

AN INTRODUCTION TO SERVICE PROGRAMS



Peace Corps

The Peace Corps is an international volunteer placement program with a two-year commitment. Their focus areas include: Agriculture, Community Economic Development, Education, Environment, Health, and Youth in Development.

- Volunteers receive a housing and living stipend that covers the cost of living in the area they are serving.
- The Peace Corps provides medical and dental care to volunteers throughout their service.
- Student loan forgiveness benefits—including deferment or partial cancellation—exist for some volunteers depending on their lender.
- Volunteers have the opportunity to complete a TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) Certificate, which can be used in a variety of settings and countries.
- The Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program offers reduced tuition, assistantships, and stipends at participating universities.
- Upon completion of two years of service, volunteers receive a \$10,000 (pre-tax) stipend.
- The Peace Corps provides career support for volunteers who transition back to their home country after completing their service, which includes resume help, career fairs, and access to job postings.
- Volunteers become part of a large network of professionals who have previously served.

AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps is a domestic service opportunity from three months to one year within a nonprofit, school, public agency, or a community or faith-based organization.

- While in service, volunteers are eligible for student loan deferment and interest forbearance for qualified loans.
- Upon the completion of service, volunteers receive an Education Award of approximately \$6,000.
- Some programs provide health care benefits or a stipend to purchase healthcare.
- Volunteers receive training specific to their program site at the beginning of their service as well as project-based training throughout.
- Most programs provide a small stipend to cover living expenses.
- Housing accommodations vary by site; some provide it while others do not.
- AmeriCorps has a large network of professionals that can aid in future career endeavors.

THERE ARE THREE PROGRAMS WITHIN AMERICORPS:

AmeriCorps NCCC: Full-time residential, team-based program for young adults to travel the country and complete hands-on projects (Traditional Corps and FEMA Corps)

AmeriCorps State and National: A variety of opportunities that are flexible and align with your interests while also meeting the needs of communities across the country

AmeriCorps VISTA: Focused on communities experiencing poverty, inequality, and unemployment





City Year (AmeriCorps Program)

City year is a domestic service opportunity for an 11 month commitment within a K-12 school in 29 different cities in the U.S. Volunteers work in conjunction with 6-12 AmeriCorps members as well as teachers, school stakeholders, and community members to support students in under-resourced communities. Volunteers provide support to students through relationship building, academic intervention, and mentoring within the classroom and through afterschool programs.

- Volunteers receive a biweekly stipend to cover living expenses; the amount varies depending on location.
- Each participant has pre-planned time off (up to 12 days) in addition to all major holidays.
- Upon the completion of service, volunteers receive the Segal Education Award (approximately \$6,000) to put toward college or existing student loans.
- Volunteers have access to exclusive scholarship opportunities.
- Health Insurance is provided throughout the time of service.
- Volunteers receive on-going leadership training throughout their placement.

Lutheran Volunteer Corps

LVC is a year-long volunteer commitment in a social justice organization. Volunteers live together in group homes to explore living sustainably and the ideas of spirituality and social justice.

- Throughout the year, volunteers participate in professional development focused on privilege and oppression.
- Health insurance is provided to all volunteers.
- Work-related transportation is eligible for reimbursement.
- Volunteers receive a stipend for living expenses and receive free, group housing.
- There are opportunities to regularly explore vocational discernment.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Find additional service programs and information at **Service Year!**

