



CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

The President's 2016 Budget is designed to bring middle class economics into the 21st Century. This Budget shows what we can do if we invest in America's future and commit to an economy that rewards hard work, generates rising incomes, and allows everyone to share in the prosperity of a growing America. It lays out a strategy to strengthen our middle class and help America's hard-working families get ahead in a time of relentless economic and technological change. And it makes the critical investments needed to accelerate and sustain economic growth in the long run, including in research, education, training, and infrastructure.

These proposals will help working families feel more secure with paychecks that go further, help American workers upgrade their skills so they can compete for higher-paying jobs, and help create the conditions for our businesses to keep generating good new jobs for our workers to fill, while also fulfilling our most basic responsibility to keep Americans safe. We will make these investments, and end the harmful spending cuts known as sequestration, by cutting inefficient spending and reforming our broken tax code to make sure everyone pays their fair share. We can do all this while also putting our Nation on a more sustainable fiscal path. The Budget achieves about \$1.8 trillion in deficit reduction, primarily from reforms to health programs, our tax code, and immigration.

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) leads the nation's efforts to tap into the energy of citizens to solve problems in their communities through service, volunteerism and other forms of civic participation. From tutoring at-risk youth to responding to natural disasters to building homes for low-income families, CNCS provides an on-ramp for Americans of all ages to serve their communities in sustained and effective ways. To support this mission, the Budget provides \$1.18 billion for CNCS. This funding level will enable AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, and the Social Innovation Fund to improve lives, expand economic opportunities, bolster civic and faith-based organizations, engage millions of Americans in service, and invest in evidence-based solutions. CNCS' focus areas for funding include economic opportunity, education, environmental stewardship, disaster services, healthy futures, and veterans and military families.

Funding Highlights:

The President's 2016 Budget provides \$1.18 billion in funding for the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) to tap into the energy of citizens to solve problems in their communities. This includes:

- A record-high 90,150 AmeriCorps members, including 13,000 summer positions for disconnected youth, more than 4,000 new positions for retired Americans, and additional public-private partnerships to create more opportunities for Americans to serve.
- Investments in promising and evidence-based approaches to improve the lives of low-income individuals through the Social Innovation Fund, which seeks to fund more of what works.
- Increased focus on competition-based funding of Senior Corps programs to engage Americans age 55 and older in more effective service that strengthens communities. The Budget also provides a path for effective Senior Corps programs to grow through AmeriCorps.
- Continuing to identify, generate, and disseminate evidence of the impact of national service and social innovation and use high-quality performance and evaluation data in its budget, management, and policy decisions.

Reforms:

To further enhance oversight and accountability to the public, CNCS will continue to refine the Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) program and focus on making the systems for grantees and institutions that use national service even more efficient and effective.

Supporting National Service to Create Opportunities

The Budget supports a record-high 90,150 AmeriCorps members who will support the efforts of nonprofit organizations to address a wide range of critical community challenges, from disaster response to homelessness to low-performing schools. The Budget enables 13,000 disconnected youth to serve as AmeriCorps members during the summer, giving them an opportunity to help their communities while exploring potential career paths, developing skills, and earn an education award they can use for college.

In addition, CNCS will encourage more retired Americans to apply their lifetime of skills and experiences through AmeriCorps. This will move toward the goal of the Serve America Act of seniors accounting for 10 percent of AmeriCorps members.

Finally, building on the success of public-private partnerships established through the President's Task Force on Expanding National Service, the Budget funds a new partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to enlist roughly 200 AmeriCorps members in helping more local leaders as they plan for and address the impacts of climate change. CNCS will continue to seek partnerships with federal agencies and corporate and philanthropic communities to create new national service positions in AmeriCorps and Senior Corps.

Investing in Evidence-Based Ideas and Increasing Competition

Nonprofits cannot seed and scale effective innovative solutions to critical national challenges without adequate capital to develop, evaluate, and replicate what works. The Budget invests \$70 million in the Social Innovation Fund (SIF) to test promising new approaches to major challenges, leverage private and philanthropic capital to meet these needs, and expand evidence-based programs that demonstrate measurable outcomes. The Budget continues to allow the use of up to 20 percent of SIF funds for Pay for Success projects. Pay for Success models leverage philanthropic and private dollars to fund services up front, with the Government paying only after they generate results.

Across the board, CNCS will continue to focus on competitive grantmaking that prioritizes evidence-based models and maximizes the return on federal investments by giving grant awards to the most effective applicants working in the agency's six priority areas.

Building on the Experience of Older Americans to Take On Challenges

For decades, the Senior Corps program has connected older Americans to volunteer opportunities that allow them to use the skills they've developed over a lifetime to give back to their communities. The Budget proposes to reinvigorate these programs by helping Senior Corps programs adopt evidence-based strategies to deliver their mentoring, supportive services, and other activities and strengthening competition in order to increase the impact that they have in our communities. The Budget also provides opportunities for grantees in these programs who adopt evidence-based models to grow through AmeriCorps.

Working with State and Community Leaders to Foster Civic Engagement

The Budget increases investments in Governor-supported State Service Commissions, the Volunteer Generation Fund, and national days of service, including the MLK Day of Service and the September 11th Day of Service and Remembrance.

Prioritizing Accountability and Improving Efficiency

In FY 2016, CNCS will continue to refine the Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) program, which aligns with Federal Government internal control standards, known as

the “Green Book.” The ERM program will support CNCS efforts to develop more accurate and reliable performance measures, improve compliance with legal requirements, improve information technology systems, and strengthen grantee monitoring, including adherence to the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act.