

AmeriCorps Week



What Is AmeriCorps Week?

AmeriCorps Week is a recruitment and recognition event designed to bring more Americans into service, salute AmeriCorps members and alums for their powerful impact, and thank the community partners who make AmeriCorps possible. AmeriCorps Week provides an opportunity for AmeriCorps members, alums, grantees, program partners, and friends to shine a spotlight on the work done by members in communities across the country—and to motivate more Americans to join AmeriCorps or volunteer in their communities. Spreading the word about AmeriCorps is especially important now, as the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act has put AmeriCorps on a path to grow to 250,000 annual members by 2017.

When Is AmeriCorps Week?

The fourth annual AmeriCorps Week will take place May 7-14, 2011.

What Can I Do During AmeriCorps Week?

Those with a special interest in AmeriCorps are encouraged to use their creativity to mark the week in any way they see fit. For example, members and alumni could make presentations to students or community groups. Grantees could stage an open house, service project, or volunteer fair. Members and programs can spread the word about the power of service by writing letters to the editor, blogging about their AmeriCorps service, or inviting local officials and leaders to serve as AmeriCorps member for a day.

AmeriCorpsWeek.gov

- Get Ideas for Activities, Events, and Projects
- Order an AmeriCorps Presentation Kit
- Find Out About Our Video and Photo Contests
- Order AmeriCorps Posters, Stickers, and Bookmarks
- Share Your Service Story
- Find Tips for Working With the Media
- And More!



What Is AmeriCorps?



AmeriCorps provides opportunities for more than 85,000 Americans to give back in an intensive way to their communities and country each year. It consists of three main programs: AmeriCorps State and National, whose members serve with national and local nonprofit and community groups; AmeriCorps VISTA, through which members serve full time fighting poverty; and AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps), a team-based residential program for young adults 18-24 who carry out projects in public safety, the environment, youth development, and disaster relief and preparedness.

What Do AmeriCorps Members Do?

AmeriCorps members recruit, train, and supervise community volunteers, tutor and mentor youth, build affordable housing, teach computer skills, clean parks and streams, run after-school programs, help communities respond to disasters, and build the capacity of nonprofit groups to become self-sustaining, among many other activities.

What Benefits Do AmeriCorps Members Receive?

In exchange for a year of full-time service, members earn a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award equal to the maximum amount of the Pell Grant that can be used to pay for educational expenses at qualified institutions of higher education, or to pay back qualified student loans. For positions approved in 2010, the amount will be \$5,350. Awards are pro-rated for part-time service. Some members also receive a living allowance and health care.

AmeriCorps Fast Facts

- 637,000:** Number of people who have served as AmeriCorps members since 1994.
- 774 Million:** Total number of hours served by AmeriCorps members.
- \$1.77 Billion:** Total amount of Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards earned by AmeriCorps members since 1994.
- 2.4 Million:** Number of community volunteers managed or mobilized by AmeriCorps members in fiscal 2009.
- 3,300:** Number of nonprofit, faith-based, and community organizations served by AmeriCorps members.
- \$6.3 Billion:** Amount of AmeriCorps funds invested in nonprofit, community, educational, and faith-based community groups since 1994.