

AmeriCorps 101

Key AmeriCorps Grant Terminology for Reviewers



2014 justice AmeriCorps Reviewer Training



Training Objectives

- ◆ Describe CNCS's AmeriCorps programs
- ◆ Provide background and context of justice AmeriCorps program and DOJ partnership
- ◆ Define basic AmeriCorps grant concepts and terminology
- ◆ Describe the grant opportunity categories



AmeriCorps is an Umbrella that Consists of Three Programs



AmeriCorps
Vista

AmeriCorps
State and
National

AmeriCorps
NCCC



justice AmeriCorps Program Background and DOJ Partnership

- ◆ The Corporation is excited about our partnership with our colleagues at the Department of Justice, through its Executive Office for Immigration Review on this effort to provide legal aid to certain unaccompanied minors and to improve the effective and efficient adjudication of immigration removal proceedings involving those children.



justice AmeriCorps program design

- ◆ Applications are solicited from eligible organizations to implement a program that utilizes AmeriCorps members to provide legal services to children under 16, who:
- ◆ (1) are not in the custody of the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) or the Department of Homeland Security;
- ◆ (2) have received a Notice to Appear in removal proceedings before EOIR; and
- ◆ (3) have not had their cases consolidated with removal proceedings against a parent or legal guardian.



AmeriCorps Terms and Concepts

Grantee

- The direct recipient of the grant funds

Single-state

- Operating solely within one state

Multi-state

- Operating in two or more states. This program receives an AmeriCorps grant directly from CNCS

State Service Commission

- Comprised of a board nominated and appointed by a state's governor who oversees the implementation of national/community service and volunteer initiatives in their state



AmeriCorps Terms and Concepts (cont.)

Subgrantee

- The local organizations which receive the grand funds from the Grantee to implement the grant activities on the local level.

Operating Sites and Service Locations

- Terms used to describe the place where a member conducts the service activities.



Who are AmeriCorps Members?

- ◆ Individuals enrolled for a specific term of service with an AmeriCorps program
- ◆ Members are not volunteers or employees
- ◆ Some AmeriCorps members receive a living allowance, health insurance, and child care assistance to support them during their term of service
- ◆ AmeriCorps members receive the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award upon successfully completing a term of service
- ◆ All AmeriCorps members are subject to criminal history checks





Member Terminology

- ◆ **Member Service Year (MSY):** One Member Service Year is equivalent to one full-time AmeriCorps member (not always equivalent to one person—see slot type below). AmeriCorps funds are contingent on the number of MSYs requested by the program.
- ◆ **AmeriCorps member term/slot type:** There are five types of AmeriCorps member terms or slots: full time, half time, reduced half time, quarter time, and minimum time. (i.e. Two members with half-time slots can comprise one MSY.) The total MSYs a program requests depends on the number and type of slots/AmeriCorps member positions included in a particular program design.



justice AmeriCorps Grants

- ◆ Requires an applicant to propose an AmeriCorps program
- ◆ Applicants submit an application explaining their program's:
 - Program Design
 - Organizational Capability
 - Cost Effectiveness & Budget Adequacy
- ◆ Other important submissions include a detailed budget, performance measures, and/or additional documents





justice AmeriCorps Program Design

- ◆ Design/structure of most AmeriCorps programs vary
 - But are more similar and prescriptive for justice AmeriCorps
- ◆ Members can provide their service with the organization receiving the AmeriCorps grant, or Members could be placed at community organizations by the grant recipient
- ◆ Members can serve as a team on a single project, or Members could be placed individually or in small groups on various projects



Categories of Funding for 2014 justice AmeriCorps Review

- ◆ justice AmeriCorps Fixed Amount Grants (Multi-State Direct, Single-State Direct or State Commission)
- ◆ justice AmeriCorps Cost Reimbursement (Multi-State Direct, Single-State Direct or State Commission)



justice AmeriCorps State

- ◆ State grants address needs within one state
 - Single state programs contact their participating State Service Commission to apply
 - If a Commission isn't participating, single state applicants can submit their applications directly to CNCS. These applicants are Single Direct.



Multi-State Grants

- ◆ National grants address needs in a multi-state area
 - Grantee has relationships with entities in different states that will operate the local programs



Wrap Up



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