

Category	Adjusted twelve-month limit <sup>1</sup>
347/348/847 .....	1,800,291 dozen.
350/650 .....	123,097 dozen.
351/651 .....	438,549 dozen.
352/652 .....	1,412,105 dozen.
359-C/659-C <sup>2</sup> .....	1,181,402 kilograms.
360 .....	1,771,732 numbers.
363 .....	13,515,567 numbers.
369-D <sup>3</sup> .....	650,016 kilograms.
369-S <sup>4</sup> .....	1,005,426 kilograms.
434 .....	8,160 dozen.
435 .....	17,486 dozen.
440 .....	11,657 dozen.
611 .....	6,820,144 square meters.
635 .....	491,479 dozen.
638/639/838 .....	1,053,988 dozen.
644 .....	361,695 numbers.
645/646 .....	118,096 dozen.
647/648 .....	1,191,177 dozen.
840 .....	128,067 dozen.

<sup>1</sup> The limits have not been adjusted to account for any imports exported after December 31, 1997.

<sup>2</sup> Category 359-C: only HTS numbers 6103.42.2025, 6103.49.8034, 6104.62.1020, 6104.69.8010, 6114.20.0048, 6114.20.0052, 6203.42.2010, 6203.42.2090, 6204.62.2010, 6211.32.0010, 6211.32.0025, and 6211.42.0010; Category 659-C: only HTS numbers 6103.23.0055, 6103.43.2020, 6103.43.2025, 6103.49.2000, 6103.49.8038, 6104.63.1020, 6104.63.1030, 6104.69.1000, 6104.69.8014, 6114.30.3044, 6114.30.3054, 6203.43.2010, 6203.43.2090, 6203.49.1010, 6203.49.1090, 6204.63.1510, 6204.69.1010, 6210.10.9010, 6211.33.0010, 6211.33.0017 and 6211.43.0010.

<sup>3</sup> Category 369-D: only HTS numbers 6302.60.0010, 6302.91.0005 and 6302.91.0045.

<sup>4</sup> Category 369-S: only HTS number 6307.10.2005.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that these actions fall within the foreign affairs exception of the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,

Troy H. Cribb,

*Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.*

[FR Doc. 98-19220 Filed 7-17-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-F

## CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

### Notice of Availability of Funds To Support AmeriCorps Promise Fellowships in Support of the Goals of the Presidents' Summit

**AGENCY:** Corporation for National and Community Service.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of funds.

**SUMMARY:** The Corporation for National and Community Service (the Corporation) will use approximately \$5 million to award grants to state commissions on national and

community service (State Commissions), Indian tribes, U.S. territories and national nonprofit organizations to sponsor AmeriCorps Promise Fellows who will help implement programs in support of the five goals for children and youth set at the Presidents' Summit for America's Future. These grants, in the aggregate, will support between 500-750 Fellows, with the number dependent upon the amount of national, state and local resources committed to this effort. These Fellows will spend one year serving with organizations that are committed to helping to meet one or more of the five goals of the Presidents' Summit. Each Fellow who successfully completes a term of service will receive the \$4,725 AmeriCorps education award.

Last year at Philadelphia, President Clinton, former Presidents Bush, Carter, and Ford, Mrs. Nancy Reagan, and General Colin Powell, with the endorsement of many governors, mayors, and leaders of the independent sector, declared: "We have a special obligation to America's children to see that all young Americans have:

1. Caring adults in their lives, as parents, mentors, tutors, coaches;
2. Safe places with structured activities in which to learn and grow;
3. A healthy start and healthy future;
4. An effective education that equips them with marketable skills; and
5. An opportunity to give back to their communities through their own service.

These five goals are now the five fundamental resources sought by America's Promise "The Alliance for Youth, the organization following up on the goals of the Presidents' Summit.

As a major partner in this effort, the Corporation devotes a substantial part of its activities to help meet these goals, including the work of AmeriCorps, Learn and Serve America, and the National Senior Service Corps. This new Fellowship program will provide States and local communities with additional and unique support to help carry out their plans to provide America's children with these five fundamental resources.

**DATES:** All sponsor proposals must be submitted by September 10, 1998. The Corporation anticipates announcing selections under this announcement no later than October 31, 1998. The project period is negotiable, but will generally end no later than December 31, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Proposals to sponsor one or more Fellows must be submitted to the Corporation at the following address: Corporation for National Service, Attn: Gary Kowalczyk, 1201 New York Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20525.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information, or to obtain a sponsor application, contact the Corporation for National Service, Jeffrey Gale at (202) 606-5000, ext. 280 or Nicole Karlson at 215-597-2828. T.D.D. (202) 565-2799. This notice may be requested in an alternative format for the visually impaired.

### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

#### Background

The Corporation is a federal government corporation that encourages Americans of all ages and backgrounds to engage in community-based service. This service addresses the nation's educational, public safety, environmental and other human needs to achieve direct and demonstrable results. In doing so, the Corporation fosters civic responsibility, strengthens the ties that bind us together as a people, and provides educational opportunity for those who make a substantial commitment to service. For more information about the Corporation and the activities that it supports, go to <http://www.nationalservice.org>.

Pursuant to the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended (the Act), the Corporation may support "innovative and model programs" and may award national service fellowships. 42 U.S.C. 12653b. In addition, the Corporation may approve the provision of education awards to individuals who successfully complete a term of service in "national service positions as the Corporation determines to be appropriate". 42 U.S.C. 12573(7).

Through this notice, the Corporation invites grant proposals from eligible entities who wish to sponsor one or more AmeriCorps Promise Fellows.

#### Eligible Sponsors

The following entities are eligible to apply to become a sponsor: Governor-appointed state commissions on national and community service (State Commissions), Indian tribes, U.S. territories, and national nonprofit organizations currently operating an AmeriCorps program or proposing to sponsor activities meeting the goals of the Presidents' Summit in more than one state.

The Corporation anticipates supporting at least five Fellows in every state. If the grantmaking process results in a state not receiving AmeriCorps Promise Fellows the Corporation may set aside sufficient funds to ensure that every State has at least one Fellow. In such instances, the Corporation may approve, in coordination with a State Commission, a national or local



nonprofit organization to sponsor one or more Fellows through a process other than the one described in this Notice.

### Substance of the Fellowship Program

An AmeriCorps Promise Fellowship provides the Fellow with an opportunity to make a unique contribution to organizations helping to meet one or more of the five fundamental needs declared at the Presidents' Summit and being advanced by America's Promise—The Alliance for Youth; national, state, and local nonprofit organizations; and the national service network. For more information about the five goals of the Presidents' Summit, go to <http://www.americaspromise.org>.

Although AmeriCorps Promise Fellows may be placed by a sponsor at a host organization that focuses its resources on only one of the goals of the Presidents' Summit, the host organization must be part of a larger effort (e.g., Community of Promise) that supports the delivery of all of the five fundamental resources to children and young people.

Eligible sponsor applicants have considerable freedom to identify the structure of their Fellowship program and the projects or activities that AmeriCorps Promise Fellows will pursue. The most important considerations in establishing a program are that the prospective Fellows help meet the goals of the Presidents' Summit and that they have the ability to produce a defined outcome. The following are examples of specific tasks that Fellows may perform; these tasks are included here for illustrative purposes:

- A full-time coordinator for a Community of Promise campaign providing a targeted number of young people with all or several of the America's Promise fundamental resources.
- A full-time coordinator of individual or multiple sites, such as schools and housing complexes, that provide access to multiple or all five fundamental resources.
- An entrepreneur initiating a program to provide multiple resources to targeted young people, for example, adding a service component and access to dental care to an existing after-school tutoring program.
- A recruiter of Communities of Promise.
- A recruiter and manager of volunteers in a local or regional effort providing all or multiple resources to a number of young people.

The following are examples of organizational activities that could be

supported by Fellows as part of an effort to provide the five fundamental resources to children and youth. They are included here for illustrative purposes only:

- Expansion of Volunteer Center activities to promote the goals of the Presidents' Summit.
- State Education Agency efforts to stimulate service-learning opportunities by K-12 students.
- Community and school efforts to provide after-school programs in safe places.
- Youth leadership to stimulate service and service-learning by inner-city youth.
- Support to community volunteer and Federal-Work-Study efforts to promote literacy.
- Immunization efforts aimed at young children and their families.
- Efforts to secure access to health care providers and facilities.
- Mentoring programs linking adults with youth in need of additional support.
- Recruitment and placement of Federal-Work-Study students for community service.
- New models for involving professions in organizing to meet the goals of the Presidents' Summit, e.g., health care professionals, librarians, museum administrators, and teachers.
- Efforts to stimulate service by diverse groups to meet the Presidents' Summit's goals, including diverse ethnic, religious, racial, and cultural groups.

A sponsor may determine its own process to identify projects and programs in which AmeriCorps Promise Fellows will serve, and may either participate directly in the recruitment and selection of individual AmeriCorps Promise Fellows or delegate that responsibility to local programs or another entity (e.g., a university). One model a sponsor may consider is first to identify organizations where Fellows may serve, establish that the activities of those organizations meet the criteria for the AmeriCorps Promise Fellowship program, and then simply publicize a list of eligible host organizations for individuals interested in pursuing a Fellowship.

Fellows will be viewed as leaders in the efforts to implement the goals of the Presidents' Summit, and as a group will have an identity tied to this overall effort, including opportunities to meet and to assess the overall impact of their efforts. Although no particular academic credentials or work experience are required to become a Fellow, confidence in the ability of applicants to produce outcomes in support of the goals of the

Presidents' Summit, such as the implementation of commitments made at the Presidents' Summit and follow-up state and local summits, is the central criterion for selection. This is evidenced by: strong academic credentials; substantial and successful work experience in a field related to the organization's activities; and experience performing significant service related activities, particularly various national service leaders' programs, including AmeriCorps leaders, AmeriCorps\*VISTA leaders, AmeriCorps\*National Civilian Community Corps leaders, and leadership activities in programs sponsored by Learn and Serve America and the National Senior Service Corps. Each sponsor may adapt the above concepts to meet its specific needs.

An AmeriCorps Promise Fellow must: (1) Be at least 17 years of age; (2) be a U.S. citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident alien; and (3) have a high school diploma or GED. Individuals who have already served in two approved national service positions (a position for which an education award is provided) are, by statute, not eligible for a third education award.

Fellowships are expected to be for at least 10 months and must be completed within 12 months. To qualify for an education award of \$4,725, a Fellow must serve on a full-time basis, perform at least 1,700 hours of service, and successfully complete the Fellowship.

Fellows who serve for twelve months receive a living allowance of \$13,000, paid in regular increments. Fellow who serve fewer than twelve months receive a prorated living allowance. Fellows may receive a living allowance greater than \$13,000 only if they are part of a professional corps and are supported entirely by public or private organizations (e.g., Fellows on paid sabbaticals), with the Corporation's support limited to the provision of education awards.

### Sponsor's Role

Each sponsor determines the process for the recruitment and selection of AmeriCorps Promise Fellows in its respective area. State commissions are encouraged to use their Unified State Plan as the basis for their plans. The sponsor must certify that the host organization in which the Fellow is being placed is conducting activities that contribute to one or more of the five goals of the Presidents' Summit, and that this is part of a larger effort to provide all five of the fundamental resources to children and youth.

The Corporation anticipates that host organizations generally will be local



nonprofit organizations that are engaged in activities in support of the goals of the Presidents' Summit. Fellows may serve at a State Commission only under limited circumstances. In proposing such an arrangement, a State Commission must describe how it will comply with (1) the prohibition on State Commissions operating any national service program receiving financial assistance from the Corporation and (2) the prohibition on a State Commission receiving Corporation assistance to carry out activities that are already supported by its administrative grant from the Corporation. A State Commission proposing this arrangement must also submit a detailed position description for the Fellow. Fellowships may not be used simply to supplement the numbers of AmeriCorps Members at existing programs already carrying out activities consistent with the goals of the Presidents' Summit. Rather, the role of AmeriCorps Promise Fellows should be to provide higher level support that will enable an organization to become more involved, or to substantially increase the amount or quality of activities supporting achievement of the Presidents' Summit's five goals.

Sponsors are responsible for ensuring compliance with required elements of the Fellowship program. These requirements, which will be individually described in the grant agreement between the Corporation and the sponsor, include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Providing office space, supplies, and equipment.
- Providing a living allowance.
- Paying and withholding FICA taxes.
- Withholding income taxes.
- Providing unemployment insurance if required by State law.
- Providing workers' compensation if required by State law or obtaining insurance to cover service-related injuries.
- Providing liability insurance to cover claims relating to Fellows.
- Providing adequate training and supervision.
- Ensuring that Fellows not engage in prohibited activities (such as lobbying).
- Complying with statutory prohibitions on uses of assistance (such as displacement, discrimination).
- Providing a grievance procedure that meets statutory standards.
- Verifying and submitting timely documentation relating to each Fellow's eligibility for an education award.
- Providing an adequate financial management system.
- Complying with other reporting requirements.

### Contents of the Sponsor Application

Sponsor applications must contain the following information:

1. Background concerning the applicant's current efforts to achieve the goals of the Presidents' Summit.
2. A designation of the organizations where the Fellows will be assigned, including the process used to select host organizations and background concerning the selected organizations and the roles they are playing in local summit follow-up. If the organizations are not yet designated, the application should describe the process that the sponsor will use to designate such entities.
3. A description of the activities that the Fellows will perform, including an indication about how the activities will support significant growth and/or improvements in the quality of efforts to meet the five goals of the Presidents' Summit. If the Fellow serves at a State Commission, a detailed position description must be provided.
4. An estimated budget to carry out the program, consistent with the description below.

The application may not exceed 21 double-spaced pages in length; more detailed instructions concerning the contents of the application are contained in the application package.

The Corporation will provide additional information concerning this program on its web site and will use the web site to announce any conference calls for potential applicant organizations scheduled before the application deadline.

### Budget and Finances

The Corporation will issue grants on a fixed amount per Fellow basis, not to exceed \$13,000 for the first five Fellowships in the grant, nor \$10,000 for the sixth through the 30th Fellowship. These amounts exclude the education award. The sponsor assumes full financial responsibility for the program. Sponsors must provide the additional financial support necessary to carry out their proposed Fellowship program. To the extent that a sponsor provides a significant portion of the costs such that it notably reduces the Corporation's funding per Fellowship, additional Fellowships may be supported. The Corporation strongly encourages cost-sharing proposals, consistent with the guidelines in this Notice, to leverage Corporation resources and maximize the number of Fellows.

The Corporation is currently exploring the feasibility of

implementing a fixed price award mechanism that would not require Corporation monitoring of actual costs incurred. To use this mechanism, the Corporation would determine that the cost principles normally applicable to Federal awards do not apply and in that case the sponsor would not be required to account to the Corporation for actual costs incurred.

In addition to the approved grant amount, the Corporation will provide an education award to Fellows who successfully complete their term of service. The Corporation will sponsor national training events to provide Fellows with an opportunity to come together to assess national progress in meeting the goals of the Presidents' Summit. The Corporation will also promote the availability of these Fellowships.

The Corporation anticipates that these grants will be renewable for up to a three-year period, subject to performance and the availability of appropriations.

### Process for Selecting Sponsors

The Corporation anticipates initially supporting 5–30 AmeriCorps Promise Fellowships under each grant, with the exact amount depending upon the proposal and the level of non-Corporation support. After September 10, 1998, if a sponsor identifies additional non-Corporation resources to support more Fellowships, the sponsor may propose to increase the number of its Fellows. In such instances, the Corporation may approve additional education awards subject to their availability, and the number of Fellowships per sponsor may exceed 30.

In selecting sponsors, the Corporation will consider: Program design (60%), including (in order of importance) getting things done to help achieve the five goals of the Presidents' Summit, fostering the skills and leadership development of Fellows, and strengthening communities; organizational capacity (25%); and budget/cost effectiveness (15%). The Corporation will make all final decisions concerning approval of these grants for Fellowships. Given the Corporation's interest in having the common elements for the Fellowships that are described above, the Corporation announces its intent to enter into such negotiations with any sponsor in a manner that may require revisions to the original grant proposal.



Dated: July 15, 1998.

**Kenneth L. Kloth,**

*General Counsel, Corporation for National and Community Service.*

[FR Doc. 98-19238 Filed 7-17-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6050-28-P

## **CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

### **Request for Comment on Proposed Criteria Used to Select and Evaluate National Service Programs**

**AGENCY:** Corporation for National and Community Service.

**ACTION:** Request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Corporation for National and Community Service (Corporation) invites comments on proposed changes to the criteria it uses to select and evaluate national service programs. The Corporation applies these criteria to the following categories of national service programs: Learn and Serve America; National Senior Service Corps; AmeriCorps\*VISTA; and AmeriCorps\*State and National. The revised criteria will apply beginning in 1999 to the Corporation's selection of projects and programs, including recompetitions, and will be phased in for continuing projects and programs over the next year.

**DATES:** The deadline for the submission of comments is August 19, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be submitted to the Office of Planning and Program Integration, Corporation for National Service, 1201 New York Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20525.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nancy Talbot, (202) 606-5000, ext. 470. T.D.D. (202) 565-2799. For individuals with disabilities, information will be made available in alternative formats upon request.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **A. Background**

The Corporation for National and Community Service was established in 1993 to engage Americans of all ages and backgrounds in service to their communities. The Corporation's national and community service programs provide opportunities for participants to serve full-time and part-time, with or without stipend, as individuals or as a part of a team. AmeriCorps\*State and National, VISTA, and National Civilian Community Corps engage thousands of Americans on a full-or part-time basis at more than 1,000 locations to help communities meet their toughest challenges. Learn and Serve America integrates service

into the academic life of more than 800,000 students in all 50 states. The National Senior Service Corps utilizes the skills, talents and experience of over 500,000 older Americans to help make communities stronger, safer, healthier and smarter.

The Corporation provides assistance to organizations that carry out AmeriCorps\*State and National, Learn and Serve America, and National Senior Service Corps programs. AmeriCorps\*State and National programs, which involve 25,000 Americans each year in results-driven community service, are grant programs managed by (1) State Commissions that select and oversee programs operated by local organizations, (2) national non-profit organizations that identify and act as parent organizations for operating sites across the country; (3) Indian tribes; or (4) U.S. Territories. Learn and Serve America grants provide service learning opportunities for students in K-12 and higher education settings. The National Senior Service Corps operates through grants to local organizations for Retired Senior Volunteer Programs (RSVP), Foster Grandparents and Senior Companions to provide service to their communities.

The Corporation plays a direct role in carrying out the AmeriCorps\*VISTA program in assigning more than 4,000 AmeriCorps\*VISTA members to service programs across the nation where they develop grassroots programs, mobilize resources and build capacity. The Corporation itself operates the AmeriCorps\*NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps) program, providing an opportunity for approximately 1,000 individuals between the ages of 18 and 24 to participate in a residential program principally located on downsized military bases.

For additional information on the national service programs supported by the Corporation, go to <http://www.nationalservice.org>.

While recognizing the particular aspects of the different types of national service programs, the Corporation seeks to make its evaluation criteria more consistent across programs. The proposed criteria for 1999 reflect an ongoing effort by the Corporation to streamline and harmonize the various application processes for organizations seeking support for their national service programs. The Corporation's Board of Directors has reviewed and endorsed the proposed 1999 evaluation criteria.

The Corporation will use the proposed evaluation criteria in selecting new and recompeting projects and programs and to assess the performance

of organizations who have received assistance to carry out national service programs. Implementation of the criteria will begin with the issuance of 1999 guidance to the field. Because the criteria relate principally to programming and operations, they will not necessarily apply to other activities, such as technical assistance, supported by the Corporation.

The Corporation will provide additional guidance in application materials for each category of national service program. The additional guidance will state how the criteria will be applied, depending on the category of program (e.g., Learn and Serve America, National Senior Service Corps) and the nature of the application for assistance (new, recompeting, or continuation).

### **B. Evaluation Criteria Common to National Service Programs Assisted by the Corporation**

#### **1. Criteria**

The following three categories (and the three sub-categories under Program Design) constitute the criteria by which the Corporation will select and evaluate organizations receiving assistance in Learn and Serve America, National Senior Service Corps, AmeriCorps\*VISTA, and AmeriCorps\*State and National.

a. Program Design (60%), which includes as subcategories:

i. *Getting Things Done*, meeting needs in the areas of education, public safety, the environment, and health and human needs;

ii. *Strengthening Communities*; and

iii. *Fostering Participant Development*.

b. Organizational Capacity (25%)

c. Budget/Cost-Effectiveness (15%)

#### **2. Factors That May Be Applied Within Each Category or Sub-Category**

Within each category or subcategory, the Corporation may apply the following factors, depending on the type of program and the nature of the application. While the majority of factors will apply to all programs supported by the Corporation, some may not, and each type of program may place a different emphasis on the respective factors. In addition, some of the factors may be used to assess program *outcomes* rather than initial applications for assistance. The Corporation will provide subsequent guidance in its application materials for each category of national service program, stating whether and how these factors will be applied.