

In addition, at the end of the award period, a grantee receiving federal funding must submit final financial reports that are cumulative over the entire award period and consistent with the close-out requirements. The final reports are due 120 days after the end of the period of performance.

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 Seniors funding.

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

This information pertains to all AmeriCorps Seniors Senior Demonstration Program continuation and renewal applications.

For more information, call or email the assigned Regional Office. For new applicants invited to apply, contact information was included in your invitation to apply.

For technical questions and problems with the eGrants system, call the AmeriCorps Hotline at (800) 942-2677. AmeriCorps Hotline hours are posted at <https://questions.americorps.gov/app/ask>. 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 applicants to participate in these sessions. A Tour of the Notice webinar for continuations and renewals is scheduled for Tuesday, January 28, at 2 pm ET. Information for these technical assistance calls is available on the AmeriCorps Seniors [Senior Demonstration Program Grantees web page](#).

General resources needed to effectively manage your award, including eGrants instructions, [updating your indirect cost rate](#), [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 website](#). Additionally, the AmeriCorps Seniors Senior Demonstration Program Operational Handbook is available on the [Senior Demonstration Program grantee page](#) under Grantee Resources.

## I. IMPORTANT NOTICES

This information pertains to all AmeriCorps Seniors Senior Demonstration Program continuation and renewal applications.

**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 Seniors 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. (See [5 C.F.R. 1320.5\(b\)\(2\)\(i\)](#).) The collection is approved under OMB Control Number 3045-0035, AmeriCorps Seniors Grant Application, expiration date: September 30, 2026.

**Privacy Act Statement:** The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C 552a) requires that we notify you 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 A - List of Funding Opportunities**

[APPENDIX A - List of Funding Opportunities](#)

## **APPENDIX B - Performance Measures**

- [Appendix B: AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Performance Measure Instructions](#) for performance measures for non-stipended volunteers.
- [Appendix B: AmeriCorps Seniors Foster Grandparent Program Performance Measure Instructions](#) for performance measures for stipended volunteers working with school children.
- [Appendix B: AmeriCorps Seniors Senior Companion Program Performance Measure Instructions](#) for performance measures for stipended volunteers working with other older adults.

## **APPENDIX C - Terms and Definition**

[APPENDIX C - Terms and Definitions](#)

## **APPENDIX D - Litmos Resources**

[APPENDIX D - Litmos Resources](#)

## **APPENDIX E - Grant Application Instructions**

[APPENDIX E - Grant Application Instructions](#)

## **APPENDIX F - 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 the [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 COVID-19 and other public health crises, access to care, aging in place, and addressing childhood obesity, especially in underserved communities.

**Veterans and Military Families**

Improving the quality of life of veterans and improve military family strength.

**Capacity Building**

Support *indirect services* that enable AmeriCorps-supported organizations to provide more, better, and sustained *direct services*. Capacity building activities cannot be solely intended to support the administration or operations of the organization.