

AmeriCorps State and National Final Rule: Term Limits & AmeriCorps-Funded Benefits Eligibility Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

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§ 2522.23545 CFR 2522.235

Is there a limit on the number of terms an individual may serve in an AmeriCorps State and National program?

The number of terms an individual may serve in an AmeriCorps State and National program is not limited, but the limitations in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section apply.

- a) An individual may attain only the aggregate value of two full-time education awards.
- b) AmeriCorps will fund the benefits described in §§ 2522.240 through 2522.250 only for the number of terms needed to attain the aggregate value of two full-time education awards or for four terms, whichever is longer. Grantees may choose to fund benefits for any additional terms.

FAQ

The new term limit eligibility applies to which members?

The new term limit eligibility goes into effect with FY 2025 funded members onward.

What is the process for programs who wish to fund individuals beyond their eligibility for AmeriCorps funding? Do these individuals get enrolled in the system? Are they eligible for loan forbearance/interest accrual?

Although programs may elect to continue to fund individual former members after their term eligibility has expired, these individuals must not be enrolled via eGrants. Further, because these individuals' continued service no longer falls under the purview of AmeriCorps, they are not eligible for AmeriCorps benefits such as loan forbearance or interest accrual.

How many terms will AmeriCorps fund member benefits?

AmeriCorps will fund benefits only for the number of terms needed to attain the aggregate value of two full-time education awards <u>or</u> for four terms, <u>whichever is longer</u>. The table below shows examples for how many terms each slot type is eligible to receive AmeriCorps-funded benefits:

Table 1 This bar graph chart illustrates term eligibility for two members based on the type of term they served in. A graduation cap indicates when each member received the total aggregate of two full time education awards.

Term	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6	Term 7
Member A	FT	FT	FT	FT			
Member B	RHT	RHT	RHT	RHT	RHT	RHT 🚱	

Member A serves Full-Time service terms. They receive the aggregate value of two-full time Education Awards after two terms. They are eligible for AmeriCorps-funded benefits for two more terms because four terms is longer than the two terms it took to receive the aggregate value of two-full time Education Awards.

Member B serves Reduced Half Time service terms. They receive the aggregate value of two-full time Education Awards after six terms. They are eligible for AmeriCorps-funded benefits for six terms because the time it took to receive the aggregate value of two-full time Education Awards is longer than four terms.

Can you confirm if a grantee or subgrantee will be able, meaning the system will allow, to enroll a member into the AmeriCorps portal in a service term beyond four service terms or after they attain the aggregate value of two full-time education awards?

Programs will not be able to enroll individuals beyond their term limit eligibility according to the final rule. The changes in eGrants will be made in alignment with the start of enrollment for FY 2025 funded members.

If a program elects to enroll a member who has already served four terms or received their two full education awards (the limit of what AmeriCorps will fund), how should a program track the member expenses?

The program would not need to track these expenses since the individual would not be funded by AmeriCorps dollars or match. The individual would not be enrolled.

We think we would use non-AmeriCorps funding and not record it as match. Is this correct? What expenses related to the member would we record that way? We assume direct costs like living allowance, FICA, benefits. But what about the staff time supporting the member? Or training costs?

Funding for individuals, or supervising and supporting individuals, beyond their AmeriCorps eligibility limits cannot be recorded against the grant or as match.

How long is an enrolled member eligible for interest accrual payments? For four terms or the number of terms it takes to receive two education awards (whichever is longer)?

Member eligibility for loan forbearance and interest accrual aligns with the new rule term limit eligibility. Members are eligible for loan forbearance and interest accrual for four terms or the length of time it takes to attain the aggregate value of two full-time education awards, whichever is longer.

If a member previously hit the current four term limit, but had yet to earn two full education awards, is it accurate to assume that individual could continue serving in FY 2025? If they already hit the current limit of four terms, maybe two years ago, could they now serve

additional terms if they have unearned education award value? Or does the new rule only apply to those that have yet to hit the limit moving forward?

If a member maxed out their term eligibility prior to the new rule and has yet to earn two full education awards, they are eligible to continue serving until they meet the aggregate value of two full education awards.