



Your World. Your Chance to Make It Better.

Fact Sheet

AmeriCorps, the domestic Peace Corps, engages more than 70,000 Americans each year in intensive, results-driven service. Here in West Virginia, more than 600 members are serving to meet some of the most critical needs in West Virginia, including poverty and illiteracy.

Impact

AmeriCorps members meet critical educational, public safety, environmental and human needs, and help recruit volunteers to enhance their effectiveness. As an AmeriCorps member, you can:

- Tutor/mentor disadvantaged youth
- Fight illiteracy
- Improve health services
- Build affordable housing
- Teach computer skills
- Clean parks and streams
- Manage or operate after-school programs
- Help communities respond to disasters
- Build organizational capacity

Eligibility and Benefits

- AmeriCorps membership is open to U.S. citizens or lawful, permanent residents age 17 and older. Members serve full or part time over a 10 to 12-month period.
- During service, members receive health coverage, training and student loan deferment.
- In return for their service, full-time AmeriCorps members who complete their service earn a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award of \$4,725 to pay for college, graduate school, or to pay back qualified student loans; members who serve part-time receive a partial Award. Some AmeriCorps members may also receive a modest living allowance during their term of service.

AmeriCorps in West Virginia

AmeriCorps programs in West Virginia are supported, in part, by grants from the West Virginia Commission for National and Community Service as well as other public and private resources. AmeriCorps programs in West Virginia focus on issues such as economic development, literacy, youth and adult education, health, technology and life skills education.

National Statistics

- Approximately 72 percent of AmeriCorps members continue to volunteer in their communities after their term of service ends.
- Approximately 87 percent of former AmeriCorps members accepted public service employment (including governmental and nonprofit work) within three years after completing their AmeriCorps service.
- Approximately 86 percent of former AmeriCorps members indicated their service experience and training helped to a great or moderate extent in their job, educational pursuits or community service activities.

To learn more about AmeriCorps opportunities in West Virginia, visit www.volunteerwv.org or call (800) WV-HELPS.