

# AmeriCorps State and National Grants

CFDA: 94.006

**Administering Federal Agency:** Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) [now operating as AmeriCorps](#)

**Description:** [AmeriCorps State and National](#) (AmeriCorps) is a national service program of CNCS, which engaged tens of thousands of men and women in intensive community service each year. AmeriCorps provides grants to a broad range of local and national organizations and agencies committed to using service to address compelling community issues. Participating organizations, including nonprofits, courts, public agencies, institutions of higher education, Indian Tribes, and faith-based organizations, enroll AmeriCorps members in an approved national service position and engage them in intensive service.

**Find your state/local administrator:** AmeriCorps provides contact information for state commissions [here](#).

**Amount of Available Funding:** Find budget information [here](#).

**Match requirements:** AmeriCorps does not provide all the funds needed to operate the program. There are different requirements for cost sharing or matching depending on different factors. See the [FY 2022 AmeriCorps State and National Grants Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) (NOFO) for details.

**Potential uses:** Although the NOFO does not expressly mention courts or legal services, AmeriCorps has a long history of court and legal aid grantees both at the national and state commission levels. Grantees can utilize AmeriCorps grants and members to expand their reach and provide more direct legal help to a greater segment of the community. Some grantees have used AmeriCorps members to provide direct

services in a variety of different settings including courthouses, legal aid offices, and law libraries. The [2022 AmeriCorps NOFO](#) identifies the following priority areas:

- Efforts to help local communities respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Applicants may propose programming to aid communities in their efforts to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, including outcomes of COVID-19 on student subgroups described in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.
- Educational opportunity and economic mobility for communities experiencing persistent unemployment or underemployment, and students experiencing homelessness or those in foster care.
- Programs that prioritize civic engagement and social cohesion.
- Evidence-based interventions on the AmeriCorps Evidence Exchange that are assessed as having Moderate or Strong evidence. Please note that many of these interventions have demonstrated effectiveness in improving outcomes for individuals living in underserved communities and that the agency has committed resources to supporting grantees seeking to replicate and evaluate these interventions in similar communities.
- Veterans and Military Families, Caregivers, and Survivors – a program model that improves the quality of life of veterans and improves the well-being of military families, caregivers, and survivors.
- Rural intermediaries – organizations that demonstrate measurable impact and primarily serve rural communities with limited resources and organizational infrastructure.
- Environmental stewardship and climate change

including renewable energy and energy efficiency, building community resilience, sustainable food systems and agriculture, and conservation and habitat preservation.

- Faith-based organizations.
- Economic Mobility Corps.

#### **Other Helpful Information:**

- Any COVID-19 related spending or administrative flexibilities can be found [here](#). The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 provided an additional \$640M to AmeriCorps State and National. For additional information, read the [announcement from Americorps](#) and see this [ARP Funding Chart](#).
- AmeriCorps members can be tasked with supporting/developing technology tools.
- See the [case study](#) under the heading Focus on a Specific Funding Source about the California and Illinois JusticeCorps programs.
- The DOJ [FY 2016 Guide to the AmeriCorps State and National Program for Legal Aid Organizations](#) highlights key components of the AmeriCorps program for legal aid organizations.
- In a January 2020 [SRLN webinar](#) on “Funding Sources for Court-based Navigator Programs,” Nicole Claro-Quinn (California), Stacey Weiler (Illinois) and Meghan Scott (Montana) discussed the ins and outs of using AmeriCorps funding and provided helpful tips for others considering tapping this resource.

**How do you apply?** Courts seeking funding for a single-state program apply through their state commission that then forwards it to CNCS. Each state has its own selection process and decides whether to award a subgrant from its formula grant or to put the application forward to CNCS for competitive funding. Courts and court partners should contact their state commissions to receive the appropriate application materials and to learn about state specific deadlines.