

Corporation for
**NATIONAL &
COMMUNITY
SERVICE** 



AMERICORPS*NATIONAL 2005 APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

OMB Control #: 3045-0047

Expiration Date: 03/31/2005

IMPORTANT NOTICE

These application instructions conform with the Corporation's on-line eGrants grant application system. The Corporation's eGrants website system will serve applicants and grantees. The Corporation will also support grants.gov when it is available.

Public Burden Statement: The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 requires the Corporation to inform all potential persons who are to respond to this collection of information that such persons are not required to respond unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. (See 5 C.F.R. 1320.5(b)(2)(i)). **Time Burden:** The time required to complete this collection of information is estimated to average 8 hours per applicant, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. **Use of Information:** The information collected constitutes an application to the Corporation for grant funding. The Corporation evaluates the application and makes funding decisions through the Corporation's grant review and selection process. **Effects of Non-Disclosure:** Providing this information is voluntary; however, failure to provide the information would not allow the Corporation to assess the applicant's request for funding. Therefore it would not be possible to consider granting funds to the applicant. **Public Comments:** Comments on the burden or content of this instrument may be sent to the Corporation for National and Community Service, 9th floor, Attn: Ms. Marlene Zakai, 1201 New York Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20525.

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GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

This document describes the application process for AmeriCorps*National direct grants from the Corporation for National and Community Service. To be eligible for one of these grants, the organization must propose a program that will operate in two or more states. Funding for these grants is sent directly from the Corporation to the grantee.

The General Instructions below apply to all AmeriCorps*National Applications. Subsequent sections provide specific instructions for each of the AmeriCorps*National application types:

1. *New and Recompeting Program Grants* (applicants who don't currently have an AmeriCorps*National grant, and applicants in the final year of an AmeriCorps*National grant cycle)
2. *Planning Grants* (applicants who seek funding for a one-year planning process and have not previously received AmeriCorps*National funding)
3. *Continuation Grants* (applicants in the 1st or 2nd year of an AmeriCorps*National grant cycle).

The 2005 AmeriCorps Guidelines must be used in conjunction with these instructions. The Guidelines contain important information that is not found in these instructions. The Guidelines can be found on the Internet at www.americorps.org.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All National New and Recomputed Program Grants, Planning Grants, and Continuation Grants must be received by the Corporation by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on March 8, 2005.

SUBMISSION DATE AND TIME

The Corporation requires that all applicants make every effort to submit their application electronically utilizing the Corporation's web-based application system, eGrants. Please go to www.nationalservice.org/egrants/index.html and create an eGrants account to begin the process of submitting your application online. Instructions on how to create an account are available at this website.

The Corporation strongly encourages you to create an eGrants account and begin your application at least 3 weeks prior to the final submission deadline. This will allow you time to address technical issues prior to the deadline.

The deadline for eGrants submissions is 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on March 8, 2005. If you are unable to submit your application using eGrants, a paper application along with a diskette or CD Rom with an exact duplicate of your application must be received at the Corporation for National and Community Service, 1201 New York Avenue, NW, Box ACN, Washington, DC 20525 **by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on March 8, 2005.** If there are

differences between the paper application and the diskette/CD Rom, we will use the diskette/CD Rom version.

You should contact the eGrants Help Desk immediately if a problem arises while you are creating your account, preparing, or submitting your application. In the event you are prevented from completing and submitting your application by the deadline because the eGrants system is unavailable or you are having technical eGrants submission issues, you must contact the eGrants Helpdesk at 888-677-7849 or 202-6060-5000 x533 or email at egrantshelp@cns.gov , prior to the 5:00 p.m. EST deadline to explain your technical issue and get a ticket number. You must then submit the following items to the Corporation:

- A brief paragraph including your eGrants ticket number and your explanation of the technical issues that prevented you from submitting in eGrants by the deadline;
- A paper application; and
- A diskette or CD Rom with an exact duplicate of your application.

Submit these items via overnight carrier (non-US Postal Service because of security-related delays in receiving mail from USPS) or by hand delivery to: Corporation for National and Community Service, 1201 New York Avenue, NW, Box ACN, Washington, DC 20525. These items must be postmarked no later than noon on March 9, 2005 and received at the Corporation no later than **5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on March 11, 2005 (two days after the deadline.)**

You can continue to work with the eGrants helpdesk to attempt to get your proposal submitted via eGrants. CNCS Staff will compare your paper/diskette submission against what was submitted in eGrants to ensure consistency.

In the event of prolonged unavailability on the date of submission, the Corporation reserves the right to extend the eGrants submissions deadline. A notice will be placed in eGrants notifying all users of the extended deadline. In this case applicants would need to submit applications via eGrants by the new deadline.

EGRANTS APPLICATIONS

- ❑ We suggest you first prepare and save your application as a word processing document prior to inputting it into eGrants, then copy and paste the document into eGrants.
- ❑ Use only uppercase letters for all section headings and other information you would like to highlight in your narrative. Bold face, bullets, underlines, or other types of formatting, charts, diagrams, and tables will not copy into eGrants. Do not use any of these in your application.
- ❑ Remember to follow the character limits listed in the narrative section below. We use character limits rather than page limits because of the structure of eGrants. Characters are letters, punctuation, and spaces included in your document. Your word processing software can provide a character count.
- ❑ Grant applications must provide a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number. The DUNS number is known as the universal identifier and helps the federal government improve statistical reports on federal grants and cooperative agreements. The DUNS number will not replace the EIN. DUNS numbers may be obtained at no cost by

calling the DUNS number request line at (866) 705-5711. There is a DUNS number field in the Organization section in eGrants.

PAPER APPLICATIONS

The Corporation strongly encourages applicants to use eGrants to submit their application, because we will use eGrants to manage all awarded grants. In the event that you are unable to submit in eGrants, you may submit a paper application, following these instructions.

- ❑ Submit one unbound, single-sided original paper application. We also ask that you submit a diskette in order to expedite processing. The diskette version must be an exact duplicate of the paper original and will be used to copy and paste your application information into eGrants. (Facsimiles or email versions of your application will not be accepted.) Paper applications must arrive at the Corporation by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time by the stated deadline. Submit to:
 - Corporation for National and Community Service
 - AmeriCorps*National
 - Box ACN
 - 1201 New York Avenue NW
 - Washington, DC 20525
- ❑ Type and double-space the application in Times New Roman, 12-point font size with one-inch margins.
- ❑ Adhere to the character limits listed in the narrative section below and number the pages.
- ❑ Complete a Performance Measurement Worksheet for each of your performance measures following the instructions in Appendix F. Performance measures will be different based upon the longevity of the AmeriCorps program, the nature of the program and the performance indicators you use. The Performance Measurement Worksheet is not required for Planning Grant applications.
- ❑ Include a cover memo explaining why you are unable to submit in eGrants.

COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

We require all applicants to:

- ❑ Submit applications to the Corporation by the posted deadline: **5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time March 8, 2005;**
- ❑ Adhere to the character limits listed in the narrative sections for the appropriate application instructions below; and
- ❑ Submit a recent evaluation of your program, if you have one (this is not required for planning grant applications).

Do not submit any other supplementary materials such as annual reports, videos, brochures, letters of support, or any supplementary material not requested in the application. The Corporation will not review them.

The Corporation will not review applications that:

- are not eligible;
- are not responsive to the funding notice; or
- arrive at the Corporation after the deadline.

The Corporation reserves the right to review any application that is submitted.

SURVEY ON ENSURING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR APPLICANTS

The Corporation and other Federal agencies are collaborating with the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (FBCI) to conduct a survey of organizations that apply for Federal funding. The purpose of this voluntary information collection is to compile statistics on the types of organizations that apply to the Corporation for funds, such as number of employees, budget size, and self-identification as a faith-based/religious organization or a non-religious community-based organization.

This form is only for applicants that are nonprofit private organizations (not including private universities). All information from the attached survey will be confidential and the responses will be aggregated in-house for a summary report. Information provided on your form will not be released and will not be considered in any way in making funding decisions.

There are two ways to complete the survey: 1) while preparing your application; and 2) after submitting your application.

- 1) To complete the survey while preparing your application, go to the eGrants Main Menu, click on Enter Survey on Ensuring Equal Opportunity, provide the requested information, and submit.
- 2) If you submit your grant application without completing the survey, a pop-up box will appear and ask you if you would like to complete the survey. You may select Yes, No, or Remind Me Later. If you select “Remind Me Later,” you will be asked to fill in the survey next time you attempt to submit an application to the Corporation for National and Community Service.

If you are submitting a paper application, the survey forms and instructions are found in Appendix B

AMERICORPS*NATIONAL NEW APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The following application instructions detail the submission requirements for new and re-competing AmeriCorps*National direct applications. Use them in conjunction with the 2005 AmeriCorps Guidelines to complete your application. See page 41 of the Guidelines for a detailed description of the review and selection criteria peer reviewers and staff will apply in their evaluation of new applications.

If your program is now in the final year of its grant cycle, you must use these application instructions and re-compete as a new program, along with applicants who are not currently receiving AmeriCorps funding.

In eGrants select the following Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA): AmeriCorps National FY 2005 (New).

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Organizations proposing to operate a program in two or more states are eligible to apply for an AmeriCorps*National direct program grant and should seek funding directly from the Corporation for National and Community Service. These national program grants make it possible for the Corporation to fund multi-state and multi-site programs of a national or regional scope that build on existing networks of youth and service programs.

Eligible applicants are: non-profit organizations, including labor, faith-based and secular community organizations; institutions of higher education; subdivisions of states (e.g., cities, counties); Indian tribes; and partnerships or consortia consisting of the previously listed.

Organizations planning programs which will ONLY operate in ONE state are NOT eligible for National Grants and must apply to their State Commissions for funding (go to http://www.nationalservice.org/about/family/commissions_pick.html for a list of the state commissions).

Any organization described in Section 501 (c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. 501 (c)(4) that engages in lobbying activities is not eligible to apply, serve as a host site for member placements, or act in any type of supervisory role in the program.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Your application consists of the following components. Please make sure to address each one.

- I. **SF424 Facesheet**
- II. **Program Model and Design**
- III. **Narrative**

- IV. Service Categories
- V. Performance Measurements
- VI. Subapplicant (operating site) information
- VII. Budgets (parent organization and operating sites)
- VIII. Documents
- IX. Authorization, Assurances and Certifications

I. SF424 Facesheet (Applicant & Application information section)

Complete the Applicant and Application information sections¹. See Appendix A.

II. Program Model and Design (Application section)

Complete the Program Model and Design in the Application section. See Appendix D.

III. Narrative (Narratives section)

Provide a well-designed program plan with a clear and compelling justification for awarding the requested funds. The narrative covers the three-year program period for which you are requesting approval. The selection criteria and their percentage weights are cited below.

If you are unable to include any element listed in the 2005 AmeriCorps Guidelines as part of your program, either because of your program model, or for any other reason, you must include an explanation in your application. We will consider your explanation during the grant application review process.

The Narrative includes:

- Executive Summary
- Summary of Accomplishments and Outcomes, if applicable
- Program Design (60%)
 - Needs and Service Activities
 - Member Development
 - Strengthening Communities
- Organizational Capacity (25%)
- Budget/Cost Effectiveness (15%)

The maximum length for the Executive Summary and Summary of Accomplishments is 4,000 characters for each field. The maximum length for Needs and Service Activities, Member Development, Strengthening Communities, Organizational Capacity and Budget and Cost Effectiveness fields is 70,000 characters. Each of these fields has a maximum capacity of 32,000 characters. However, the total of all of the fields combined cannot be more than 70,000 characters. This allows you flexibility in the number of characters you place in each field.

A. Executive Summary

Provide a concise overview of your proposed program that summarizes the purpose, need, planned activities to address the need, anticipated outcomes, and how you will measure these outcomes. Include your organization's mission statement.

¹ "Section" refers to the different components of the application in eGrants.

The maximum length for the Executive Summary is 4,000 characters

B. Summary of Accomplishments and Outcomes

Complete this section if your organization (1) currently receives AmeriCorps program funds and/or (2) has received Corporation program funds of any type within the last three years.

- 1) If your organization currently receives AmeriCorps program funds, provide a clear description of the accomplishments and outcome you achieved in relation to your AmeriCorps performance measures **during the past three-year project period**.
- 2) If you have received Corporation program funds of any type within the past three years, please provide a list.

The maximum length for the Summary of Accomplishments and Outcomes is 4,000 characters.

C. Program Design

Needs and Service Activities

Before you complete this section, carefully read Needs and Service Activities in the 2005 AmeriCorps Guidelines (pages 13-17). The guidelines provide specific information that will help you to address the topics below.

- 1) **Needs** – Provide a well documented, compelling description of the need in the communities you intend to serve and the process you used to identify these needs.
- 2) **Description of Activities** – Include a detailed description of proposed activities that relate to the need(s) your program will address. Discuss members' role in these activities.
- 3) **Experience in Proposed Activity Areas** – Describe your organization's experience in the proposed activity areas. Provide information on the extent of your involvement and include specific examples of accomplishments and outcomes.
- 4) **Involvement of Community** – Describe how you involved the target communities and the operating sites in identifying community needs and planning your program; discuss how you will include them in your program implementation.
- 5) **Prohibited Service Activities** – Describe how you will ensure compliance with rules on prohibited service activities. (*See page 32 AmeriCorps Guidelines.*)

Member Development

Before you complete this section, carefully read Developing AmeriCorps Members in the 2005 AmeriCorps Guidelines (pages 17-19). The guidelines provide specific information that will help you to address the topics below.

- 1) **Recruitment** – Describe how your organization will recruit members to serve in this program, including the recruiting tools you will use.
- 2) **Member Support** – Describe clear plans for orienting, supervising, training and developing members.
- 3) **Citizenship** – Describe how members will develop an understanding of civic responsibility and attain citizenship knowledge, skills and attitudes.

Strengthening Communities

Before you complete this section, carefully read Strengthening Communities in the 2005 AmeriCorps Guidelines (pages 20-26). The guidelines provide specific information that will help you to address the topics below.

- 1) **Developing Community Resources** – Describe how your organization plans to develop community resources including how you will incorporate the recruitment and management of volunteers into your program. Identify the projected number of volunteers you plan to recruit and their intensity (hours served, either in total or on average).
- 2) **Community Partnerships** – Describe the community partnerships you intend to develop, including well-defined roles for faith-based and secular community organizations.
- 3) **Capacity Building** – Describe plans for increasing the capacity of the organizations and institutions where members are serving and how this increased capacity will support sustainability. Describe members' role in these activities.
- 4) **Sustainability** – Describe plans for achieving sustainability.
- 5) **Federal Work Study (FWS) – For Higher Education Institutions only**
Describe your institution's efforts to support community service under Federal Work Study (FWS). Include the percentage of your school's 2002-2003 FWS funds that were used for community service placements and your plans for further efforts in this area. See pages 31-32 in the 2005 AmeriCorps Guidelines.

D. Organizational Capacity

Demonstrate your organization's overall capacity to operate an AmeriCorps program. In this section include the following topics.

- 1) **Ability to provide sound program and fiscal oversight**
 - a) **Brief history of your organization.** Include the year it was established.
 - b) **Management structure.** Describe the staff structure and other resources that will support the program at the parent organization and operating sites.
 - c) **Role(s) of key staff person(s) responsible for the program. Identify the key program and fiscal staff positions.** Describe the background and experience of these staff members and plans to recruit, select, train, and support additional staff if necessary.
 - d) **Capacity to manage finances.** Describe your capacity to manage a federal grant and to provide on site monitoring of the financial and other systems required for administration of AmeriCorps grant.

- e) **Building a multi-site program.** Discuss how you will connect the operating sites through common program elements or activities and how you will ensure that your mission and vision for the AmeriCorps program and activities are maintained at all sites.

2) Relationship with and monitoring of operating sites

- a) **Selection and supervision of operating sites.** Describe the process and criteria you use to select operating sites; and the nature of your current, as well as previous, program and funding relationships with all sites. If applicable, also describe your process and criteria for selecting member placement sites.
- b) **Ability to monitor your overall program.** Describe your plans for monitoring compliance with fiscal and programmatic requirements. Provide a description of systems you will use to identify issues, strengths and weaknesses at the operating site level and placement site level if applicable. Explain how you will address issues and effect change as needed.
- c) **Ability to provide training and technical assistance.** Describe your plans for providing training and technical assistance, including the initial orientation to operating sites and member placement sites, if applicable. Describe the systems you will use to identify and respond to ongoing training and technical assistance needs.

3) Track record as an organization

- a) Describe your past experience and institutional capacity to operate and monitor a program comparable to the one proposed, including previous experience operating a multi-site program.

4) Plans or systems for self-assessment, evaluation and continuous improvement (refer to page 29 in the 2005 AmeriCorps Guidelines).

- a) Describe plans for tracking and evaluating progress toward meeting and achieving performance measures.
- b) Include plans for identifying issues, strengths and weaknesses, gathering feedback from and providing feedback to members, host sites, and partners.

E. Budget/Cost Effectiveness

Non-federal support and sustainability

- 1) Discuss how you will build community support, and support from other funding sources, to sustain the program.
- 2) Discuss what non-CNCS resource commitments (in-kind and cash) you have, what additional commitments you plan to secure and how you will secure them. In the budget, you must list the sources of your match funds.

The maximum length for Needs and Service Activities, Member Development, Strengthening Communities, Organizational Capacity, and Budget and Cost Effectiveness fields is 70,000 characters.

IV. Service Categories (Service categories section)

Please select the primary service categories and the corresponding issue areas that most closely apply to your program activities. See Appendix E.

V. Performance Measurements (Performance measures section)

Before you complete this section, read pages 27-29 and Appendix B of the 2005 AmeriCorps Guidelines. Also see the Performance Measurement Toolkit on the Corporation's website: www.americorps.org.

We will review and consider your performance measures using the Program Design section of the selection criteria. Your performance measures should:

- be clearly linked to the program narrative;
- focus on the areas in which you expect to make the greatest impact; and
- cover a period of three years, with targets set for each year, whenever possible, based on the type of data collected.

Progress will be reviewed each year. At a minimum, we expect programs to include three performance measures: an output performance measure to be assessed at the end of the first year, an intermediate-outcome measure to be assessed at the end of the second year, and an end-outcome measure to be assessed at the end of the third year. Also:

- Please note that it is not necessary to include a performance measure for each of these three categories – Needs and Service Activities, Member Development, and Strengthening Communities.
- At least one of the three performance measures should reflect the goal related to managing and recruiting volunteers unless your narrative describes why you cannot address this element.
- You may submit other performance measures beyond those required. We will consider any additional performance measures you submit and will negotiate them with the required measures.

Using the Performance Measurement Worksheet in Appendix F as a guide, enter each of your performance measures. Performance measures will be different based upon the longevity of the AmeriCorps program, the nature of the program and the performance indicators you use.

VI. Operating Site Information (Subapplication Section)

Complete the operating site information for each operating site that is included in this application. See Appendix G.

VII. Budget

The budget should be sufficient to perform the tasks described in the proposal narrative. Do not include unexplained amounts for miscellaneous or contingency costs or unallowable expenses such as entertainment costs. See relevant OMB Circulars. Round all figures to the nearest dollar.

We recommend you prepare your budgets off-line, following the order of the Budget Worksheet in Appendix I, before entering it into eGrants.

A. Operating Site Budgets (Subapplications section)

Create a budget for each of your operating sites according to the instructions in Appendix H using the Budget Worksheet in Appendix I as a guide. After preparing each budget, enter the information into eGrants.

B. Parent Organization Budget (Budget section)

Create a detailed parent organization budget according to the instructions in Appendix H using the Budget Worksheet in Appendix I as a guide. After preparing the detailed budget, enter the information into eGrants.

VIII. Additional Documents (Documents section)

All additional documents must be submitted to the Corporation by the application deadline.

A. Program Evaluations

Applicants should submit an evaluation completed in the last four years, if one is available. Submit either an electronic or printed version of the complete evaluation with a one-paragraph summary as a coversheet.

If you are submitting your evaluation electronically, please send it to acapplications@cns.gov and include your application ID number and the legal applicant name in the subject line of the email.

If you are mailing your evaluation, please send the printed copy to the following address and **include the printed SF424 facesheet** so that we know the specific application that corresponds to this document:

Corporation for National and Community Service
AmeriCorps*National
Box ACN
1201 New York Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20525

We must receive all evaluations by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on March 8, 2005.

IX. Authorization, Assurances, and Certifications (Authorize and submit section)

Read the authorization, assurances, and certifications carefully. Complete each section and submit. See Appendix A # 17 and Appendix C.

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AMERICORPS*NATIONAL PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The following application instructions detail the submission requirements for new AmeriCorps*National Planning Grant applications. Use these instructions to prepare your application. In addition, you need to carefully read the 2005 AmeriCorps Guidelines before beginning to prepare your application. Also review page 41 of the Guidelines for a detailed description of the review and selection criteria peer reviewers and staff will apply in their review of all new applications, including planning grants.

In eGrants, select the following Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA): AmeriCorps*National FY 2005 (Planning Grant).

PURPOSE

The purpose of planning grants is to bring faith-based and secular community programs to the verge of implementation so that they may compete successfully for operating assistance in the following grant cycle. See page 46 in the 2005 AmeriCorps Guidelines for additional information.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants are: non-profit organizations, including labor, faith-based and secular community organizations; institutions of higher education; subdivisions of states (e.g., cities, counties); Indian tribes; and partnerships or consortia consisting of the previously listed.

Eligible applicants must also meet the following criteria:

- applicant is a community organization (secular or faith-based) – *Carefully read Support for Community Organizations (secular and faith-based) in the 2005 AmeriCorps guidelines (pages 21-23);*
- organization has never had a national direct AmeriCorps grant before; and
- organization is planning to build an AmeriCorps program of a national scope but currently lacks the capacity to support the planning process.

Any organization described in Section 501 (c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. 501 (c)(4) that engages in lobbying activities is not eligible to apply, serve as a host site for member placements, or act in any type of supervisory role in the program.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Your planning grant application consists of the following components. Please make sure to address each one.

- I. **SF424 Facesheet**
- II. **Program Model and Design**
- III. **Narrative**
- IV. **SF424 Budget for Parent Organization**
- V. **Authorization, Assurances, and Certifications**

Disregard the Performance Measure section and the Subapplicants section in eGrants.

I. SF424 Facesheet (Applicant & Application information sections)

Complete the Applicant and Application information sections². See Appendix A.

II. Program Model and Design

Complete the Program Model and Design in the Application section. See Appendix D.

III. Narrative (Narratives section)

Complete the Narratives section. Provide a well-designed plan with a clear and compelling justification for awarding the requested funds.

The Narrative includes:

Executive Summary

Summary of Accomplishments and Outcomes, if applicable

Program Design 60%

Needs and Service Activities

Member Development

Strengthening Communities

Organizational Capacity 25%

Budget/Cost Effectiveness 15%

The maximum length for the Executive Summary and Summary of Accomplishments is 2,000 characters for each field. The maximum length for the Needs and Service Activities, Member Development, Strengthening Communities, Organizational Capacity, and Budget and Cost Effectiveness fields is 20,000 characters.

A. Executive Summary

Provide a concise overview that summarizes your planning approach, your vision and the community need that your program would address. The Executive Summary should include your organization's mission statement and a short, clear statement that describes the purpose of the program which you are proposing.

The maximum length for the Executive Summary is 2,000 characters.

² "Section" refers to the different components of the application in eGrants.

B. Summary of Accomplishments and Outcomes

Complete this section ONLY if your organization has received Corporation program funds of any type within the last three years.

This section should include:

- A brief history of your organization including the year it was established and funding history with the Corporation; and
- A list of the other type(s) of Corporation program funds your organization received during the past three years.

The maximum length for the Summary of Accomplishments is 2,000 characters.

C. Program Design

Needs and Service Activities

Before you complete this section, carefully read Needs and Service Activities in the 2005 AmeriCorps Guidelines (pages 13-17). The guidelines provide specific information that will help you to address the topics below.

1) Need(s) and Concept

- a. Describe the community need(s) your program will address.
- b. Describe your concept for an AmeriCorps program that would address the identified need(s).
- c. Include a description of the AmeriCorps member activities, if known.

2) Planning Activities – Describe the planning process that you will engage in and the activities that will take place during the planning period. Include a timeline for the activities.

3) Involvement of Community – Describe how you propose to involve the target communities in the planning process.

Member Development

Discuss how you intend to use the planning process to design the member development component, describing such elements as the desired characteristics and skills of the members to be recruited, your recruitment plan, and the orientation, training, supervision and ongoing support you will provide.

Strengthening Communities

Before you complete this section, carefully read Strengthening Communities in the 2005 AmeriCorps Guidelines (pages 20-26). The guidelines provide specific information that will help you to address the topics below.

- 1) **Developing Community Resources** – Describe how you will use the planning process to design a plan for developing community resources, including but not limited to the recruitment and management of volunteers, to help meet community needs in your proposed AmeriCorps program.

- 2) **Community Partnerships** – Describe how you will develop relationships with other community organizations, faith-based and secular.

D. Organizational Capacity

Describe how your organization will manage the planning grant, both programmatically and fiscally. Include a discussion of the following topics:

- 1) Key staff person(s) who will be planning the AmeriCorps program.
- 2) Your organization's experience in the proposed activity areas.
- 3) Your organization's experience with outcome-based measures and program evaluation, and plans to incorporate these into your AmeriCorps program (refer to page 29 in the 2005 AmeriCorps Guidelines).
- 4) Your organization's experience with multi-site programming.
- 5) How you intend to use the planning process to help build your organization's capacity to run an AmeriCorps program.

E. Budget/Cost Effectiveness

Discuss the match commitments (in-kind and cash) you have, the commitments you plan to secure, and how you will secure them for the planning grant. Also describe a plan for securing financial support for the AmeriCorps program you are proposing for future years.

IV. Budget

The budget should be sufficient to perform the tasks described in the proposal narrative. Do not include unexplained amounts for miscellaneous or contingency costs or unallowable expenses such as entertainment costs. Round all figures to the nearest dollar.

A. Budget (Budget section)

Create a detailed parent organization budget according to the instructions in Appendix H. We recommend you prepare your budget off-line, following the order of the Budget Worksheet in Appendix I before entering it into eGrants. Disregard Section II. Member Costs.

The maximum length for the Needs and Service Activities, Member Development, Strengthening Communities, Organizational Capacity, and Budget and Cost Effectiveness fields is 20,000 characters.

V. Authorization, Assurances, and Certifications (Authorize and submit section)

Read the authorization, assurances, and certifications carefully. Complete each section and submit. See Appendix A #17 and Appendix C.

AMERICORPS*NATIONAL CONTINUATION REQUEST APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The public input we received in advance of rulemaking overwhelmingly indicated that we should streamline our current process for applying for continuation funding in years two and three of a three-year grant period. We agree and intend to change our continuation application requirements to minimize the burden on grantees, while ensuring that the Corporation receives the information it needs to make fiscally responsible continuation awards. Please refer to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking at www.americorps.org/rulemaking for more information.

Therefore, at this time, we are not including continuation request application instructions in this packet. We will release the 2005 application instructions for continuation applications in sufficient time for grantees to submit their continuation applications to the Corporation.

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APPENDIX A: FACESHEET INSTRUCTIONS (EGRANTS “APPLICANT” AND “APPLICATION” INFORMATION SECTIONS)

This form is required for applications submitted for federal assistance.

Item #

1. Filled in for your convenience.
2. Self-explanatory.
3. 3.a. and 3.b. are for State use only (if applicable).
4. Item 4.a: Leave blank
Item 4.b: If you are a recipient in year 2 or 3 of an already-awarded grant, enter the grant number. Otherwise, leave blank.
5. Enter the following information:
 - a. The complete name of the organization that will be legally responsible for the grant. Not the name of the organizational unit within the legally responsible organization. (For example, indicate “National University” instead of “Liberal Arts Department.”)
 - b. The name of the primary organizational unit that will undertake the assistance activity, if different from 5.a.
 - c. Your organization’s DUNS number (received from DUN and Bradstreet).
 - d. Your organization’s complete address with the 5 digit ZIP code. The four-digit extension is optional.
 - e. The name and contact information of the project director or other person to contact on matters related to this application.
6. Enter your Employer Identification Number (EIN) as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service.
7. Item 7.a.: Enter the appropriate letter in the box.
Item 7.b: Consult the following list of characteristics of applicants and enter (all that apply) the corresponding numbers, each in a separate blank.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. 2-year college | 15. Local Affiliate of National Organization |
| 2. 4-year college | 16. Local Education Agency |
| 3. Area Agency on Aging | 17. Local Government Municipal |
| 4. Chamber of Commerce/Business Association | 18. National Non-profit (Multistate) |
| 5. Community Action Agency/ Community Action Program | 19. Other Native American Organization |
| 6. Community College | 20. Other State Government |
| 7. Community-Based Organization | 21. School (K-12) |
| 8. Faith-based organization | 22. Self-Incorporated Senior Corps Project |
| 9. Governor’s Office | 23. Service/Civic Organization |
| 10. Grant-making Entity Operating in Two or More States | 24. State Commission/Alternative Administrative Entity |
| 11. Health Department | 25. State Education Agency |
| 12. Hispanic Serving College or University | 26. Statewide Association |
| 13. Historically Black College or University (HBCU) | 27. Tribal Government Entity |
| 14. Law Enforcement Agency | 28. Tribal Organization (non-government) |
| | 29. U.S. Territory |

8. Check the appropriate box for type of application and enter the appropriate letter(s) in the lower boxes:
- Check “New” if you are applying for assistance for the first time or are reapplying for a new grant cycle.
 - Check “Continuation” if you are a grantee applying for your second or third year of funding within your 3-year project period.
 - Check “Amendment” if you are a grantee proposing any change in your budget or requesting a no cost extension.
 - Check “New Application/Previous Grantee” if this is an application for an AmeriCorps*State program and you are reapplying for a new grant cycle.

If you are proposing an amendment to your grant, check the type of revision you are submitting.

- Select “Augmentation” if you are an AmeriCorps*State grantee submitting a revised budget to incorporate a Corporation-authorized increase.
- Select “Budget Revision” to make a change in the grant budget, including slots.
- Select “No cost Extension” to request an extension of the grant period, then enter the extension date requested in the blank following the checkbox. No-cost extensions can be requested only in the third year of the 3-year grant cycle and must be requested before the project period ends.
- Select “Other,” as applicable, and specify in the blank provided.

9. Filled in for your convenience.

10. Use the following list of CFDA (Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance) numbers for the applicable program listing, or other source if so instructed in the NOFA:

94.006 AmeriCorps*State and National Direct

- Enter the title of the project. “Continuation,” “Amendment,” and “New Applicant/Previous Grantee” applicants should use the same title as in their original or previous application.
- Enter the name of the CNCS program initiative, if any, as provided in the instructions corresponding to the NOFA for which you are applying; otherwise, leave blank.

12. List only the largest political entities affected (e.g., counties, and cities).

13. (See item 8)

- “New” application or “New application/previous grantee”: Enter the dates for the proposed project period.
- “Continuation” or “Amendment” application: Enter the dates of the approved project period.

14. Check the appropriate box to indicate the grant year for which funding is being requested. Enter the amount requested or to be contributed during this budget period on the appropriate line, as shown below. The value of in-kind contributions should be included in these amounts, as applicable. For revisions (See item 8), if the action will result in a dollar change to an existing award, include only the amount of the change. For decreases, enclose the amounts in parentheses.

- Federal** The total amount of Federal funds being requested in the budget.
- Applicant** The total amount of the applicant share as entered in the budget.
- Local** The amount of the applicant share that is coming from local sources.

- d. **State** The amount of the applicant share that is coming from state sources.
- e. **Other** The amount of the applicant share that is coming from other sources.
- f. **Program**
- Income** The amount of the applicant share that is coming from income generated by programmatic activities.
- g. **Total** The applicant's estimate of the total funding amount for the agreement

15. Indicate if this application is subject to review by the state "Executive Order 12372 Process" by checking the box. Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs," was issued with the desire to foster the intergovernmental partnership and strengthen federalism by relying on state and local processes for the coordination and review of proposed federal financial assistance and direct Federal development. The Order allows each state to designate an entity to perform this function. A list of these "Single Point of Contact" entities can be found at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/spoc.html>. Contact the Single Point of Contact to determine whether your application is subject to the state intergovernmental review process.

- a. If Yes, indicate the date a copy of your application was submitted to the state for review under the Executive Order 12372 Process
- b. If No, check the appropriate box.

16. Check the appropriate box. This question applies to the applicant organization, not the person who signs as the authorized representative. Categories of debt include delinquent audit allowances, loans, and taxes. If Yes, attach an explanation.

17. The person who signs this form must be the applicant's authorized representative. A copy of the governing body's authorization for this official representative to sign must be on file in the applicant's office.

Note: Falsification or concealment of a material fact, or submission of false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations to any department or agency of the United States Government may result in a fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment for not more than five (5) years, or both. (18 U.S. Code Section 1001)

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APPENDIX B - SURVEY ON ENSURING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR APPLICANTS

Purpose: The Federal government is committed to ensuring that all qualified applicants, small or large, non-religious or faith-based, have an equal opportunity to compete for Federal funding. In order for us to better understand the population of applicants for Federal funds, we are asking nonprofit private organizations (not including private universities) to fill out this survey.

Upon receipt, the survey will be separated from the application. Information provided on the survey will not be considered in any way in making funding decisions and will not be included in the Federal grants database. While your help in this data collection process is greatly appreciated, completion of this survey is voluntary.

Instructions for Submitting the Survey: If you are applying using a hard copy application, please place the completed survey in an envelope labeled "Applicant Survey." Seal the envelope and include it along with your application package. If you are applying electronically, please submit this survey along with your application.

Applicant's (Organization) Name: _____

Applicant's DUNS Number: _____

Grant Name: _____ **CFDA Number:** _____

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Does the applicant have 501(c)(3) status?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>2. How many full-time equivalent employees does the applicant have? <i>(Check only one box).</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3 or Fewer <input type="checkbox"/> 15-50</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 4-5 <input type="checkbox"/> 51-100</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 6-14 <input type="checkbox"/> over 100</p> <p>3. What is the size of the applicant's annual budget?
 <i>(Check only one box.)</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Less Than \$150,000</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$150,000 - \$299,999</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$300,000 - \$499,999</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$500,000 - \$999,999</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000,000 - \$4,999,999</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000,000 or more</p> | <p>4. Is the applicant a faith-based/religious organization?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>5. Is the applicant a non-religious community-based organization?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>6. Is the applicant an intermediary that will manage the grant on behalf of other organizations?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>7. Has the applicant ever received a government grant or contract (Federal, State, or local)?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>8. Is the applicant a local affiliate of a national organization?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> |
|---|--|

SURVEY INSTRUCTIONS ON ENSURING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR APPLICANTS

Paperwork Burden Statement

1. 501(c)(3) status is a legal designation provided on application to the Internal Revenue Service by eligible organizations. Some grant programs may require nonprofit applicants to have 501(c)(3) status. Other grant programs do not.
2. For example, two part-time employees who each work half-time equal one full-time equivalent employee. If the applicant is a local affiliate of a national organization, the responses to survey questions 2 and 3 should reflect the staff and budget size of the local affiliate.
3. Annual budget means the amount of money your organization spends each year on all of its activities.
4. Self-identify.
5. An organization is considered a community-based organization if its headquarters/service location shares the same zip code as the clients you serve.
6. An “intermediary” is an organization that enables a group of small organizations to receive and manage government funds by administering the grant on their behalf.
7. Self-explanatory.
8. Self-explanatory.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is **3045-0047**. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average five (5) minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. **If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to:** *Marlene Zakai*, Office of Grants Policy and Operations, Corporation for National and Community Service, 1201 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20525.

If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to: *Marlene Zakai*, Office of Grants Policy and Operations, Corporation for National and Community Service, 1201 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20525

OMB No. 3045-0047 Exp. 3/31/2005

APPENDIX C: ASSURANCES AND CERTIFICATIONS (AUTHORIZE AND SUBMIT SECTION)

Instructions

By signing and submitting this application, as the duly authorized representative of the applicant, you certify that the applicant will comply with the Assurances and Certifications described below.

- a) Inability to certify**
Your inability to provide the assurances and certifications listed below will not necessarily result in denial of a grant. You must submit an explanation of why you cannot do so. We will consider your explanation in determining whether to enter into this transaction. However, your failure to furnish an explanation will disqualify your application.
- b) Erroneous certification or assurance**
The assurances and certifications are material representations of fact upon which we rely in determining whether to enter into this transaction. If we later determine that you knowingly submitted an erroneous certification or assurance, in addition to other remedies available to the federal government, we may terminate this transaction for cause or default.
- c) Notice of error in certification or assurance**
You must provide immediate written notice to us if at any time you learn that a certification or assurance was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous because of changed circumstances.
- d) Definitions**
The terms “covered transaction”, “debarred”, “suspended”, “ineligible”, “lower tier covered transaction”, “participant”, “person”, “primary covered transaction”, “principal”, “proposal”, and “voluntarily excluded” as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of the rules implementing Executive Order 12549. An applicant shall be considered a “prospective primary participant in a covered transaction” as defined in the rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact us for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.
- e) Certification requirement for subgrant agreements**
You agree by submitting this proposal that if we approve your application you shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by us.
- f) Certification inclusion in subgrant agreements**
You agree by submitting this proposal that you will include the clause titled “Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transactions,” provided by us, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.
- g) Certification of subgrant principals**
You may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower-tier covered transaction that is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless you know that the certification is erroneous. You may decide the method and frequency by which you determine the eligibility of your principals. You may, but are not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.
- h) Non-certification in subgrant agreements**
If you knowingly enter into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the federal government, we may terminate this transaction for cause or default.
- i) Prudent person standard**
Nothing contained in the foregoing may be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the assurances and certifications required. Your knowledge and information is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

ASSURANCES

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify, (to the best of my knowledge) and belief, that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial, and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-federal share of program costs) to ensure proper planning, management, and completion of the program described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States, and if appropriate, the state, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their position for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with all rules regarding prohibited activities, including those stated in applicable application guidelines, grant provisions, and program regulations, and will ensure that no assistance made available by the Corporation will be used to support any such prohibited activities.
6. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 CFR 900, Subpart F).
7. Will comply with all federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. 1681-1683, and 1685-1686). which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps (d) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) The Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) The Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) sections 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. 290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the National and Community Service Act of 1990 or the Domestic Volunteer Services Act, as amended; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
8. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of federal or federally assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for program purposes regardless of federal participation in purchases.
9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. 1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.
10. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C 276a and 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C 276c and 18 U.S.C. 874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 327-333), regarding labor standards for Federally assisted construction sub-agreements.
11. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires the recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
12. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of program consistency with the approved state management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C 1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
13. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C 1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.

14. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470), EO 11593 (identification, and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16U.S.C. 469a-l et seq.).
15. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
17. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. 4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
18. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act of 1984, as amended, and OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.
19. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, application guidelines, and policies governing this program.

CERTIFICATIONS

1. Lobbying (Activities)

As required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code, as the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify, to the best of my knowledge and belief, that:

- (a) No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, an officer of Congress in connection with the making of any federal grant, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, renewal, amendment or modification of any federal grant, or cooperative agreement;
- (b) If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal grant or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions;
- (c) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all tiers (including subawards, subgrants, contracts under grants and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

2. Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters

This certification is required by the regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 34 CFR Part 85, Section 85.510, Participants' responsibilities.

A. As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify, to the best of my knowledge and belief, that neither the applicant nor any of the principals:

- (a) Is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency.
- (b) Has, within a three-year period preceding this application, been convicted of, or had a civil judgment entered in connection with fraud or other criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property.
- (c) Is presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in the above paragraph of this certification, and
- (d) Has within a three-year period preceding this application, had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default and

B. If you are unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, you must attach an explanation to this application.

3. Drug-Free Workplace (Grantees other than Individuals)

This certification is required by the regulations implementing the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, 34 CFR Part 85, Subpart F. The regulations require certification by grantees, prior to award, that they will maintain a drug-free workplace. The certification set out below

is a material representation of fact upon which reliance will be placed when the agency determines to award the grant. False certification or violation of the certification may be grounds for suspension of payments, suspension or termination of grants, or government-wide suspension or debarment (see 34 CFR Part 85, Section 85.615 and 85.620).

As the duly authorized representative of the grantee, I certify, to the best of my knowledge and belief, that the grantee will provide a drug-free workplace by:

- (a) Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;
- (b) Establish an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about—
 - (1) the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace,
 - (2) the grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace.
 - (3) any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs, and
 - (4) the penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;
- (c) Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a);
- (d) Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph (A) that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will:
 - (1) abide by the terms of the statement, and
 - (2) notify the employer of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five days after such conviction.
- (e) Notifying us within ten days after receiving notice under subparagraph (d) (2)) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction;
- (f) Taking one of the following actions, within 30 days of receiving notice under subparagraph (d) (2), with respect to any employee who is so convicted—
 - (1) taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination or
 - (2) requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;
- G. Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f)

ASSURANCES AND CERTIFICATIONS

ASSURANCE SIGNATURE: NOTE: Sign this form and include in the application.

SIGNATURE: By signing this assurances page, you certify that you agree to perform all actions and support all intentions in the Assurances section.

Organization Name: _____

Program Name: _____

Name and Title of Authorized Representative: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

CERTIFICATION SIGNATURE: NOTE: Sign this form and include in the application.

Before you start: Before completing certification, please read the Certification Instructions.

SIGNATURE: By signing this Certification page, you certify that you agree to perform all actions and support all intentions in the Certification sections of this application. The three Certifications are:

- Certification: Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters
- Certification: Drug-Free Workplace
- Certification: Lobbying Activities

Legal Applicant: _____

Program Name: _____

Name and Title of Authorized Representative: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

OMB Control #: 3045-0047

Expiration Date: 03/31/2005

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APPENDIX D – PROGRAM MODEL AND DESIGN (APPLICATION SECTION)

SECTION I: PROGRAM MODEL

Directions: Choose at least one program model from Section I.

✓	Section I: Program Models (Check up to three)	
	Youth Corps	A full-time, year-round program or full-time summer program, such as a conservation corps or youth service corps that undertakes meaningful service projects with visible public benefits. Includes as participants youths and young adults between the ages of 16 and 25 inclusive, including out-of-school youths and other disadvantaged youths.
	Pre-Professional Corps	A program in which students enrolled in an institution of higher education receive training in specified fields, which may include classes containing service-learning; perform service related to such training outside the classroom during the school term and during summer or other vacation periods.
	College-based Service	A program that recruits and places college students in primarily reduced terms of service to meet community-identified needs in a variety of service settings.
	Professional Corps	A program that addresses critical community needs through the service of professionals, such as teachers, nurses, doctors, emergency medical technicians (EMT), and other health care providers, social workers, early childhood development staff, engineers, lawyers, paralegals, police officers and fire fighters in communities with inadequate numbers of such professionals. The public or private non-profit employer must sponsor AmeriCorps members and agree to pay 100% of member salaries and benefits (excluding the education award).
	Service Learning Program	A program that provides specialized training to individuals in service-learning and places the individuals after such training in positions, including positions as service-learning coordinators, to facilitate service-learning in programs eligible for funding under part I of subtitle B of this subchapter.
	Youth Service	A program that provides needed positive services to youth, including tutoring, mentoring, enrichment, recreation, or a combination of such activities.
	Volunteer Leveraging	A program through which members recruit and coordinate community volunteers and/or create volunteer service placement opportunities to meet community needs.
	Other	Does not fit into any of the above categories.

SECTION II: PROGRAM DESIGN

Directions: Choose one or more program designs from Section II.

✓	Section II: Program Design (Check All that Apply)	
	Team-based	A program where members regularly function as a team during the service week.
	Individual Placement /Scattered Site	A program that places one member at sites in a variety of locations.
	Team-based and Individual Placement	A program that utilizes both team-based and individual placement program designs.
	Multi-State or National	A program that places members in sites in more than one state.
	Intermediary Organization	Intermediary organizations provide the mechanism by which a number of community or faith-based organizations or grassroots groups may access AmeriCorps and other Corporation resources. We define intermediaries as national, regional, state, or local organizations that agree to provide the technical and financial support to assist community or faith-based organizations that do not have the capacity to perform these functions. Intermediaries serve as the legal applicant for a Corporation grant, thereby ensuring that the systems to manage a federal grant are in place (AC Guidelines p. 23)
	Statewide Initiative	A program that operates throughout the state and may or may not have a single issue focus.

SECTION III: PROGRAM LOCATION

Directions: Choose the service areas that best describe your program in Section III.

✓	Section III: Geography (Check all that apply)	
	Urban	A program designed to meet the needs of urban communities.
	Rural	A program designed to meet the needs of rural communities.
	Both	A program designed to meet the needs of both urban and rural communities.
	Empowerment zones or redevelopment areas	Communities designated as empowerment zones or redevelopment areas, targeted for special economic incentives, or otherwise identifiable as having high concentrations of low-income people.
	Environmentally distressed areas	Areas that are environmentally distressed.
	Areas affected by Federal actions related to the management of Federal lands	Areas adversely affected by Federal actions related to the management of Federal lands that result in significant regional job losses and economic dislocation.
	Areas affected by military downsizing	Areas adversely affected by reductions in defense spending or the closure or realignment of military installations.
	Areas with high unemployment rates	Areas that have an unemployment rate greater than the national average unemployment for the most recent 12 months for which satisfactory data are available.

SECTION IV: PROGRAM FOCUS

Directions: Choose one or more program focus areas from Section IV.

✓	Section IV: Program Focus (Check All that Apply)			
	Unemployed		Pre-school Children	Native American community
	Seniors		K-12 Students	African American community
	Homeless		College Students	Asian American community
	Immigrants		Young Adults (17-24)	Latin American community
	Low-Income Housing Residents		At-Risk Youth	Veterans
			Childhood Literacy	Homeless Veterans
	Persons with HIV/AIDS		Children of Prisoners	Low-Income Community
	Farm Worker Families		Foster Children	Families/Parents
	Mentally/Physically Challenged		Victims/Potential Victims of Crime	Incarcerated individuals and ex-offenders
	Digital Divide	The program conducts activities that increase computer literacy and access for disadvantaged populations.		
	Asset Accumulation	Community and Faith-based Organizations that conduct activities that empower the poor through asset accumulation programs including home ownership, individual development accounts, and financial literacy.		
	Strengthening Families	Community and Faith-based Organizations that conduct activities that strengthen families to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty.		

APPENDIX E -- SERVICE CATEGORIES (PERFORMANCE MEASURES SECTION)

Select as many as apply to your proposed program.

- Delivery of Health Services
- Health Education
- Maternal/Child Health Services
- Mental Health
- Congregate Meals
- Mental Retardation

HEALTH/NUTRITION

- Substance Abuse
- Physical Disabilities Programs
- In-Home Care
- Hospice/Terminally Ill
- Food Distribution/Collection
- Boarder Babies

- HIV/AIDS
- Immunization
- Other Health/Nutrition
- CHIPS/SCHIPS
- Health Screening

- Pre-Elementary Day Care
- Elementary Education
- Secondary Education
- Special Education
- Tutoring & Child Literacy – Elementary
- Tutoring and Child Literacy – Middle School

EDUCATION

- Tutoring and Child Literacy – High School
- Job Preparedness/Vocation Education
- Library Services
- Cultural Heritage
- ESL
- GED/Dropouts
- Head Start/School Preparedness

- Service Learning
- Adult Education and Literacy
- Other Education
- After School Programs
- America Reads
- Computer Literacy
- Youth Leadership/Development

ENVIRONMENTAL

- Waste Reduction/Management/Recycling
- Environmental Awareness
- Clean Air
- Clean and Safe Water
- Energy Conservation
- Indoor Environment
- Toxic Waste Management
- Wildlife, Land, Vegetation Protection/Restoration
- Other Environment
- Community Restoration/Clean Up

DISASTER

- Disaster Preparedness
- Disaster Mitigation
- Disaster Response
- Disaster Recovery
- Other Disaster

HOMELAND SECURITY

- Homeland Security-Public Health
- Homeland Security-Public Safety
- Homeland Security-Disaster Preparedness/Relief

- Safety/Fire Prevention/Accident Prevention
- Adult Offender/Ex-Offender Services/Rehabilitation
- Child Abuse/Neglect
- Crime Awareness/Crime Avoidance

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Victim/Witness Assistance
- Community Policing/Community Patrol
- Conflict Resolution/Mediation
- Elder Abuse/Neglect
- Family Violence
- Improvement of Household Security
- Neighborhood Watch/Block Watch

- Sexual Abuse/Rape
- Children & Youth Safety Programs
- Juvenile Justice/Delinquency/Gangs
- Legal Assistance
- Safe Havens
- Other Public Safety

HOUSING

- Home Management Support/Education
- Homelessness
- Housing Referrals/Relocation/Other
- Housing Rehabilitation/Construction
- Independent Living-Disabled
- Independent Living-Seniors
- Tenant Organizing
- Transitional Housing
- Other Housing

HUMAN NEEDS – GENERAL

- Adult Day Care/Senior Center
- Companionship/Outreach
- Crisis Intervention
- Mentoring
- Respite
- Teen Pregnancy/Parent Support Education
- Senior Center Program (non-residential)
- Other Human Needs Services

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Consumer Education
- Transportation Services
- Community Improvement
- Regional/State/City Planning
- Social Services Planning/Delivery
- Community-Based Volunteer Programs
- Cooperatives/Credit Unions
- Food Production/Community Gardens/Farming

- Job Development/Placement
- Management Consulting
- Small/Minority Business
- Tax Counseling/Counseling
- Thrift Store
- Microenterprise
- Technology Access
- Welfare to Work

- Other Community Development

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APPENDIX F: PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT WORKSHEET

Output-- The amount of product or service delivered (students tutored, trees planted, etc).

Intermediate-outcome--A change that has occurred in the lives of beneficiaries and/or members, but is still short of a significant, lasting benefit.

End-outcome--A significant and lasting change that has occurred in the lives of beneficiaries and/or members.

INSTRUCTIONS: Complete one worksheet for each performance measure.

1. Select a performance measure category : <input type="radio"/> Needs and Service Activities. <input type="radio"/> Participant Development <input type="radio"/> Community Strengthening	
2. Select a performance measure type : <input type="radio"/> Output <input type="radio"/> Intermediate Outcome <input type="radio"/> End Outcome	
3. Need . Describe the need that this performance measure will address.	
4. Anticipated Result. Identify the expected result .	
5. Activities. Describe the activities planned to achieve this result.	
6. Measurement. Describe the data and instruments you use to measure the results.	
7. Targets. Describe the targets you expect meet during the 3 year grant period?	Year 1:
	Year 2:
	Year 3:
8. Performance Measure. Combine your anticipated results and your targets into a sentence.	
9. If you have data for this performance measure from prior years , report it here.	

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APPENDIX G: OPERATING SITE INFORMATION (SUBAPPLICATION SECTION)

The following information is required for each operating site.

Legal Name	
Employer Identification Number (EIN)	
Organization Type*	
Contact Name	
Address	
City/State/Zip	
Phone	
Fax	
Email	
Characteristics**	
Project Title	
Address	
City/State/Zip	
Phone	
Fax	
Email	

***Organization Type (choose one)**

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| A. State | I. State Controlled Institution of Higher Learning |
| B. County | J. Private University |
| C. Municipal | K. Indian Tribe |
| D. Township | L. Individual |
| E. Interstate | M. Profit Organization |
| F. Intermunicipal | N. Private Non-Profit Organization |
| G. Special District | O. Other (specify) |
| H. Independent School District | |

**** Characteristics (choose as many as apply)**

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. 2-year college | 19. Other Native American Organization |
| 2. 4-year college | 20. Other State Government |
| 3. Area Agency on Aging | 21. School (K-12) |
| 4. Chamber of Commerce/Business Association | 22. Self-Incorporated Senior Corps Project |
| 5. Community Action Agency/ Community Action Program | 23. Service/Civic Organization |
| 6. Community College | 24. State Commission/Alternative Administrative Entity |
| 7. Community-Based Organization | 25. State Education Agency |
| 8. Faith-based organization | 26. Statewide Association |
| 9. Governor's Office | 27. Tribal Government Entity |
| 10. Grant-making Entity Operating in Two or More States | 28. Tribal Organization (non-government) |
| 11. Health Department | 29. U.S. Territory |
| 12. Hispanic Serving College or University | 30. Vocational/Technical College |
| 13. Historically Black College or University (HBCU) | Volunteer Management Organization |
| 14. Law Enforcement Agency | |
| 15. Local Affiliate of National Organization | |
| 16. Local Education Agency | |
| 17. Local Government Municipal | |
| 18. National Non-profit (Multistate) | |

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APPENDIX H: BUDGET INSTRUCTIONS

Use these instructions for preparing the parent organization budget, as well as the operating site budgets.

Before You Begin: In *eGrants*, the preparation of a detailed budget provides the data that creates the summary budget and the budget narrative. Your detailed budget must provide a full explanation of associated costs including their purpose, justification, and the basis of your calculations. Where appropriate, your calculations should be presented in an equation format, identifying the number of persons involved with the event, the per person/unit cost, and/or the annual salary cost.

Use the Budget Worksheet in Appendix I (page 59) as a guide as you prepare your budgets.

Summary of statutory budget requirements:

- ◆ You must match at least 15% of all member costs (Budget Section II) with non-federal cash. The source(s) may be state, private sector, or other non-federal funds in accordance with applicable AmeriCorps requirements. (Note: the match will be higher for programs that choose to pay higher living allowances.)
- ◆ You must match with cash or in-kind contributions at least 33% of the project's total operating costs (Budget Section I and Section III). The source(s) may be federal, state, private sector, or other funds in accordance with applicable AmeriCorps requirements. The Corporation share of these costs may not exceed 67% of the project's total operating costs.
- ◆ Equipment costs must not exceed 10% of the total federal share.
- ◆ Administrative costs must not exceed 5% of the total Corporation funds requested.

Consistency of treatment: To be allowable under this award, costs must be consistent with policies and procedures that apply uniformly to both federally financed and other activities of the applicant. Furthermore, the costs must be accorded consistent treatment in both federally financed and other activities as well as between activities supported by different sources of federal funds.

Section I. Program Operating Costs

Within the Parent Organization's budget, you can include common costs that the Parent Organization may cover for all operating sites, such as staff training or member service gear.

Match. Describe the grantee match contribution for Section I by clearly indicating the source(s), the type of contribution (cash or in-kind), the amount (or estimate), and the intended purpose of the match. You may enter this information in any category in the Purpose-Calculation field.

A. Personnel Expenses

Include the portion of principal staff time attributed directly to the operation of the AmeriCorps project. List each staff position and a brief statement of responsibilities for each in the

'Position/Title' field. For each position, also include the annual salary, and the percentage of staff time that will apply to the grant.

B. Personnel Fringe Benefits

Include costs of benefit(s) for your project staff. You can identify and calculate each benefit or show cost as a percentage of all salaries.

C. 1. Staff Travel

Describe the purposes for staff travels. Costs allowable are transportation, lodging, subsistence, and other related expenses for local and outside the project area travel.

C. 2. Member Travel

Describe the purpose for which AmeriCorps members will travel. Costs allowable under this category are transportation, lodging, subsistence, and other related expenses for members to travel outside their service location or between sites. Costs associated with traveling locally, such as bus passes to local sites, and mileage reimbursement for use of car, may be included in this category.

D. Equipment

Equipment is defined as tangible, non-expendable personal property having a useful life of more than one year AND an acquisition cost of \$5,000 (five thousand) or more per unit (including accessories, attachments, and modifications). Include items that do not meet this definition in **E. Supplies** below. Purchases of equipment are limited to 10% of the total grant amount, i.e., the federal share of all budget line items. If applicable, show the unit cost and number of units you are requesting.

E. Supplies

Include the funds for the purchase of consumable supplies and materials, including Member Service Gear and equipment that does not fit the definition above. You must individually list any single item costing \$1,000 (one thousand) or more.

F. Contractual and Consultant Services

You may include costs for consultants related to the project's operations. Consultants used for evaluation should be included in **H. Evaluation** below. Payments to individuals for consultant services under this grant may not exceed \$540 per day (exclusive of any indirect expenses, travel, and supplies). Where applicable, indicate the daily rate for consultants.

G. 1. Staff Training

Include the costs associated with training of staff working directly on the project, especially training that specifically enhances staff project implementation and professional skills, e.g., project or financial management, and team building. Indicate daily rates of consultants, where applicable.

G. 2. Member Training

Include the costs associated with the training of members that will support them in carrying out their service activities, e.g., Orientation, project-specific skills such as age-appropriate tutoring, CPR, ecosystems and the environment, and Life After AmeriCorps. Indicate daily rates of consultants, where applicable.

H. Evaluation

Include costs for project evaluation activities, including additional staff time or subcontracts you did not budget under Section I A. Personnel Expenses, use of evaluation consultants, purchase of instrumentation and other costs specifically for this activity. This **does not** include the daily/weekly gathering of data to assess progress toward project objectives, but is a larger assessment of the impact your project is having on the community, as well as an assessment of the overall systems and project design. Indicate daily rates of consultants, where applicable.

I. Other Operating Costs

Allowable costs in this category may include travel to Corporation-sponsored meetings and background checks of members if their service activities involve contact with vulnerable populations, i.e., children, the elderly, and the disabled. In addition, these costs may include office space rental (for sites where projects are operating, while national office space rental may be unallowable – check relevant OMB Circulars), utilities, and telephone and Internet expenses that are specifically used for AmeriCorps members, directly involve AmeriCorps project staff, and are not part of the organizations indirect cost/admin cost. If shared with other projects or activities, you must prorate the costs equitably. List each item and provide a justification in the budget.

Travel to Corporation-Sponsored Meetings – If you are the Parent Organization you should include up to \$2,000 in this line item to cover the cost of Corporation-sponsored technical assistance meetings. For every operating site you should include \$750 in this line item to cover these costs.

Subtotal Section I.

The Corporation Share of the total of Sections I and III cannot be more than 67% of the total of Sections I and III of the complete budget.

Operating sites: You do not need to provide to the Corporation all program operating cost details. For each operating site, enter into eGrants only the subtotal of Section I – Program Operating Costs. Enter the subtotal under ‘I - Other Operating Costs.’

Section II. Member Costs

Within the Parent Organization’s budget, you should not include any member support costs or operating site costs that are specific to operating sites.

You must match at least 15% of member support costs with non-federal cash. The source(s) may be state, private sector, or other non-federal funds in accordance with applicable AmeriCorps requirements.

Match. Describe the grantee match contribution for Section II by clearly indicating the source(s), the type of contribution (cash or in-kind), the amount (or estimate), and the intended purpose of the match. You can enter this information in the Purpose/Category field in Section B, Member Support Costs. Remember that at least 15% of the total cost must be non-federal cash match.

A. Living Allowance

You should clearly identify the number of members you are supporting by category (i.e., full-time, half-time, reduced-half-time, quarter-time, minimum-time) and the amount of living allowance they will receive, allocating appropriate portions between the Corporation and grantee match. The grantee match must be at least 15% of the total.

Members – Enter the total number of members you are requesting in each category. Enter the amount of the living allowance for each type of member. Enter the number of members for which you are not requesting funds for a living allowance, but for which you request education awards. If your program provides different stipend amounts for the same term of service, use the blank lines provided in this section of eGrants to record the slots earning a different living allowance.

Calculating the Living Allowance - Generally, all full-time members must receive a living allowance between \$10,600 (minimum) and \$21,200 (maximum). You are not required to provide living allowances for members serving less than full time. The federal share (including Corporation funds) will support up to 85% of the minimum living allowance amount. The maximum federal share of the living allowance for each type of member is shown in the chart on the next page. If your half-time program requires more than 900 but less than 1,700 hours, you may prorate the maximum living allowance to be between \$10,600 and \$21,200, but the maximum federal share remains \$4,770.

	# of Hours ¹	Ed Award	FTE ²	Maximum Total Living Allowance	Maximum CNCS/Federal Share of Living Allowance ³
Full Time	1700	\$4,725.00	1.000	\$20,600.00	\$9,010.00
One Year Half Time	900	\$2,362.50	0.500	\$10,600.00	\$4,770.00
Two Year Half Time	900	\$2,362.50	0.250	\$10,600.00	\$4,770.00 ⁴
Reduced Half Time	675	\$1,800.00	0.375	\$ 7,950.00	\$3,578.00
Quarter Time	450	\$1,250.00	0.250	\$ 5,300.00	\$2,385.00
Minimum Time	300	\$1,000.00	0.200	\$ 3,533.33	\$1,590.00

¹ Represents the minimum number of hours a member serves.

² Used to calculate cost/FTE and is fixed regardless of the number of hours served.

³ CNCS/federal share of living allowance is fixed for all positions regardless of hours served (this is current policy of FT and HT positions); projects are not required to provide living allowance to less than full-time members.

⁴ One-half of living allowance is awarded in each of two years.

If you want to provide a living allowance in excess of the minimum, you must provide a grantee match for all funds over the amount in the column titled “Maximum CNCS/Federal Share of Living Allowance.” For example, if you desire to provide a \$12,000 living allowance to your full-time members and if you requested the maximum federal share of \$9,010, you would then have to provide match of \$2,990. Projects in existence prior to September 21, 1993 when the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993 was enacted (see *Member Living Allowance Exceptions, Prior Existence*, 2004 Guidelines, p. 35) may offer a living allowance lower than the minimum (\$10,197) to full-time members but federal funds (including Corporation funds) will support only 85% of the total amount.

B. Member Support Costs

Consistent with the laws of your state, you must provide members with the benefits described below. The grantee match for this budget category must be *cash* and its source must be state, local, or private sector funds, except for health insurance. In addition, any costs budgeted above the 15% minimum can be matched with other federal funds. Identify the federal share and describe any match contribution(s) as previously instructed.

- **FICA.** Unless exempted by the IRS with accompanying documentation, all projects must pay FICA for any member receiving a living allowance, even when the Corporation does not supply the living allowance. In the first column next to FICA, indicate the number of members who will receive FICA. Calculate the FICA at 7.65% of the total amount of the living allowance.
- **Workers' Compensation.** Some states require Workers' Compensation for AmeriCorps members. You must check with your State Department of Labor or state commission to determine if you are required to pay Workers' Compensation and at what level. If you are not required to pay Workers' Compensation you must obtain Occupational, Accidental, Death and Dismemberment coverage for members to cover in-service injury or incidents.
- **Health Insurance.** You must offer health care benefits to full-time members in accordance with AmeriCorps requirements. Except as stated below you may not pay health care benefits to half-time members with federal funds. You may choose to provide health care benefits to half-time members from other sources (e.g., non-federal). Half-time members who are serving in a full-time capacity for a sustained period of time (such as a full-time summer project) may be eligible for health care benefits supported with our funds, subject to applicable match requirements. However, the Corporation must either approve this in the grant agreement or by prior written approval. In your budget, indicate the number of members who will receive the project's existing Health Care benefits. If you have an existing health benefit policy for your full-time members that meets minimum requirements, you may request 85% of those as federal funds. You must match the remainder in cash. The federal share will not pay for dependent coverage.
- **Other.** Include any other required member support costs here. Some states require unemployment coverage for their AmeriCorps members. Unless mandated by state law, you cannot charge the cost of unemployment insurance taxes to this grant. You are responsible for determining what state law requires via your state commission, legal counsel, or applicable state agency. If state law requires unemployment coverage, include the cost in this line item. The Corporation will fund 85% of these expenses when mandated by state law.

Subtotal Section II. This line totals the categories in Section II. The Corporation Share of Section II cannot be more than 85% of the total of Section II.

Section III. Administrative/Indirect Costs (choose either A or B)

A. Definitions

Administrative costs are general or centralized expenses of overall administration of an organization that receives Corporation funds and does not include particular project costs. For organizations that have an established indirect cost rate for federal awards, administrative costs mean those costs that are included in the organization's indirect cost rate. Such costs are generally identified with the organization's overall operation and are further described in Office of Management and Budget Circulars A-21, A-87, and A-122. For organizations that do not have an established indirect cost rate for federal awards, administrative costs include:

1. costs are financial, accounting, auditing, contracting or general legal services, except in unusual cases whether they are specifically approved in writing by the Corporation as project costs;
2. costs for internal evaluation, including overall organization's management improvement costs (except for independent and internal evaluations of the project evaluations that are specifically related to creative methods of quality improvement); and

3. costs for general liability insurance that protects the organization(s) responsible for operating a project, other than insurance costs solely attributable to the project.

Administrative costs may also include that portion of salaries and benefits of the project's director and other administrative staff not attributable to the time spent in support of a specific project. The principles that pertain to the allocation and documentation of personnel costs are stated in the OMB circulars that are incorporated in Corporation regulations [45 CFR 2541.220(b)].

Administrative costs **do not** include the following allowable expenses directly related to a project (including their operations and objectives), such as:

1. allowable direct charges for members, including living allowances, insurance payments made on behalf of members training and travel;
2. costs for staff (including salary, benefits, training and travel) who recruit, train, place or supervise members or who develop materials used in such activities, if the purpose is for a specific project objective;
3. costs for independent evaluations and any internal evaluations of the project that are related specifically to creative methods of quality improvement;
4. costs, excluding those already covered in an organization's indirect cost rate, attributable to staff that work in a direct project support, operational, or oversight capacity, including, but not limited to: support staff whose functions directly support project activities; staff who coordinate and facilitate single or multi-site project activities; and staff who review, disseminate and implement Corporation guidance and policies directly relating to a project;
5. space, facility and communications costs that primarily support project operations, excluding those costs that are already covered by an organization's indirect costs rate; and
6. other allowable costs, excluding those costs that are already covered by an organization's indirect cost rate, specifically approved by the Corporation as directly attributable to a project.

B. Options for Calculating Administrative/Indirect Costs (choose either 1 OR 2)

Applicants can choose to use one of two methods to calculate allowable administrative costs – a Corporation Fixed Percentage method (Option 1) or a Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate method (Option 2). Regardless of the option chosen, the Corporation/federal share of administrative costs is limited by statute to 5% of total federal funds actually expended under this grant.

1. Corporation Fixed Percentage Method

The Corporation fixed rate allows you to charge administrative costs up to a cap without a federally approved indirect cost rate and without documentation supporting the allocation. If you choose Option A, you may charge, for administrative costs, a fixed 5% of the total of the federal funds expended. In order to charge this fixed 5%, the grantee match for administrative costs may not exceed 10% of all direct cost expenditures.

- a. Multiply the sum of the Corporation shares of Sections I and II by .0526. This is the maximum amount you can request as federal share. Enter this amount as the Corporation share for Section III A.

- b. Then multiply the total of Sections I and II by 10% (.1) and enter this amount as the grantee share for Section III A.
- c. Enter the sum of the Corporation and grantee shares under Total Amount.

2. Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate Method

If you have a federally approved indirect cost (IDC) rate and choose to use it, such rate will constitute documentation of your administrative costs including the 5% maximum payable by the Corporation. Specify the Cost Type for which your organization has current documentation on file, i.e., Provisional, Predetermined, Fixed, or Final indirect cost rate. Supply your approved IDC rate (percentage). It is at your discretion whether or not to use your entire IDC rate to calculate administrative costs. If you choose to claim a lower rate, please include this rate under the Rate Claimed field.

- a. Determine the amount of direct costs to which you will apply the IDC rate, including both the Corporation and Grantee's shares, as proscribed by your organization (i.e., based on salaries and benefits, total direct costs, or other). Then multiply the appropriate direct costs by the rate being claimed. This will determine the total amount of indirect costs allowable under the grant.
- b. Multiply the sum of the Corporation share in Sections I and II by .0526. This is the maximum amount you can claim as the Corporation share of indirect costs.
- c. Subtract the amount calculated in step 2 from the amount calculated in step 1. This is the amount the applicant can claim as grantee share for administrative costs.

Subtotal Section III. The Corporation share of the total of Sections I and III cannot be more than 67% of the total of Sections I and III of the complete budget.

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APPENDIX I: BUDGET WORKSHEET

Section I. Program Operating Costs

A. Personnel Expenses

Position/Title	Qty	Annual Salary	% Time	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals						

B. Personnel Fringe Benefits

Purpose	Calculation	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals				

C.1. Staff Travel

Purpose	Calculation	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals				

C. 2. Member Travel

Purpose	Calculation	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals				

D. Equipment

Item/Purpose	Qty	Unit Cost	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals					

E. Supplies

Item	Calculation	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals				

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F. Contractual and Consultant Services

Purpose	Calculation	Daily Rate	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals					

G.1. Staff Training

Purpose	Calculation	Daily Rate	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals					

G.2. Member Training

Purpose	Calculation	Daily Rate	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals					

H. Evaluation

Purpose	Calculation	Daily Rate	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals					

I. Other Program Operating Costs

Purpose	Calculation	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals				

J. Source of Match

Source(s), Type, Amount, Intended Purpose,

Section II. Member Costs

A. Living Allowance

Item	# Mbrs	Allowance Rate	# w/o Allowance	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Full Time (1700 hrs)						
Half Time (900 hrs)						
Reduced Half Time (675 hrs)						
Quarter Time (450 hrs)						
Minimum Time (300 hrs)						
2 nd Year of 2-Year Half Time						
Totals						

B. Member Support Costs

Purpose	Calculation	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals				

C. Source of Match

Source(s), Type, Amount, Intended Purpose,

Section III. Administrative/Indirect Costs

A. Corporation Fixed Percentage Method

Purpose	Calculation	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Corporation Fixed Amount				
Totals				

B. Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate Method

Cost Type	Basis	Calculation	Rate	Rate Claimed	Total Amount	CNCS Share	Grantee Share
Totals							

C. Source of Match

Source(s), Type, Amount, Intended Purpose,

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APPENDIX J: BUDGET ANALYSIS CHECKLIST

Below is a checklist to help you make certain that you submit an accurate budget that meets AmeriCorps requirements. Read the guidance in the right column when reviewing your budget worksheet and place a check in the left column with your response.

In Compliance?

SECTION I. PROGRAM OPERATING COSTS

- Yes _____ No _____ Are the costs charged under the Personnel line item directly related to the operation of the AmeriCorps project? Examples include costs for staffs who recruit, train, place, or supervise members as well as manage the project.
- Yes _____ No _____ Is staff indirectly involved in the management or operation of the applicant organization funded through the administrative cost section (Section III.) of the budget? Examples of administrative costs include central management and support functions.
- Yes _____ No _____ Is staff fundraising expenses excluded from the grant budget? You may not charge AmeriCorps staff members' time and related expenses for fundraising to the federal or grantee share of the grant. Expenses incurred to raise funds must be paid out of the funds raised. Development officers and fundraising staff are not allowable expenses.
- Yes _____ No _____ Are funds to pay relocation expenses of AmeriCorps members excluded from the federal share of the budget?
- Yes _____ No _____ Are funds for the purchase of equipment (does not include general use office equipment) limited to 10% of the total grant amount?
- Yes _____ No _____ Are all single equipment items over \$5,000 per unit specifically listed?
- Yes _____ No _____ Are all single supply items over \$1,000 per unit specifically listed?
- Yes _____ No _____ Have you provided justification/explanation of equipment items?
- Yes _____ No _____ Have the Guidelines concerning service gear been followed?
If a project chooses to purchase the standard service gear package, it should budget \$35.00 per member. If the project needs the collared-shirt, it should budget between \$35 and \$70 per member. The federal share can be up to \$150 per member for additional safety apparel that is necessary to perform daily service activities. You must include a justification for these additional items.
- Yes _____ No _____ Are all consultant services budgeted below the maximum daily rate of \$540/day?
- Yes _____ No _____ Does the budget reflect adequate budgeted costs for project evaluation?
- Yes _____ No _____ Are all items in the budget itemized and justified?

Yes _____ No _____ Have you included up to \$2,000 for travel to CNCS-sponsored meetings in the budget?

Yes _____ No _____ Have you included up to \$750 for every National Direct Operating site for travel to CNCS-sponsored meetings in the budget?

Yes _____ No _____ Have you provided budgeted costs for background checks of members that will be serving vulnerable populations?

Yes _____ No _____ Are all "Project Operating Costs" matched at least 33% by your project with cash or in-kind contributions?

SECTION II. MEMBER COSTS

Yes _____ No _____ Is the living allowance correct? Full-time AmeriCorps members must receive at least the minimum living allowance of \$10,600.

Note: Programs in existence prior to September 21, 1993 may offer a lower living allowance than the minimum. If such a program chooses to offer a living allowance, it is exempt from the minimum requirement, but not from the maximum requirement, i.e., \$21,200.

Projects are not required to provide half-time members living allowances; but if they do, identify the appropriate living allowance listed in the Budget Instructions.

Yes _____ No _____ Does the budget provide non-federal cash match for all Member Costs, except health care? You cannot use other federal funds for the 15% cash match for member cost including living allowance, FICA, or Workers' Compensation.

Yes _____ No _____ Does the budget provide cash match for Member Costs at the grantee minimum of 15%? If you are budgeting use of work-study funds, there must be an aggregate 15% non-federal share of all Member Costs.

Yes _____ No _____ Is the federal share of living allowance for full-time members less than \$9,010? Regardless of the size of the living allowance, the federal share cannot exceed the statutory 85% of the minimum living allowance.

Yes _____ No _____ Is the federal share of living allowance for half-time members less than \$4,770? As with full-time members, projects may provide a higher living allowance, but the federal share cannot exceed 85% of \$4,770.

Yes _____ No _____ Is the living allowances paid on a basis other than hourly? It may be calculated using service hours and program length to derive a weekly or biweekly distribution amount. The distribution should occur in equal increments that are not based on the specified number of hours served.

Yes _____ No _____ Is FICA calculated correctly? All projects must pay FICA for any member receiving a living allowance. Unless exempted by the IRS, projects must calculate FICA at 7.65% of the total amount of the living allowance.

Yes _____ No _____ Is the Workers' Compensation calculation correct? Some states require Workers' Compensation for AmeriCorps members. Projects must check with your local State Department of Labor or State Commission to determine whether or not your project is required to pay Workers' Compensation and at what level (i.e., rate). Projects that are not required to pay Workers' Compensation need to provide similar coverage for members' on-the-job injuries through their own existing coverage or a new policy purchased in accordance with normal procedures (i.e., Death and Dismemberment coverage).

Yes _____ No _____ Is health care provided for qualified full-time AmeriCorps members only (unless half-time serving for a sustained full-time period of time such as summer service)? If your project chooses to provide health care to other half-time members, you may not use federal funds to help pay for any portion of the cost. Projects must provide health care coverage to all full-time members who do not have adequate health care coverage at the time of enrollment or who lose coverage due to participation in the project. In addition, projects must provide coverage if a full-time member loses coverage during the term of service through no deliberate act of his/her own. If projects already carry minimum benefits at a reasonable cost, they may use existing policies to cover members. The federal share will not cover health care costs for family members.

SECTION III. ADMINISTRATIVE/INDIRECT COSTS

Yes _____ No _____ If you choose Option A – Corporation Fixed Percentage Method, is the maximum federal share of administrative costs equal to or less than 5% of the total federal funds budgeted? To determine the federal administrative share, multiply all other budgeted federal funds by .0526.

Yes _____ No _____ If you choose Option B – Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate Method, do you have documentation on file? Administrative costs budgeted include the following: (1) indirect costs such as legal staff, central management and support functions; (2) costs for financial, accounting, audit, internal evaluations, and contracting functions; (3) costs for insurance that protects the entity that operates the project; and (4) the portion of the salaries and benefits of the director and any other project administrative staff not attributable to the time spent in direct support of a specific project.

Matching Funds

Yes _____ No _____ For all matching funds, have you clearly identified the source(s), the type of contribution (cash or in-kind), the amount (or an estimate), and the intended purpose.

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APPENDIX K: DEFINITIONS

Act means the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended (42 U.S.C. §12501 *et seq*).

Approved national service position means a national service position for which the Corporation has approved the provision of a national service education award as one of the benefits provided for successful service in the position.

Eligible Member means an individual: (1) who is enrolled in an approved national service position; (2) who is a U.S. citizen, U.S. national or lawful permanent resident alien of the United States; (3) who is at least 17 years of age at the commencement of service unless the member is out of school and enrolled **(a)** in a full-time, year-round youth corps Program or full-time summer Program as defined in the Act (42 U.S.C. §12572 (a) (2)), in which case he or she must be between the ages of 16 and 25, inclusive, or **(b)** in a Program for economically disadvantaged youth as defined in the Act (42 U.S.C. §12572 (a)(9)), in which case he or she must be between the ages of 16 and 24, inclusive; and (4) has a high school diploma or an equivalency certificate [or agrees to obtain a high school diploma or its equivalent before using an education award] and who has not dropped out of elementary or secondary school in order to enroll as an AmeriCorps member (unless enrolled in an institution of higher education on an ability to benefit basis and is considered eligible for funds under section 484 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, 20 U.S.C. §1091), or who has been determined through an independent assessment conducted by the Program to be incapable of obtaining a high school diploma or its equivalent (provided that the Corporation has waived the education attainment requirement for the individual).

Indian tribe means a federally-recognized Indian Tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, including any Native village, Regional Corporation, or Village Corporation, as defined under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. § 1602), that the United States Government determines is eligible for special programs and services provided under federal law to Indians because of their status as Indians. Indian Tribes also include any tribal organization controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by one of the entities described above.

Program means a national service Program, described in the Act (42 U.S.C. §12572(a)), carried out by the Grantee through funds awarded by the Corporation and carried out in accordance with federal requirements.

Project means an activity or set of activities carried out by a Program that results in a specific, identifiable community service or improvement: (1) that otherwise would not have been made with existing funds; and (2) that does not duplicate the routine services or functions of the organization to whom the members are assigned.

Project sponsor means an organization or other entity that has been selected to provide a placement for a member.

State Commission means, for the purposes of these application instructions, the Commission on National and Community Service established by a state pursuant to the Act (42 U.S.C. §12638), including an authorized alternative administrative entity to administer the state's national service plan and national service programs and to perform such other duties prescribed by law.