



Requirements & Benefits of Service

Directions: Please hand out this sheet to potential candidates during the interview process, so they have a better understanding of AmeriCorps and have ideas for questions to ask you (based on prior WSC member recommendations).

Member Eligibility Requirements

Each Washington Service Corps / Washington Reading Corps AmeriCorps member must:

- be a citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident of the United States;
- have a high school diploma or GED* at time of enrollment, if serving in a tutoring position;
- pass all of the required National Service Criminal History checks;
- demonstrate the required skills, abilities and commitment;
- serve at least 40 hours a week;
- recruit volunteers, participate in national service events (especially Martin Luther King Day), create a sustainability binder for volunteers that follow after you, write quarterly stories of service about your experiences and help track data and complete reports for WSC/WRC (these duties may require you to occasionally serve more than eight hours in a service day);
- serve at least the minimum required hours for the program and successfully complete the full term of service (full-time is 1,700 hours of service for 10.5 months);

* Washington Reading Corps members must have a high school diploma. A GED is not allowed.

More information about AmeriCorps can be found here:

<https://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/ameri-corps/join-ameri-corps>

Member Benefits

- Training and experience
- Living stipend of \$1,307 per month (before taxes)
- Health insurance for members without coverage
- \$5,920 Education Award provided by the National Service Trust (*upon successful completion of the full time term of service and minimum required hours of service*)
- Student loan forbearance and interest accrual payment on qualifying loans
- Subsidized childcare through GAP Solutions Inc., if eligible

Note: this is a federal grant awarded to Washington Service Corps and Washington Reading Corps. The position is contingent on funding from the federal government.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER ASKING DURING YOUR AMERICORPS INTERVIEW

(Developed by former WSC AmeriCorps members)

MISSION AND VISION

- What is the agency's mission and how does the AmeriCorps position fit into it?
- How did the agency become passionate about this work?
- How will the community benefit from my service?
- What characteristics do you hope to find in the person placed in this role?
- What advice would you give someone starting in this role?

POSITION DESCRIPTION INFORMATION

- Can you provide me with a written position description for this role?
- What days and hours would I serve each week?
- Who would be my primary and secondary support and what are their roles in this agency?
- What supervision and support would I receive from this agency while I served in this role?
- Are there expectations to serve on weekends, evenings, or holidays?
- Am I entitled to take any days off?

BENEFITS OF SERVICE

- What is the amount of the living allowance?
- Will I receive medical insurance?
- Are any child care resources provided?
- What is the amount of the education award and what are the requirements to earn it?
- What professional development opportunities will I receive in this position?

POLICY

- Am I allowed to work a part-time job as long as it doesn't interfere with my service?
- What is the policy if I get sick or injured and am unable to serve for a period of time?
- Am I really expected to serve an average of 40 hours a week for 10.5 months?

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

- Where will I find local resources such as SNAP offices and food banks?
- Are there affordable housing options in this community?

"Look for value beyond the money; the value is the experience."

Daniel S., WSC AmeriCorps member PY 2017-18