



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) STATE FORMULA APPLICATION PROCESS

Commission Name: Volunteer Louisiana Commission
Federal Agency Name: AmeriCorps
Funding Opportunity Title: Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 AmeriCorps State and National State Formula Grants
Announcement Type: Initial Announcement
Assistance Listing Number: 94.006

Summary Statement: This is a funding opportunity for institutions of higher education; local governments, school districts; nonprofit organizations; state service commissions; states and US Territories; Indian Tribes; and public health departments to apply for AmeriCorps Volunteers to strengthen communities through service. This RFP is for organizations applying for 2027-2028 AmeriCorps grant funds. These grants are awarded to organizations that propose to place AmeriCorps Volunteers within the state of Louisiana only.

Disclosure: Publication of this RFP does not obligate AmeriCorps or Volunteer Louisiana to award any specific number of grants or to commit any particular amount of funding. The actual level, timing, and process of grant funding will be subject to the availability of annual appropriations.

Any award made under this Notice may be terminated by the AmeriCorps agency if it no longer effectuates the program goals or agency priorities.

AmeriCorps publishes this NOFO solely for the aforementioned purpose and does not consider this NOFO to meet the definition of a rule requiring publication or notice under Congressional Review Act (CRA) as codified at [5 U.S.C. §§801- 808](#), and any subsequent notification provided to Congress does not constitute waiver of this position.

For Louisiana: All current National Competitive programs, as well as current State Formula programs applying as a recompetes, should follow the guidance in this National Competitive RFP.

New applicants, as well as all current AmeriCorps State Formula programs applying as a continuation, must follow the guidance in this **FY27 Volunteer Louisiana State Formula RFP**.

Document continues on following page

Important Dates

- Notice of Interest to Apply is due **Sunday, Jan. 3, 2027** by 11:59 p.m. Central Time via this Google Docs form: <https://forms.gle/rKF8tb2Js15afdYB6>
- State Formula applications are due to Volunteer Louisiana via the *America Learns Grant Gateway* system by **Sunday, Feb. 28, 2027** at 11:59 p.m. Central Time.
 - *Volunteer Louisiana will open the application on the Grant Gateway system on Mon., Sept. 28. Instructions for accessing the system will be given on Sept. 28 to all applicants who have complete the Notice of Interest to Apply and posted on the Volunteer Louisiana webpage.*
- Applicants will be notified of their applications' status (funded or not funded) following the Volunteer Louisiana Commission Board meeting on Wed., May 12, 2027.
- Successful applicants should anticipate being issued grant awards around **Aug. 1, 2027**.

Important Documents that Accompany this Announcement

The following documents will accompany this notice to eligible organizations and will aid and supplement application processes:

1. **Guidance Volunteer Louisiana FY27 RFP State Formula RFP**
Available only on the [Volunteer Louisiana Grant Opportunities webpage](#)
2. [2027 AmeriCorps State and National Mandatory Supplemental Information \(PDF\)](#)
3. [2027 AmeriCorps State and National Application Instructions \(PDF\)](#)
aka Application Instructions: State and National Competitive New and Continuation with Expiration Date: 09/30/2026
4. [2027 AmeriCorps State and National AmeriCorps Performance Measure Instructions \(PDF\)](#)
5. [2027 Applicant-Determined Performance Measure Instructions \(PDF\)](#)

Note: Volunteer Louisiana will review and update these files by the end of September 2026 and publish on this Volunteer Louisiana Grant Opportunities webpage. Revised versions will include information on how to file applications in the America Learns' *Grant Gateway* system rather than AmeriCorps' eGrants system. However, AmeriCorps' guidance about grant planning and operations will remain the same for this content.

End of Section. Document continues on next page.

Table of Contents

A. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION	5
A.1. Purpose of AmeriCorps State and National Funding	5
A.2. Funding Priorities.....	5
A.3. Performance Goals or Expected Outcomes.....	6
A.4. Program Authority	6
B. FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION.....	7
B.1. Estimated Available Funds.....	7
B.2. Estimated Award Amount	7
B.3. Period of Performance	7
B.4. Type of Award	7
B.5. Cost Sharing or Matching	9
<i>Cost Reimbursement Grants</i>	9
<i>Match Waiver</i>	9
<i>Fixed Amount Grants</i>	9
C. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION.....	10
C.1. Eligible Applicants.....	10
C.2. Other Eligibility Requirements	11
D. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION	12
D.1. Ways to Request an Application Package	12
D.2. Content and Form of Application Submission.....	12
D.2.a. Application Content	12
D.2.b. Page Limits	12
D.3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)	13
D.4. Submission Dates and Times	13
D.4.a. Application Submission Deadline	13
D.4.b. Additional Documents Deadline.....	14
D.4.c. Late Applications	14
D.5. Intergovernmental Review.....	14
D.6. Funding Restrictions.....	15
D.6.a. Award Funding Requirements	15
D.6.b. Indirect Costs	17
D.6.c. Pre-Award Costs	17
D.7. Other Submission Requirements.....	17
D.7.a. Electronic Application Submission	17
D.7.b. Submission of Additional Documents	18
E. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION	19
E.1. Selection Criteria	19
E.1.a. Executive Summary, 0 percent:.....	19
E.1.b. Program Design, 50 percent:	20
E.1.c. Organizational Capability, 25 percent:.....	21
E.1.d. Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy, 25 percent:	21
E.2. Review and Selection Process	22
E.2.a. Initial Application Compliance and Eligibility Review	22
E.2.b. Application Review	22

E.2.c. Pre-Award Risk Assessment	22
E.2.d. Consideration of Integrity and Performance System Information.....	23
E.2.e. Selection for Funding	24
E.2.f. Applicant Resolution.....	24
E.3. Feedback to Applicants.....	24
E.4. Transparency in Grantmaking	25
F. FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION.....	26
F.1. Federal Award Notices	26
F.2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements	26
F.2.a. Uniform Guidance.....	26
F.2.b. Requests for Monitoring or Payment Integrity Information.....	26
F.2.c. AmeriCorps Terms and Conditions	26
F.2.d. National Service Criminal History Check Requirements	26
F.3. Use of Material	26
F.4. Continuation Funding Information and Requirements.....	27
G. VOLUNTEER LOUISIANA AWARDING CONTACTS	28
H. OTHER INFORMATION	29
H.1. Technical Assistance.....	29
H.2. Re-Focusing of Funding.....	29
I. IMPORTANT NOTICES	30

End of Section. Document continues on next page.

FULL TEXT OF THE NOTICE

A. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A.1. Purpose of AmeriCorps State and National Funding

AmeriCorps improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. AmeriCorps brings people together to tackle some of the country's most pressing challenges through national service and volunteerism.

AmeriCorps grants are awarded to [eligible organizations](#) that engage AmeriCorps Volunteers in evidence-based or evidence-informed interventions to strengthen communities. An AmeriCorps Volunteer is a person who does community service through AmeriCorps. AmeriCorps Volunteers may receive a living allowance and other benefits. After successful completion of their service, AmeriCorps Volunteers earn a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award they can use to pay for higher education expenses or apply to qualified student loans.

AmeriCorps State grants in Louisiana are awarded and administered through the Volunteer Louisiana state service commission. Volunteer Louisiana is in the Office of the Lt. Governor and is governed by a bipartisan citizen board of up to 25 members appointed by the Governor. Volunteer Louisiana's mission is to help strengthen Louisiana communities through volunteerism and national service. We achieve this mission by promoting volunteerism, building disaster response capacity and resilience, and supporting AmeriCorps programs and AmeriCorps Volunteers throughout the state of Louisiana.

A.2. Funding Priorities

[Volunteer Louisiana's 2025-2028 State Service Plan](#) defines the agency's goals and objectives. Goal 1 is to "Strengthen AmeriCorps throughout Louisiana." Objectives 1 – 4 include:

1. Promote and elevate AmeriCorps throughout Louisiana
2. Implement intentional strategies to increase the geographic, focus area, and organizational diversity of AmeriCorps programs
3. Foster collaborative AmeriCorps ecosystems
4. Ensure high-quality AmeriCorps programs

Volunteer Louisiana will prioritize State Formula funding for 1) community-based, grass-roots organizations, 2) organizations that serve rural and other communities where national service is underrepresented, and 3) organizations that foster engagement with philanthropic and other partners to identify and align strategic funding priorities and maximize community impact. To receive priority consideration, applicants must show that the priority area is a significant part of the program focus. However, the inclusion of priority areas in an application does not guarantee funding.

A.3. Performance Goals or Expected Outcomes

State Formula Measures

All applications must include at least one aligned performance measure, output and outcome, that corresponds to the proposed primary intervention. This may be a national performance measure or an applicant-determined measure. For more information, refer to the [National Performance Measure Instructions](#).

A.4. Program Authority

Awards under this Notice are authorized by the [National and Community Service Act of 1990](#), as amended, ([42 U.S.C. §12501 et seq.](#)).

End of Section. Document continues on next page.

B. FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION

B.1. Estimated Available Funds

Volunteer Louisiana expects a highly competitive AmeriCorps grant competition. Given limited funding, Volunteer Louisiana may prioritize funding existing partners instead of making new awards. The actual level of funding depends on annual appropriations.

B.2. Estimated Award Amount

Award amounts will be different as determined by the scope of the projects. All AmeriCorps Louisiana programs will be required to pay a **State Support and Oversight Fee**.

B.3. Period of Performance

Volunteer Louisiana plans to make three-year grant awards. Volunteer Louisiana generally makes an initial award for the first year of the three-year period of performance. Applicants must submit a one-year budget. Applicants may propose a project start date that fits their program design. The period of performance may not start before July 1, 2027. Continuation awards for subsequent years are not guaranteed; they depend upon availability of appropriations and satisfactory performance.

B.4. Type of Award

Volunteer Louisiana makes available different types of grants.

Volunteer Louisiana may award Operating Grants, including a Cost Reimbursement or a Fixed Amount grant, to any successful applicant, but the availability of a Full-Cost Fixed Amount grant is limited to certain applicants.

Professional Corps applicants are ineligible to receive Cost Reimbursement grants. Use the C.1. Eligible Applicants section and the [**Mandatory Supplemental Information**](#) document for more information, including definitions of terminology. AmeriCorps will not provide both types of grants for the same project in one fiscal year. It is the Volunteer Louisiana Commission's policy to allow for Professional Corps programs to be considered for Competitive consideration only, but exceptions may be considered on a year-by-year basis based on annual Formula allocations.

Section continues on next page

The chart below summarizes these grant types and their distinct characteristics.

Grant Types	Cost Reimbursement	Fixed Amount	Fixed Amount	Fixed Amount	Fixed Amount
Available Subtypes	Traditional	Full-Cost	Education Award Program, EAP	Professional Corps***	No Cost Slots
Maximum Cost per MSY*	\$26,800	\$26,800	\$800 or \$1,000**	\$1,000	\$0
Type of Slots in the National Service Trust	All slot types	All slot types	All slot types	FT Only	All slot types
Matching Funds Required	Yes	No	No	No	No
Budget Submission Required	Yes	No	No	No	No
Availability of Funds Linked to Enrollment / Retention of Awarded MSYs	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Special Requirements	N/A	N/A	N/A	Must place qualified professionals in communities with an inadequate # of such professionals. AmeriCorps Volunteer salaries / benefits must be paid entirely by organization where AmeriCorps Volunteer serves	N/A
Financial Reporting Requirements	Yes	No	No	No	No
Available to New Applications	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes

* Member Service Year (MSY): One MSY is equivalent to a full-time AmeriCorps position, at least 1,700 service hours. Multiple positions at less than full-time can be combined to equal one MSY.

** For the Education Award Program, AmeriCorps may provide a maximum of \$800 per individual enrolled in an approved national service position. If at least 50 percent of a program's enrollees are disadvantaged youth, AmeriCorps may provide \$1,000 per enrollee, [42 U.S.C. § 12581a](#).

***Use [Mandatory Supplemental Information](#) (MSI) for further requirements

B.5. Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost Reimbursement Grants

Applicants are required to match funds provided by AmeriCorps. The applicant's match can be non-AmeriCorps cash and/or in-kind contributions. Applicants must show that they can meet the match requirement when they submit the application. Applicants must say in their application if they have already secured the match funding.

A first-time successful applicant is required to match at 24 percent for the first three-year funding period. Starting with year four, the match requirement gradually increases every three years to 30 percent by year ten.

AmeriCorps Funding Year	Years 1,2, and 3	Years 4,5, and 6	Years 7,8, and 9	Years 10 +
Grantee Share Requirements	24%	26%	28%	30%

Match Waiver

Please use the Match Waiver information for AmeriCorps State and National grantees located on the [AmeriCorps.gov Manage Your Grant](#) webpage. AmeriCorps encourages Tribal Nations to request match waivers to reduce barriers. Every effort will be made to reduce the match requirements to improve accessibility to funding.

Fixed Amount Grants

There is no cost share or matching requirement for fixed amount grants. AmeriCorps does not provide all the funds necessary to operate the program. Organizations should raise the funds needed to operate the program.

End of Section. Document continues on next page.

C. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

C.1. Eligible Applicants

The following non-Federal entities (all of which are defined in [2 CFR 200.1](#) or [42 U.S.C. 12511\(21\)](#)) are eligible to apply:

- Indian Tribes;
- institutions of higher education;
- local governments, including school districts;
- nonprofit organizations;

In addition to Indian Tribes as defined in [2 CFR 200.1](#), Tribal organizations that are controlled, authorized, or chartered by Federally recognized Indian Tribes are also eligible to apply. If an entity applies for an award as a tribal organization that is controlled or chartered by one or more Indian Tribes, and the organization does not meet any of the other applicant eligibility types, the organization must provide copies or links to documentation which demonstrates that the organization is controlled or chartered by a federally recognized Indian Tribe. If an entity applies as an organization authorized by a federally recognized Tribe, or multiple specific federally recognized tribes, it must submit a resolution or other authorization, adopted by the Tribal Council (or comparable tribal governing body) of each Indian Tribe. The authorization(s) must identify the entity applying for an AmeriCorps award by name as a tribal organization that is authorized by the Indian Tribe(s) for the purpose of applying for AmeriCorps funding (or federal grant funds generally).

Applicants must have a valid SAM registration and Unique Entity Identifier to receive an award. See Section [D.3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management \(SAM\)](#) for more information.

New Applicants: Volunteer Louisiana strongly encourages organizations that have not received prior funding from AmeriCorps to apply, e.g., small community-based organizations, faith-based organizations, etc.

New applicants are eligible to apply for cost reimbursement, Education Award Program (EAP), and Professional Corps grants, but are not eligible to apply for full cost fixed amount grants.

Types of Applicants

1. State and Territory Service Commissions, for Single-State Applicants

Organizations that plan to operate in only one state must apply through the state or territory commissions. In Louisiana, this is the [Volunteer Louisiana Commission](#). Each commission has its own state-based selection process and submits applications to compete for funding directly to AmeriCorps. In Louisiana, applicants can visit the Volunteer Louisiana Commission's [Grant Opportunities webpage](#) to find application details, timeline, and office contact information. State deadlines may be significantly earlier than the AmeriCorps deadlines and may have additional requirements. The list of commissions can be found on the [AmeriCorps State Service Commissions' webpage](#).

2. National Direct Applicants

Multi-State: Organizations that plan to operate AmeriCorps programs in more than one state or territory apply directly to AmeriCorps.

Federally recognized Indian Tribes: Applicants that are Indian Tribes apply directly to AmeriCorps.

In addition to Indian Tribes, as defined in [2 CFR 200.1](#), tribal organizations that are controlled, authorized, or chartered by Federally recognized Indian Tribes are also eligible to apply directly to AmeriCorps.

Check the [AmeriCorps.gov Funding Opportunities webpage](#) for information regarding any of these application categories.

Threshold Issues

State Formula applicants for Louisiana must meet the following requirements:

- Single State Applicants in Louisiana must request a minimum of 5 MSYs.

C.2. Other Eligibility Requirements

Even if an organization is otherwise eligible under C.1, an organization is not eligible if:

- It has violated a federal criminal statute.
- It proposes activities that are not allowed under AmeriCorps' laws, rules, or terms and conditions.
- It has any unpaid federal taxes that are not being paid through an agreement with the relevant tax authority. However, this does not apply if a federal agency decided that a suspension or debarment for the corporation is not necessary.
- It is described in the [Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. §501 \(c\)\(4\)](#) and lobbies.

End of Section. Document continues on next page.

D. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

This Notice should be read together with the AmeriCorps regulations, [Application Instructions, Performance Measure Instructions, and Mandatory Supplemental Information](#).

D.1. Ways to Request an Application Package

All information from this funding opportunity is available through the Volunteer Louisiana Grant Opportunities webpage (<https://volunteerlouisiana.gov/grant-opportunities>). Applicants can also send an email to volunteerlouisiana@crt.la.gov for a printed copy of the Notice, Guidance, and Application Instructions.

D.2. Content and Form of Application Submission

D.2.a. Application Content

Complete applications filed in the America Learns Grant Gateway system must include the following elements:

- Information typically collected in a Federal Standard Form 424 (SF-424) Face Sheet
- Narrative Sections:
 - Executive Summary;
 - Program Design;
 - Organizational Capability;
 - Cost-Effectiveness & Budget Adequacy
- Performance Measures.
- Logic Model.
- Standard AmeriCorps Budget Narrative derived from Federal Form 424A Budget.
- Authorization, [Assurances](#), and [Certifications](#) as formerly noted in eGrants system and now communicated by the America Learns Grant Gateway system and Volunteer Louisiana.

D.2.b. Page Limits

Page counts are determined by the number of pages that print out from the America Learns Grant Gateway system. Application content which exceeds the page limit for either the narrative or logic model will not be reviewed.

Volunteer Louisiana strongly encourages applicants to print out the application from the grant system prior to submission to confirm that the application does not exceed the page limit.

- Narratives
 - Applications must not exceed 11 double-spaced pages for the Narrative.
 - The application sections that count towards the page limit include:
 - Information typically collected in a Federal SF-424 FACE Sheet;
 - Executive Summary;
 - Program Design, Organizational Capability, and Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy narratives.

- The application page limit does not include:
 - Evaluation Plan Summary Form;
 - Clarification Summary;
 - Continuation Changes;
 - Budget, Performance Measures; and
 - Any required additional documents.
- Logic Model
 - The Logic Model may not exceed eight pages when printed

D.3. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

All applicants **must** register with the [System for Award Management \(SAM\)](#) and maintain an active SAM registration from the time of submission until the application process is complete. If an applicant is awarded a grant, it must maintain an active SAM registration throughout the life of the award. See the [SAM Quick Guide for Grantees](#) for more information.

AmeriCorps and Volunteer Louisiana suggest that applicants finalize a new registration or renew an existing one **at least three weeks** before the application deadline, to allow time to resolve any issues that may arise. Applicants must ensure that their registration will remain active through the intended award date identified in Section F of this Notice. **Applicants must use their SAM-registered legal name and physical address on all grant applications to AmeriCorps. The legal applicant's name and physical address in eGrants must match exactly the applicant's SAM-registered information.**

Applications must include a valid Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), which is generated as part of the SAM registration process. AmeriCorps will not make awards to entities that do not have a valid SAM registration and UEI.

Applications must include an Employer Identification Number. The UEI and Employer Identification Number must be entered by the organization's Grantee Administrator as an organization attribute, and this will apply the information to all applications for the organization.

D.4. Submission Dates and Times

D.4.a. Application Submission Deadline

State Formula Applications

State Formula applications are due to Volunteer Louisiana via the America Learns' Grant Gateway system by **Sunday, February 28, 2027 at 11:59 p.m. CT**. This process and deadlines apply to all subgrantees that are **current State Formula grant recipients applying for a second or third year of funding (Continuation Applicants) and those New State Formula applicants for a new three-year grant award.**

Volunteer Louisiana reserves the right to not consider the new applicant's Notice of Intent to Apply (NOIs) or any New or Continuation applications submitted after their respective deadlines. Volunteer Louisiana reserves the right to extend the submission deadline as necessary. Volunteer Louisiana will post such notifications on its webpage.

National Competitive Applicants in Louisiana (Current National Competitive Subgrantees in their first two years of operation and ReCompete Applicants seeking a new, three-year grant from Volunteer Louisiana) must follow the guidance in the **FY27 Volunteer Louisiana National Competitive RFP** which has a deadline of Sunday, Nov. 1, 2026 by 11:59 p.m.

D.4.b. Additional Documents Deadline

Unlike the **FY27 Volunteer Louisiana National Competitive RFP**, Volunteer Louisiana and AmeriCorps require no additional documents for applicants for this **FY27 Volunteer Louisiana State Formula RFP** process.

D.4.c. Late Applications

All applications received after the submission deadline are late. Volunteer Louisiana will determine whether to accept a late application on a case-by-case basis. To request consideration of a late application, an organization must:

- Submit a written explanation or justification of the extenuating circumstance(s) that caused the delay, including:
 - Timing and specific cause(s) of the delay;
 - Ticket number if a request for assistance was submitted to the AmeriCorps Hotline;
 - Information provided to the applicant by the AmeriCorps Hotline; and
 - Other documentation or evidence that supports the justification.
- Ensure that AmeriCorps receives the written explanation and any other relevant evidence, via email to volunteerlouisiana@crt.la.gov no later than 24 hours after the application deadline.

Verbal communication with Volunteer Louisiana staff is not a substitute for a written explanation.

Volunteer Louisiana will not consider an advance request to submit a late application. Please carefully review and follow the Late Application guidance and submit your application as soon as possible.

Note: Absent any documented technical circumstances, any late applications submitted by programs that are accepted will receive a low tier priority for funding consideration.

D.5. Intergovernmental Review

This Notice is not subject to [Executive Order 12372](#), "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs."

D.6. Funding Restrictions

D.6.a. Award Funding Requirements

1. AmeriCorps Volunteer Living Allowance

A living allowance is not considered a salary or a wage. Programs are not required to provide a living allowance for AmeriCorps Volunteers serving in less than full-time terms of service. If a program chooses to provide a living allowance to a less than full-time AmeriCorps Volunteer, it must follow the limits in the table below. Organizations applying for cost reimbursement grants must include the living allowance in the budget, either as AmeriCorps share or match.

Fixed amount grant applicants must give AmeriCorps Volunteers a living allowance that follows the minimum and maximum amounts in the chart below and should indicate that amount in the application.

Table: Minimum and Maximum Living Allowance for FY 2027 State Formula Applicants

Slot Types	Minimum # of Hours	Minimum Living Allowance	Maximum Total Living Allowance
Full-time	1,700	\$20,954	\$41,908
Three Quarter-time	1,200	n/a	\$29,336
Half-time	900	n/a	\$20,954
Quarter-time	450	n/a	\$10,896
Minimum-time	300	n/a	\$8,801

Exceptions to the Living Allowance Requirements

a. Programs existing prior to September 21, 1993, do not have to offer a living allowance. If an organization chooses to offer a living allowance, it does not have to pay its AmeriCorps Volunteers the minimum but cannot exceed the maximum.

b. Education Award Program (EAP) Grantees are not required to provide a living allowance. If an organization chooses to offer a living allowance, it does not have to pay its AmeriCorps Volunteers the minimum but cannot exceed the maximum.

c. Professional Corps Grantees must provide AmeriCorps Volunteers a living allowance or salary. Organizations must pay AmeriCorps Volunteers the minimum and can exceed the maximum. Professional Corps AmeriCorps Volunteer salaries and benefits including childcare cannot be included in the federal share budget request to AmeriCorps.

2. Maximum Cost per Member Service Year

The AmeriCorps cost per MSY is determined by dividing the AmeriCorps share of budgeted grant costs by the number of MSYs requested. It does not include childcare or the value of the education award an AmeriCorps Volunteer may earn.

Table: Maximum Cost per MSY

Grant Program	Maximum
Individual Competitive State/Territory Program (cost reimbursement)	\$26,800
Multi-state competitive (cost reimbursement)	\$26,800
Professional Corps competitive Fixed Amount Applicants/Grantees	\$1,000*
Full-cost competitive Fixed Amount Grant	\$26,800
Education Award Program (EAP) Fixed Amount Grant (competitive and formula)	\$800 or \$1,000**
All non-EAP formula subgrants	\$27,000***

*AmeriCorps requires **Professional Corps** programs to cover the operating expenses associated with the AmeriCorps program through non-AmeriCorps resources. AmeriCorps will only consider operating funds of up to \$1,000 per MSY if an applicant is able to show significant organizational financial need.

** For the Education Award Program, AmeriCorps may provide a maximum of \$800 per individual enrolled in an approved national service position. If at least 50 percent of a program's enrollees are disadvantaged youth, AmeriCorps may provide \$1,000 per enrollee, [42 U.S.C. § 12581a](#).

***\$18,000 adjusted for inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (As of May 2026 CPI was 0.5).

AmeriCorps may: 1) treat an applicant as a Professional Corps if they meet the legal requirements for a Professional Corps (even if they did not submit a Professional Corps application); and 2) decide not to provide a grant to an organization that it determines cannot operate effectively without AmeriCorps operating funds.

3. Costs Associated with Evidence Building Activities e.g. performance data collection and management, foundational research, program evaluation, etc.

As noted in [2 CFR § 200.455](#), costs associated with evidence building activities are allowable expenses or match under AmeriCorps grants. This includes costs related to performance data collection and management, foundational research, program evaluation, and related activities.

Volunteer Louisiana reserves the right to award applications in an amount less than the requested level of funding.

D.6.b. Indirect Costs

Application budgets may include indirect costs. Based on qualifying factors, applicants may use a Federally approved indirect cost rate if they have one and if not, may use either –

- i. a 15 percent *de minimis* rate of modified total direct costs outlined in [Indirect Cost Guidance](#); or
- ii. [may claim certain costs directly](#).

Note: Beginning with FY 2027, AmeriCorps no longer allows use of the AmeriCorps-Fixed Percentage method (five/ten percent fixed administrative cost option). State Formula applicants may no longer use this method.

All methods must be applied consistently across all Federal awards. No more than five percent of award funds may be used to recover indirect costs on AmeriCorps State and National grants under section 121(d) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended and AmeriCorps' regulations at [45 CFR 2521.95](#) and [2540.110](#).

Use the [eGrants Indirect Cost Rate \(IDCR\) User Instructions](#) to enter the organization's Federal negotiated indirect cost rate or the *de minimis* rate information. Applicants should not submit documentation addressing the cost rate agreement via email.

Please note: To request a federally negotiated indirect cost rate agreement, when AmeriCorps is the applicable cognizant agency for an organization's indirect costs, the applicant must submit a request to IndirectCostRate@americorps.gov. The applicant may also obtain instructions and additional information by contacting the email address above.

D.6.c. Pre-Award Costs

Applicants funded under this Notice are approved for pre-award costs for 90 days prior to the start of their program where such costs are incurred in anticipation of the award and are necessary for efficient and timely performance of the scope of work. See the [Mandatory Supplemental Information](#) for more detail.

D.7. Other Submission Requirements

D.7.a. Electronic Application Submission

Applicants must submit applications electronically via America Learns' Volunteer Louisiana's web-based application system called The Grant Gateway. Volunteer Louisiana is a subscriber to the America Learns system and will open the Grant Gateway application on Mon., Sept. 28, 2027. Instructions for accessing the system will be given on Sept. 28 to all applicants who have completed the Notice of Interest to Apply and posted on the Volunteer Louisiana webpage.

The applicant's authorized representative must be the person who submits the application. The authorized representative must use their own account to sign and submit the application.

Applicants should contact Jacob Brumfield, Director of National Service for Volunteer Louisiana if they experience a problem when they create an account, prepare, or submit the application: jbrumfield@crt.la.gov and volunteerlouisiana@crt.la.gov or 225-342-8403. Applicants must include an explanation and related documents about why they could not submit their application electronically. Applications must be received by the deadline.

All deadlines and requirements in this Notice apply to any version of the application that Volunteer Louisiana makes available.

D.7.b. Submission of Additional Documents

Your application might not receive funding if you do not upload your documents by the application deadline or do not correctly label your documents.

Additional documents for all applicants:

1. Labor union concurrence, if applicable.

Note: Beginning with FY 2027, AmeriCorps no longer requires applicants to file an Operational and Financial Management Survey (OFMS).

End of Section. Document continues on next page.

E. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

E.1. Selection Criteria

Each applicant must describe a project that will use AmeriCorps Volunteers effectively to solve a significant community problem.

Applications must have a well-designed plan with clear justification for the requested funds. Reviewers will assess the quality of applications by using the selection criteria described below and will rate them accordingly.

Prior to issuance, and annually thereafter, awards will be subject to review by one or more AmeriCorps senior officials, or their designees, according to the process described in [Executive Order 14332, "Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking."](#)

Do not assume all sub-criteria are of equal value.

Categories/Subcategories	Percentage
Executive Summary	0
Program Design	50
• Community and Logic Model with Volunteer Position Description	30
• Notice Priority	8
• AmeriCorps Volunteer Experience	12
Organizational Capability	25
• Organizational Background and Staffing	15
• AmeriCorps Volunteer Supervision	10
Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy	25
• AmeriCorps Volunteer Recruitment	8
• AmeriCorps Volunteer Retention	9
• Data Collection	8

E.1.a. Executive Summary, 0 percent:

Please fill in the blanks of these sentences to complete the Executive Summary. There are two options for the second paragraph; please choose the appropriate language for your application. Do not deviate from this template:

"The [Name of the organization] will have [Number of] AmeriCorps Volunteers in [the locations the AmeriCorps Volunteers will serve, e.g. - City, State or State(s)]. AmeriCorps Volunteers will [service activities the AmeriCorps Volunteers will do]. At the end of the first program year, the AmeriCorps Volunteers will be responsible for [anticipated outcome of project]. In addition, the AmeriCorps Volunteers will leverage [number of leveraged community volunteers, if applicable] who will be engaged in [what the leveraged community volunteers will be doing].

Cost Reimbursement grant applicants:

The AmeriCorps investment will be matched with \$[amount of projected match], \$[amount of local, state, and Federal Funds] in public funding and \$[amount of non-governmental funds] in private funding.”

Fixed amount grant applicants e.g., EAP, Full-Cost Fixed, No Cost Slots:

In addition to the AmeriCorps investment, \$[amount of local, state, and Federal Funds] in public funding and \$[amount of non-governmental funds] in private funding will support the project.”

E.1.b. Program Design, 50 percent:

1. Community and Logic Model, 30 points

- The applicant will provide a detailed summary of the community problem, and an explanation of how the applicant’s intervention(s) will lead to the outcomes identified in the Logic Model.

The applicant must describe in the Logic Model

- The inputs or resources that are necessary to deliver the intervention, including but not limited to:
 - Locations or sites in which AmeriCorps Volunteers will provide services.
 - Setting and community condition where the intervention is delivered.
 - Number of AmeriCorps Volunteers who will deliver the intervention.
 - Characteristics of AmeriCorps Volunteers, including specific knowledge, skills, and abilities required to implement the intervention.
- The core activities that AmeriCorps Volunteers will deliver as part of the intervention including:
 - Length of each activity (e.g., the total number of weeks, sessions, or months of the intervention).
 - Dosage of each activity (e.g., the number of hours per session or sessions per week).
 - Target population for the intervention (e.g., disconnected youth, third graders at a certain reading proficiency level).
- The measurable outputs that result from delivering the intervention (i.e., number of beneficiaries served, types and number of activities conducted). If applicable, identify which **National Performance Measures** will be used as output indicators.
- Outcomes that result from the intervention, including meaningful changes in knowledge/skill, attitude, behavior, or condition. If applicable, identify which National Performance Measures will be used as outcome indicators.

Programs should include short, medium, or long-term outcomes. Applicants are not required to measure all components of their Logic Model. The applicant’s performance

measures should be consistent with the program's Logic Model and should represent significant program activities.

Applicants with multiple interventions should include the above information for each intervention in the logic model.

3. Notice Priority, 8 points

- Describe whether one or more of the Volunteer Louisiana funding priorities is a significant part of the program focus and intended outcomes. Refer to A.2. for list of Funding Priorities.

4. AmeriCorps Volunteer Experience, 12 points

- Describe how AmeriCorps Volunteers will be provided opportunities for skill attainment, personal growth and connection to the community they are serving in support of a lifetime of civic participation.

E.1.c. Organizational Capability, 25 percent:

1. Organizational Background and Staffing, 15 points

Describe the roles, responsibilities, and structure of the staff that will implement and provide oversight of the program, including but not limited to demonstrating the organization has sufficient policies, procedures, and controls to effectively implement a federal grant.

2. AmeriCorps Volunteer Supervision, 10 points

- Describe how AmeriCorps Volunteers will receive sufficient guidance and support from their supervisor to provide effective service. That could include but is not limited to structure for AmeriCorps Volunteer supervision: cadence and format of supervisor/ AmeriCorps Volunteer check-ins, AmeriCorps Volunteer and supervisor opportunities to assess strengths and opportunities for growth, AmeriCorps Volunteer training plan, etc. Applicants should identify best and/or evidence based practices for successful Volunteer supervision.

E.1.d. Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy, 25 percent:

1. AmeriCorps Volunteer Recruitment, 8 points

- Provide a description of budget expenses to support recruitment of AmeriCorps Volunteers best suited to serve the community. Applicants should identify best and/or evidence based practices for successful Volunteer recruitment.

2. AmeriCorps Volunteer Retention, 9 points

Provide a description of budget expenses to support retention of AmeriCorps Volunteers. E.g., additional AmeriCorps Volunteer benefits such as paying above the minimum living allowance, supporting workforce pathways, certifications, coaching for AmeriCorps Volunteers, resume building, individual benefit as well as community building, network building, AmeriCorps Volunteer recognition, alumni programming, etc. Applicants should identify best or evidence based practices for successful Volunteer retention.

3. Data Collection, 8 points

- Provide a description of budget expenses that support data collection and evaluation, including the process for collecting and maintaining high-quality performance data from your organization and community partners, how data will be analyzed, and how this will ensure timely and accurate reporting to AmeriCorps.

E.2. Review and Selection Process

Volunteer Louisiana will engage reviewers with relevant expertise to assess the eligible applications. The determinations made by Volunteer Louisiana reviewers may be different from what the applicant self-determined upon submission of its application. The stages of the review and selection process follow:

E.2.a. Initial Application Compliance and Eligibility Review

Volunteer Louisiana staff will do an initial compliance and eligibility check before reviewing applications. To pass this check, applicants must:

- Be an eligible organization,
- Be eligible to apply for a Full Cost Fixed Grant if requested,
- Have an active SAM registration, and
- Submit an application by the submission deadline.

Eligibility assessment is intended to ensure that only those applications that are eligible for award are reviewed. However, determinations of eligibility can take place at any point during the application review and selection process. Applicants that are determined to be ineligible will not receive an award.

E.2.b. Application Review

Review

Reviewers will assess applications based on the Program Design, Organizational Capability, Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy, and Evidence Selection Criteria.

Volunteer Louisiana will also assess budget compliance, and review for prohibited activities.

Post-Review Quality Control

Volunteer Louisiana staff will review the initial results for fairness and consistency.

E.2.c. Pre-Award Risk Assessment

Volunteer Louisiana staff will assess the risks posed by each applicant. Results from this assessment will inform funding decisions. If Volunteer Louisiana determines that an award will be made to an applicant with risks, special conditions may be applied to the award. Volunteer Louisiana may decide to not fund an applicant based on the level of risk.

Volunteer Louisiana will automatically assign any new applicants that are awarded State Formula as "High Risk" for the duration of its three-year grant to ensure frequent and consistent training and technical assistance is given to the program.

In assessing risks, Volunteer Louisiana and/or AmeriCorps may consider:

1. Due diligence, including:
 - Federal debt delinquency;

- Suspension and debarment;
 - Information available through Office of Management and Budget (OMB)- designated sources of government-wide eligibility qualification or financial integrity information, such as:
 - [U.S. Treasury Bureau of Fiscal Services](#);
 - [System for Award Management \(SAM\)](#); and
 - *Do Not Pay*.
 - Reports and findings from single audits performed under Uniform Administrative Guidance and findings of any other available audits or investigations;
 - IRS Tax Form 990;
 - [Oversight.gov](#); and
 - Public Litigation Records.
2. Past Performance, including:
- Applicant's record in managing previous AmeriCorps awards, cooperative agreements, or procurement awards, including:
 - Timely compliance with applicable reporting requirements;
 - Accuracy of data reported;
 - Validity of performance measure data reported;
 - Conformity to the terms and conditions of previous Federal awards;
 - Ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on award recipients;
 - Timely closeout of other awards;
 - Meeting matching requirements;
 - Extent to which any previously awarded amounts will be expended prior to future awards; and
 - Meeting [National Service Criminal History Check \(NSCHC\) compliance](#).
3. Other Programmatic Risks, Financial, Organizational, Compliance, and Fraud including:
- Publicly available information, including from the applicant organization's website;
 - Amount of funding requested by the organization; and
 - Other elements, such as keyword searches for prohibited activities.

E.2.d. Consideration of Integrity and Performance System Information

Before making any award that exceeds \$350,000, Volunteer Louisiana must consider information about the applicant from the designated integrity and performance system accessible through [SAM.gov](#).

Any applicant may comment upon information previously entered by another Federal agency in the designated integrity and performance systems accessible through [SAM.gov](#).

Volunteer Louisiana may consider applicant comments when completing its review of risk. Volunteer Louisiana may also consider other information about any applicant receiving an award, including those under \$350,000.

E.2.e. Selection for Funding

The review and selection processes are designed to:

- Identify how well eligible applications are aligned with the application selection criteria (Section E.1).
- Build a diversified portfolio based on the following strategic considerations:
 - -Volunteer Louisiana Funding Priorities (pages 5-6)
 - Meaningful representation of:
 - rural communities, and
 - innovative community strategies; and
 - Volunteer Louisiana Commission discretion to advance strategic goals.

In selecting applicants to receive awards under this Notice, the Volunteer Louisiana Commission will try to include a diverse portfolio of applications based on staff recommendations, alignment with selection criteria, and strategic considerations.

Volunteer Louisiana reserves the right to prioritize funding existing awards over making new awards.

Volunteer Louisiana reserves the right to award applications in an amount other than the requested level of funding and will document the rationale for doing so.

Volunteer Louisiana reserves the right to adjust or make changes to the review process, if unforeseen challenges or urgent circumstances make it impossible, impracticable, or inefficient to conduct the review process as planned. Any such adjustments or changes will not affect the selection criteria (E.1.) that will be used to assess applications.

An applicant denied any portion of funding may request reconsideration of a funding decision within 5 business days of receiving notice of their denial. Reconsideration will only be granted if there is clear and substantial error. Any reconsideration of denied applications is entirely subject to the agency's discretion.

E.2.f. Applicant Resolution

After the application review process, before any grant awards are issued, Volunteer Louisiana may ask an applicant for additional information to address any application compliance or risk issues. If an applicant does not respond promptly to these requests, then the applicant may be denied funding.

E.3. Feedback to Applicants

Each compliant applicant will receive feedback from the review of its application.

E.4. Transparency in Grantmaking

Volunteer Louisiana and AmeriCorps are committed to transparency in grant-making. An announcement of all approved applications for new and continuation applications will be published on the Volunteer Louisiana website within 120 business days after all grants are awarded.

Information about funded AmeriCorps grants and subgrants is also available in [USASpending.gov](https://usaspending.gov).

End of Section. Document continues on next page.

F. FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

F.1. Federal Award Notices

Volunteer Louisiana will make awards following the selection announcement. All applicants, successful or not, will be notified of funding decisions via email.

Selection notifications are not an authorization to begin performance. The Notice of Grant Award is the document that obligates funds. Performance may only begin after the Award is issued and no earlier than the listed Performance Period Start Date. Incurring allowable pre-award costs prior to receiving a Notice of Grant Award is at the applicant's risk. The Notice of Grant Award will be available in eGrants for Volunteer Louisiana once the award is issued.

F.2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

F.2.a. Uniform Guidance

All awards made under this Notice must follow the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, in [2 CFR Parts 200](#) and [2205](#).

F.2.b. Requests for Monitoring or Payment Integrity Information

AmeriCorps and Volunteer Louisiana will request information from partners to ensure compliance with legal requirements, including the [Payment Integrity Information Act of 2019](#). If partners do not respond promptly to these requests, then their funds may be placed on manual hold, reimbursement only status, or other restrictions as appropriate.

F.2.c. AmeriCorps Terms and Conditions

All grants must follow the FY 2027 AmeriCorps General Terms and Conditions, and the FY 2027 Program-Specific Terms and Conditions for the particular program (when applicable). These Terms and Conditions contain mandatory compliance and reporting requirements, and applicants should review these instructions prior to Volunteer Louisiana receiving any Notice of Grant Award. Current versions of the AmeriCorps General and Program-Specific Terms and Conditions for each of its programs is available on the [AmeriCorps Manage Your Grant webpage](#).

F.2.d. National Service Criminal History Check Requirements

The National Service Criminal History Check, NSCHC, is a specific screening procedure established by law to protect the beneficiaries of national service. Use [45 CFR 2540.200- 2540.207](#) and [National Service Criminal History Check Resources](#) for complete information and FAQs.

F.3. Use of Material

To ensure that materials generated with AmeriCorps funding are available to the public and readily accessible to recipients and non-recipients, AmeriCorps reserves a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to obtain, use, modify, reproduce, publish, or disseminate publications and materials produced under the award, including data, and to authorize others to do so ([2 CFR §200.315](#)).

F.4. Continuation Funding Information and Requirements

Organizations that have current AmeriCorps State and National awards that will be in program Year 2 or Year 3 in FY 2027 are considered continuation applicants. Continuation applicants must submit an application to be eligible to receive funding for the FY 2027 program year. Continuation applicants must follow the requirements for continuation application content as outlined in the [Application Instructions](#) and in this notice.

To be approved for continuation funding, recipients must be in good standing. Continuation application review will also be based on progress reports, the federal financial report and AmeriCorps staff's knowledge of the grant program. To be approved for continuation funding, recipients must demonstrate satisfactory performance with respect to key program goals and requirements, as well as compliance with the terms and conditions of the grant.

End of Section. Document continues on next page.

G. VOLUNTEER LOUISIANA AWARDING CONTACTS

For more information, email Jacob Brumfield, Director of National Service for Volunteer Louisiana, at jbrumfield@crt.la.gov and volunteerlouisiana@crt.la.gov

End of Section. Document continues on next page.

H. OTHER INFORMATION

H.1. Technical Assistance

Volunteer Louisiana and AmeriCorps will host technical assistance calls to answer questions about the funding opportunity and the web-based application system. Volunteer Louisiana and AmeriCorps strongly encourages all applicants to participate in these sessions.

Information for Volunteer Louisiana' training and technical assistance support is listed in the **Guidance Volunteer Louisiana FY27 RFP State Formula applicants** document and on the **[Volunteer Louisiana Grant Opportunities webpage](#)**.

Information for AmeriCorps' technical assistance calls is available on the **[AmeriCorps' Funding Opportunities website](#)**.

Resources applicants need to effectively manage their grant award and training and technical assistance materials are found on the **[Manage Your Grant webpage](#)**.

H.2. Re-Focusing of Funding

Volunteer Louisiana and AmeriCorps reserve the right to re-focus program dollars under this Notice in the event of disaster or other compelling needs.

I. IMPORTANT NOTICES

I.1. Public Burden Statement

AmeriCorps states that the public reporting burden for collection of information under this Notice of Funding is estimated to average six hours per submission, including reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing the application and reporting forms. The agency informs the potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Use [5 CFR 1320.5\(b\)\(2\)\(i\)](#). This collection is approved under OMB Control #: 3045-0047, Application Instructions, State and National Competitive, New and Continuation, Expiration Date: September 30, 2026.

I.2. Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974, [5 U.S.C §552a](#), requires that we notify applicants that the information requested under this Notice of Funding is collected pursuant to [42 U.S.C. §12592](#) and 12615 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 as amended, and [42 U.S.C. §4953](#) of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 as amended.

Purposes and Uses - The information requested is collected for the purposes of reviewing grant applications and granting funding requests. Routine uses may include disclosure of the information to Federal, state, or local agencies pursuant to lawfully authorized requests. assistance.

Effects of Nondisclosure - The information requested is voluntary; however, to be a recipient of this grant program, disclosure of personal or sensitive information is required to receive federal benefits.

Produced and published at US taxpayer expense.

End of Document.