

INTENT TO APPLY
FY 2021 Ohio AmeriCorps Notice of Funding Opportunity
Deadline for Feedback: March 12 by 5:00 pm EST

PURPOSE OF AMERICORPS FUNDING

AmeriCorps grants are awarded to eligible organizations that will engage multiple AmeriCorps members in evidence-based or informed interventions to strengthen communities. An AmeriCorps member is an individual who engages in community service through an approved AmeriCorps position.

This Intent to Apply pertains specifically to the Ohio AmeriCorps Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) Notice of Formula Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and Application Instructions. Review all [application materials](#) before submitting the Intent to Apply. An Intent to Apply is not required to submit an application.

2021 OHIO AMERICORPS FUNDING PRIORITIES

- Efforts to help local communities recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Programs that actively engage in removing structural racial inequities, advancing racial equality, and increasing opportunity to achieve sustainable change in communities.
- Economic Opportunity – program models that increase economic opportunities for communities by preparing people for the workforce; Increase access, information and/or resources to safe, healthy, affordable, and/or more efficient housing.
- Education programs using evidence-based interventions as described on the [CNCS Evidence Exchange](#) as being moderate or strong evidence.
- Environmental stewardship.
- Faith-based organizations providing any of the funding priorities.
- Healthy Futures – program models that reduce and/or prevent prescription drug and opioid abuse; Increase access to health information/knowledge, resources and/or services; Improve individual and/or community health conditions.
- Rural intermediaries - organizations that demonstrate measurable impact and primarily serve rural communities with limited resources and organizational infrastructure.
- Veterans and Military Families – program models that positively impact the quality of life of veterans and improves military family strength.

ELIGIBILITY

See the [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) for the list of entities eligible to apply. Receiving funding previously from CNCS/AmeriCorps or another federal agency is not a prerequisite to apply under this Notice. Applicants must request at least **5 Member Service Years (MSY)**. See the [NOFO and Application Instructions](#) for details.

Additionally, ServeOhio mandates the following eligibility conditions for all FY21 NOFO applicants:

- Current Program Year 2020 Ohio AmeriCorps Formula grantees that applied to the FY21 Competitive NOFO but are not selected, retain its current Formula funding cycle/year but *must submit* a FY21 Formula application, and meet all Formula application requirements, to be eligible for the FY21 Formula NOFO.
- Current 2020 Competitive programs re-competing in the FY21 Competitive NOFO *must be approved by ServeOhio* to apply to the FY21 Formula NOFO in the spring.
- For any applicant, if the FY21 Competitive and FY21 Formula applications are the same, the feedback from the FY21 Competitive review process will be considered for the FY21 Formula application review process.

INTENT TO APPLY INSTRUCTIONS

All applicants intending to apply are asked to complete Section I. An Intent to Apply is not required to be eligible for funding; however, ServeOhio reserves the right to ask any FY21 applicant (New, Renewal and Continuation requests) to complete and submit an Intent to Apply. Failure to comply with this request from ServeOhio may render an applicant ineligible to apply for FY21 Ohio AmeriCorps funding.

Section II is optional for NEW applicants applying for FY21 Competitive grant. A New applicant includes the following organizations: has never received Ohio AmeriCorps funding; does not currently have an AmeriCorps program; or has a current program and would like funding for a new initiative. If received by March 12, ServeOhio will provide Section II feedback.

SECTION I – Applicant Information

Organization Name (applicant):

Contact Person & Title:

Email Address:

Organization Address:

City/State/Zip

Telephone #:

The Applicant is a:

_____ State Agency

_____ Local Government

_____ Education Institution

_____ Nonprofit Organization

_____ Other:

Proposed Program’s Primary Focus Area(s) (check no more than two):

_____ Economic Opportunity

_____ Education

_____ Healthy Futures

_____ Environmental Stewardship

_____ Veterans and Military Families

_____ Disaster Services

FY21 Ohio AmeriCorps Funding Priority (see previous page), if applicable: _____

Number of Members Proposed to Serve in the Program (select all that apply):

_____ Full-time (1700 hours; 1.0 MSY)

_____ Three Quarter-time (1200 hours; .70 MSY)

_____ Half-time (900 hours; .50 MSY)

_____ Reduced Half-Time (675; .381 MSY)

_____ Quarter time (450 hours; .265 MSY)

_____ Minimum Time (300 hours; .212 MSY)

_____ Abbreviated Time (100 hours; .056 MSY)

***At minimum, proposals must include a total request of at least 5 Member Service Years (MSY)**

Type of Grant Request: Cost-Reimbursement _____ OR Fixed-Cost _____

Program representative(s) have completed the following –mark all as applicable:

_____ Attended the Introduction to AmeriCorps Webinar (January 29)

_____ Attended the Ohio AmeriCorps Application Overview Webinar (February 12)

_____ Attended the Grant Workshop for New and Renewal Applicants (February 24)

SECTION II –Program Narrative for New Applicants

Program Narrative Instructions:

- A response for each question is not required; however, provide as much detail as currently available.
- The Program Narrative should be no more than 4 pages in length, typed and double-spaced in Times New Roman, 12-point font size, one-inch margins with the first page on organizational letterhead.
- Number each response to the corresponding question and number each page of the Program Narrative.
- To receive Section II feedback from ServeOhio, submit Section I and II as a PDF via email to Mary Cannon at mary.cannon@serveohio.gov **no later than March 12, 2021 by 5:00 pm EST.**

✓ Within the guidelines above, answer as many questions as thoroughly as possible:

1. What is the community need or issue?
 - a. How do you know it exists and what is the cause?
2. What activity or service will the AmeriCorps members provide to address the community need/issue?
 - a. Where will the members provide the activity?
 - b. How often and how long will the activity take place?
3. Who will receive the proposed activities and how will they benefit?
 - a. Provide specifics for the targeted population, i.e. geographic location, education, etc.?
4. Are the proposed activities new?
 - a. If not, who or what organization/entity currently provides the activities?
5. How do you know the proposed member activity or service will address the community need/issue?
 - a. From prior success of your program? Another program?
 - b. From research-based and/or research-informed evidence?
6. What qualifications/education/experience will an AmeriCorps member need to provide the service?
 - a. From where will members be recruited?
7. What is the program timeline?
 - a. include specific start and end dates.
8. How will success be measured?
9. Describe your organization's capacity for governing financial and program operations
 - a. specifically detail any experience with management of local, state and/or federal grants.

An Intent to Apply that did not follow instructions, is received after the due date, or incomplete may not be reviewed.

Ohio AmeriCorps FY21 Formula Application Timeline 2021-2022 Program Year

1.15.21	Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) released Application materials are posted on the ServeOhio AmeriCorps Funding webpage
1.29.21	Introduction to AmeriCorps for NEW Applicants - Webinar 12:00-12:45 pm Introduction to AmeriCorps, Application Resources & Intent to Apply. RSVP is requested but not required - Click here to RSVP https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/129740077 If needed, dial-in number is 1 (669) 224-3412 with Access Code 129-740-077
2.12.21	Ohio AmeriCorps Application Overview - Webinar 12:00 -1:30 pm Application requirements, Notice of Funding Opportunity overview, Open Q/A RSVP is requested but not required – Click here to RSVP https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/699641109 If needed, dial-in number is 1 (646) 749-3122 with Access Code 699-641-109
2.24.21	Grant Workshop for New Applicants – In-Depth Application and NOFO Guidance All NEW applicants are strongly encouraged to attend some or all sessions. RSVP required by 2.22.21 to receive the log in information. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12:30 pm-1:45 pm: In-depth review of Application Criteria• 2:00 -2:45 pm: Budget Preparation and Requirements• 3:00-4:00 pm: Performance Measures, Best Practices and Questions
3.12.21	Last Day to submit the Intent to Apply for feedback. The Intent to Apply is not required to apply.
3.29-4.25.21	Application Black-Out Period – 2021 Application content will not be discussed. Technical assistance related to document submission may be provided.
4.7.2021	Applications Due by 5:00 pm EST
4.7-4.25.21	Staff and Peer Application Review
4.26-5.7.21	Clarification Period - Applicants should make themselves available.
5.13.21	Ohio Commission on Service and Volunteerism Commissioner Meeting
5.14-5.31.21	Notification of Funding
5.28.21	Applications Submitted to AmeriCorps Headquarters
Fall 2021	Funded Programs Begin Operation