



State of Alaska
Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic
Development
Division of Community and Regional Affairs
Serve Alaska, State Service Commission

**FY 2023 COMPETITIVE
AMERICORPS STATE AND NATIONAL GRANTS**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

**SOLICITATION NUMBER: 23AC-C
ASSISTANCE LISTING NUMBER: 94.006**

DATE OF ISSUE: August 15, 2022

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Program Description

This Serve Alaska RFP is an overview of the process for submitting AmeriCorps applications. The federal agency that oversees and funds AmeriCorps programs is the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). This RFP should be read in conjunction with the 2023 Notice of Funding Opportunity (*Notice*), the 2023 Mandatory Supplemental Information and the 2023 Application Instructions for a complete picture of the grant/application needs and expectations. The complete FY 2023 AmeriCorps State and National Grants funding opportunity documents can be found here: [FY 2023 AmeriCorps State and National Grants | AmeriCorps](#).

Purpose of AmeriCorps State and National Funding

AmeriCorps improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. AmeriCorps brings people together to tackle some of the country's most pressing challenges through national service and volunteerism. AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers serve with organizations dedicated to the improvement of communities and those serving. AmeriCorps helps make service a cornerstone of our national culture.

AmeriCorps grants are awarded to eligible organizations proposing to engage AmeriCorps members in evidence-based or evidence-informed interventions/practices to strengthen communities. An AmeriCorps member is an individual who engages in community service through an approved national service position. Members may receive a living allowance and other benefits while serving. Upon successful completion of their service, members earn a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award that they can use to pay for higher education expenses or apply to qualified student loans.

AmeriCorps Funding Priorities

AmeriCorps' priorities for this grant competition are:

AmeriCorps recently released its [2022-2026 Strategic Plan](#) which defines the agency's goals, objectives, and strategies to both meet and exceed the agency's mission to improve lives and strengthen communities. Over the next 5 years, AmeriCorps will execute the following goals to better position the agency to respond to national and local needs and help the communities it serves prosper: partner with communities to alleviate poverty and advance racial equity; enhance the experience for AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers; unite Americans by bringing them together in service; effectively steward federal resources; and make AmeriCorps one of the best and most equitable places to work in the federal government.

Over the next five years, AmeriCorps will invest in existing and new partnerships with nonprofit, faith-based, and Tribal organizations, and state service commissions, to get things done for America. We will prioritize investment in the most critical issues of our time — public health, climate and the environment, and education and economic opportunity — within AmeriCorps' Focus Areas ([Appendix I](#)) and we will increase our efforts to ensure our AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Senior volunteers reflect the communities where they serve. We will target our investments toward communities where the need is greatest, particularly those with populations that face racial inequality and poverty. These steps will enable more Americans than ever to strengthen the communities that need it most across the nation through their service.

AmeriCorps' priorities for this funding opportunity are:

- **New** Organizations leading service in communities with concentrated poverty, rural communities, tribal communities, and those organizations serving historically underrepresented and underserved individuals, including but not limited to communities of color, immigrants and refugees, people with disabilities, people who identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community, people with arrest and/or conviction records, and religious minorities;
- 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 and veteran families, caregivers, and survivors;
- Faith-based organizations;
- **New** Programs that provide additional benefits to AmeriCorps members aimed at enhancing member experience and bolstering member recruitment and retention such as paying more than the minimum living allowance, transportation, housing, food, etc.;
- **New** Programs that create workforce pathways for AmeriCorps members, including deliberate training, certifications, and hiring preferences or support; and
- Faith-based organizations communities.
- **New** Environmental Stewardship, including supporting communities to become more resilient through measures that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, conserve land and water, increase renewable energy use and improve at-risk ecosystems, especially in underserved households and communities.
- Economic Mobility Corps.

To receive priority consideration, applicants must show that the priority area is a significant part of the program focus and intended outcomes and must include a high-quality program design. Proposing programs that receive priority consideration does not guarantee funding.

Serve Alaska Funding Priorities

A prime focus of Serve Alaska, as directed by the agency's Commission, is to address the unmet needs of underserved communities. Reviewers will assess Program Design, particularly focusing on evidence-basis for the proposed solution(s) to the identified community problem(s), appropriateness of national service as a solution, and potential quality of the member experience; Organizational Capability; and Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy.

National Performance Measures

AmeriCorps expects applicants to use National Performance Measures as part of a comprehensive performance measurement strategy that relies on both performance and evaluation data to learn from their work and make tactical and strategic adjustments to achieve their goals.

All applications must include at least one aligned performance measure (output and outcome) that corresponds to the proposed primary intervention. This may be a National Performance Measure or an applicant-determined measure. For more information, please refer to the National Performance Measures Instructions.

Federal Award Information

Estimated Available Funds

AmeriCorps expects a highly competitive AmeriCorps grant competition. AmeriCorps reserves the right to prioritize providing funding to existing awards over making new awards. The actual level of funding is subject to the availability of annual appropriations.

Period of Performance

AmeriCorps anticipates making three-year grant awards. AmeriCorps generally makes an initial award for the first year of the period of performance, based on a one-year budget. Applicants must submit a one-year budget. Applicants may propose any program start date that aligns with their program design. Continuation awards for subsequent years are not guaranteed; they depend upon availability of appropriations and satisfactory performance.

Types of Grants

The only funding available with this RFP/ Notice are full programmatic AmeriCorps grants. AmeriCorps grants can be awarded on a Cost Reimbursement or Full-Cost Fixed amount basis. AmeriCorps will not provide both types of grants for the same project in one fiscal year. New applicants are eligible to apply for Cost Reimbursement grants but are not eligible to apply for Fixed Amount grants.

New or Re-Compete Applications: These types of programmatic grants are applying for first-year funding of a new program, or fourth-year funding of an existing program. Both types of grants will go through a competitive and complete review by Serve Alaska. If approved at the state level, the New/ Re-compete grants will go through a second review at the national level. Please consult the Application Instructions for more information.

Continuation Applications: Organizations that have AmeriCorps awards that are currently in their first or second year of operation must submit an application in order to be eligible to receive funding for the consecutive year. These grants only report on "continuation changes" (how the program is different from the previous year) and edit of the operating budget, if necessary. Performance Measure edits may be allowed. Please consult the Notice and Application Instructions for more information.

Eligibility Information

The following non-federal entities (all of which are defined in 2 CFR 200.1) are eligible to apply:

- Indian Tribes
- institutions of higher education
- local governments
- nonprofit organizations
- state service commissions

- states and US Territories

AmeriCorps encourages organizations that have not received prior funding from AmeriCorps to apply.

Member Living Allowance

A living allowance is not considered a salary or a wage. Programs are not required to provide a living allowance for members serving in less than full-time terms of service. If a program chooses to provide a living allowance to a less than full-time member, it must comply with the maximum limits in the table on page 15 of the Notice. For Cost Reimbursement grants, the amount must be included in the proposed budget as either AmeriCorps and/or grantee share.

While Fixed Amount grant applicants are not required to submit detailed budgets, they are still required to provide a living allowance to members that complies with the minimum and maximum requirements. Fixed Amount grant applicants should indicate that amount in the application.

Maximum Cost per Member Service Year (MSY)

The AmeriCorps cost per MSY is determined by dividing the AmeriCorps share of budgeted grant costs by the number of MSYs requested. It does not include childcare or the value of the education award a member may earn. The maximum amount an applicant may request from AmeriCorps per MSY is determined on an annual basis.

Segal AmeriCorps Education Award

AmeriCorps members who successfully complete a term of service will be eligible for an Education Award from the National Service Trust. The amount of the Education Award is linked to the value of the Pell Grant. A member has up to seven years their term of service to use the Education Award.

Cost Sharing or Matching

There is no cost share or matching requirement for Fixed Amount grants. AmeriCorps does not provide all the funds necessary to operate the program, therefore organizations should raise the additional revenue required to operate the program.

Cost Reimbursement Grant applicants are required to match funds based on the chart below. The applicant's match can be non-AmeriCorps cash and/or in-kind contributions. Applicants must indicate whether the match is proposed or secured. Applicants must demonstrate the ability to meet the match requirement at the time of application submission.

A first-time successful applicant is required to match at 24 percent for the first three-year funding period. Starting with year four, the match requirement gradually increases every year to 50 percent by year ten, according to the minimum overall share chart found in 45 CFR 2521.60 and below.

AmeriCorps Funding Year	1, 2, 3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10+
Grantee Share Requirements	24%	26%	30%	34%	38%	42%	46%	50%

Match Waiver

Please see the Match Waiver information for AmeriCorps State and National Grantees located on the AmeriCorps website's [Manage Your Grant](#) webpage.

Alternative Match

Under certain circumstances, applicants may qualify to meet alternative matching requirements that increase over the years to 35 percent instead of 50 percent as specified in the regulations 45 CFR 2521.60(b). To qualify, applicants must demonstrate that the proposed program is either located in a rural county or in a severely economically distressed community as defined in the Application Instructions. Applicants who plan to request an alternative match schedule must submit a request at the time the application is submitted. Programs applying through Serve Alaska must submit requests for alternative match to Serve Alaska, who will submit it to AmeriCorps on their behalf.

RFP Requirements:

The application deadline for this competition (new, re-compete and continuation applications) is **October 19, 2022 by 5:00 pm.**

State of Alaska Contact Person:

All correspondence having to do with this RFP shall be sent to:

Jill Furbish Grant Administrator II
Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development
Division of Community and Regional Affairs, Serve Alaska
550 W 7th Ave, Suite 1640
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3569
Serve.Alaska@alaska.gov
Phone: (907) 269-6720

AmeriCorps and Serve Alaska require that all applicants make every effort to submit their applications electronically utilizing the AmeriCorps's eGrants.

Notice of Intent to Apply (NOIA)

Each program that will be applying through Serve Alaska (re-competes and new applicants) for an AmeriCorps grant **must** complete a "Notice of Intent to Apply." Submit the NOIA utilizing the form attached to this RFP to: Serve.Alaska@alaska.gov.

This notice must include:

1. *Summary (one or two paragraphs) of what the program is proposing*
2. *Number of AmeriCorps members the program is expecting to enroll*
3. *Performance Measure(s)*
4. *A general budget (not detailed)*
5. *Estimated match source(s)*

The NOIA does not commit an organization to apply but ensures that agencies interested in applying receive all documents and information.

Mandatory Pre-Application Teleconference

A mandatory Pre-Application Teleconference for new and re-competing applications will be held on **August 29** at 10 AM.

Required Additional Documents: (due October 19, 2022 with Application)

- Serve Alaska Documents Checklist, completed
- Evidence Based evaluation reports/studies/briefs (new)
- Most recent single audit report or financial statements
- Operational and Financial Management Survey (OFMS)
- Theory of Change and Logic Model (new and re-competing)

Evaluation briefs, reports, studies

Please refer to the Mandatory Supplemental Information for detailed instructions on evidence-based programs by evidence tier.

Operational and Financial Management Survey

All applicants regardless of funding level are required to submit an Operational and Financial Management Survey (OFMS) located at: <https://americorps.gov/grantees-sponsors/manage-your-grant>. Please submit the OFMS as a Word document.

Theory of Change (TOC) and Logic Model

Each new or re-competing program that will apply, must submit a DRAFT Theory of Change and Logic Model with the application. A TOC Matrix form is attached to this RFP. If more TOC information is needed, please contact Serve Alaska. The TOC matrix may be submitted earlier than the due date. Serve Alaska will review the draft TOC document and help the applicant strengthen the TOC if necessary.

Do not submit any other supplementary materials such as videos, brochures, letters of support, or any other item not requested. Serve Alaska will not review or return them.

Requirement Specific for Serve Alaska State Programs

When submitting the required documents, use the relevant forms from the RFP packet to describe how you will fulfill any of the Serve Alaska requirements or focus areas.

Days of Service

Each year-round program is required to *organize* and have members participate in at least THREE National Days of Service during their program year. Ideally these National Days of Service, and/or AmeriCorps Member(s) would encourage esprit de corps among members. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service and September 11th Day of Service and Remembrance are required, with the third being the choice of the program. Less than year-round programs will have this requirement reduced by Serve Alaska on a sliding scale.

Staff Capacity

Serve Alaska requires one dedicated employee to manage the programmatic aspect of an AmeriCorps program of 10-20 AmeriCorps Members. The number of dedicated staff for larger than 20 Member programs will be assessed on a case by case basis. Dedicated staff must be clearly written in the grant and budget narratives.

Continuation Application Process

Timeline for 2023-24 Competitive Funding (FY23AC-C)	Dates
Serve Alaska RFP Released	August 15, 2022
Continuation Changes Due in eGrants by 5pm	October 19, 2022
Application Clarification Period	November 4-17, 2022
Applications Re-submitted in eGrants by 5pm	November 18, 2022
AmeriCorps Funding Announcements	Mid-April 2023

Programs that have current AmeriCorps State and National awards that will be in program Year 2 or Year 3 in FY 2023 are considered continuation applicants. Continuation applicants must submit an application in order to be eligible to receive funding for the FY 2023 program year. Continuation applicants must follow the requirements for continuation application content as outlined in the Application Instructions. Please see the Application Instruction for how to request Match Replacement funds and/or use of unexpended funds.

To be approved for continuation funding, recipients must demonstrate satisfactory performance with respect to key program goals and requirements, as well as compliance with the terms and conditions of the grant.

AmeriCorps reserves the right to award applications in an amount less than the requested level of funding and will document the rationale for doing so.

Timeline and Deadlines- New and Re-Compete

Request for Proposal (RFP) Timeline

Timeline for 2023-24 Competitive Funding (FY23AC-C)	Dates
Serve Alaska RFP Released	August 15, 2022
Notices of Intent to Apply Due by 5pm	August 25, 2022
Mandatory Pre-Application Teleconference	August 29, 2022
Applications Submitted to in eGrants by 5pm	October 19, 2022
Application Clarification Period	November 4-17, 2022
Applications Re-submitted in eGrants by 5pm	November 18, 2022
Commission Decision on Funding	December 7, 2022
Applicants Notified of Status	December 9, 2022
Appeals Due by 5pm	December 15, 2022
AmeriCorps Funding Announcements	Mid-April 2023

Deadlines

Deadlines listed in this RFP must be followed. If a deadline cannot be met, and prior to any deadline, applicants must submit an email explaining the extenuating circumstance which caused the delay. Such notice must be sent to Serve Alaska via email to serve.alaska@alaska.gov. If email is not available, use the phone number listed below in the Contact Person section. Missed deadlines are evaluated on a case-by-

case basis. Any exceptions/ approval of extension requires written approval by Serve Alaska.

New Application Process

Applicants will provide a document that outlines, addresses the Narrative Sections, Logic Model, and Performance Measures. The 2023 Application Instructions provides guidance on writing, developing the application.

Application Content

Complete applications must include the following elements:

- Standard Form 424 (SF-424) Face Sheet: This is automatically generated when applicants complete the data elements in the eGrants system.
- Narrative Sections:
 - Executive Summary: This is a brief description of the proposed program
 - Program Design
 - Organizational Capability
 - Cost-Effectiveness & Budget Adequacy
 - Evaluation Summary/Plan
- Logic Model
- Performance Measures
- Standard Form 424A Budget
- Continuation Changes
- Clarification
- Authorization, Assurances, and Certifications

Page Limits

There are page limits for the Narratives and Logic Model:

- Narratives
 - Applications must not exceed 10 double-spaced pages for the Narratives
 - The application sections that count towards the page limit are the:
 - SF-424 Face Sheet
 - Executive Summary
 - Program Design, Organizational Capability, and Cost-Effectiveness & Budget Adequacy narratives.
 - The application page limit does not include Evaluation Summary/Plan, Clarification Summary, Continuation Changes, Budget, Performance Measures, or any required additional documents.
- Logic Model may not exceed three pages when printed with the application from the “Review” tab in AmeriCorps’ web-based management system.

Application Review Process

Each applicant must describe a project that will deploy AmeriCorps members effectively to solve a significant community problem. Serve Alaska urges applicants to submit high quality applications that carefully follow the guidance in the *Notice* and the Application Instructions. The quality of an application will be an important factor in determining whether an organization will receive funding.

Applications should include a well-designed plan with clear and compelling justifications for receiving the requested funds. Reviewers will assess the quality of applications by using the selection criteria described below and will rate them accordingly. They will also consider the weights assigned to each criterion.

Review Criteria

Categories/Subcategories	Percentage
Executive Summary	0
Program Design	50
Theory of Change and Logic Model	24
Evidence Tier	12
Evidence Quality	8
Notice Priority	0
Member Experience	6
Organizational Capability	25
Organizational Background and Staffing	13
Compliance and Accountability	8
Member Supervision	4
Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy	25

Serve Alaska's Review Committee will review submitted applications and give feedback to the applicant. Some of the feedback requires edits to the application, while others are suggestions for strengthening. This process is called 'Application Clarification' (see timeline). During clarification, the applicant will take the Review Committee comments and incorporate them into the application.

After the applicant submits their application into AmeriCorps's eGrants, the Review Committee will assess the applications a final time to ensure required elements have been incorporated. The Review Committee will also ensure the scope of the project has not been substantially altered between the two submission times. The Review Committee, based on the content of the re-submitted application, will then recommend applications to advance to the national-competitive level.

Serve Alaska will not consider submitted material that is over the page limits in the printed application, even if AmeriCorps's eGrants allows an applicant to enter and submit text over the limit. This applies to both the application page limit and the logic model page limit. Do not submit other items not requested in the RFP, Serve Alaska will not review or return them.

Pre-Award Risk Assessment

Risk assessments are a requirement under 2 CFR 200 regulations. The information contained in the assessment is intended to help the Commission understand the agency/organization and to evaluate its overall operational and financial controls.

Serve Alaska will conduct a pre-award risk assessment regarding financial and organizational capacity to administer federal grants with each new agency submitting an AmeriCorps application for funding. Serve Alaska will review all assessments prior to awarding a grant. If Serve Alaska determines that an applicant's operational and financial controls are deficient, the Commission may postpone the grant award until

sufficient corrective action is completed or may refrain from awarding the grant altogether. Monitoring timelines will be created in consideration of pre-award risk assessment results.

Federal Award Administration Information

Federal Award Notices

AmeriCorps will make awards following the selection announcement. AmeriCorps anticipates announcing the results of this funding opportunity by mid-April 2023 contingent on the availability of congressional appropriations. All applicants, successful or not, will be notified of funding decisions via email.

Notification of an award is not an authorization to begin activities. The Notice of Grant Award signed by the Office of Grant Administration is the authorizing document. An awardee may not expend Federal Funds until the start of the Period of Performance identified on the Notice of Grant Award.

Administrative and National Policy Requirements

All awards made under this Notice will be subject to the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance) in [2 CFR Part 200](#) and [2205](#).

Documents that Govern the Grant

The Notice of Grant Award incorporates the approved application as part of a binding commitment under the grant as well as the AmeriCorps regulations and grant provisions. Serve Alaska RFP and Grant Agreement are also included in the governing documents.

AmeriCorps Terms and Conditions

All awards made under this Notice will be subject to the FY 2023 AmeriCorps General Terms and Conditions, and the FY 2023 AmeriCorps Program Specific Terms and Conditions for the particular program (when applicable). These Terms and Conditions contain detailed, mandatory compliance and reporting requirements. Current versions of the AmeriCorps General and Program Specific Terms and Conditions for each of its programs is available at: <https://www.americorps.gov/grantees-sponsors/state-subgrantees>.

National Service Criminal History Check Requirements

See [45 CFR 2540.200–2540.207](#) and [National Service Criminal History Check Resources](#) for complete information and FAQs.

The National Service Criminal History Check (NSCHC) is a specific screening procedure established by law to protect the beneficiaries of national service. We encourage grantees to minimize barriers to service without putting their program beneficiaries at genuine risk.

- In general, award recipients and subrecipients must conduct an NSCHC for AmeriCorps members, AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers, and staff funded under, or whose salary is reflected as match on, the award.
- AmeriCorps strongly encourages applicants to review the regulations and additional guidance to fully understand how to comply with the requirements.

See the [NSCHC Regulations and Guidance](#). AmeriCorps also strongly encourages funded applicants to utilize the two AmeriCorps-approved vendors to conduct the required NSCHCs.

- Failure to conduct a compliant NSCHC may result in significant disallowed costs.
- The cost of conducting NSCHC is an allowable expense under the award and the individual subject to the NSCHC may not be required to cover the cost without being reimbursed.

A NSCHC consists of a check of the:

1. National Sex Offender Public website through [NSOPW.gov](#) (nationwide check);
2. State criminal history record repository or agency-designated alternative for the individual's State of residence *and* State of service; and
3. Fingerprint-based check of the FBI criminal history record database through the State criminal history record repository or agency-approved vendor.

All checks must be conducted, reviewed, and an eligibility determination made before the individual begins work or service.

An individual is not eligible to serve or work in a position subject to the NSCHC requirements if:

- the individual refuses to consent to a criminal history check;
- makes a false statement in connection with a criminal history check;
- is registered, or is required to be registered, on a state sex offender registry or the National Sex Offender Registry; or
- has been convicted of murder.

Reporting

Once the grant is awarded, subrecipients will be expected to have in place data collection and data management policies, processes, and practices that provide assurance that they are reporting high quality performance measure data. At a minimum, subrecipients should have policies, processes, and practices that address the following five aspects of data quality for subrecipients:

- data measures what it intends to measure
- data reported is complete
- subgrantee collects data in a consistent manner
- subgrantee takes steps to correct data errors
- subgrantee actively reviews data for accuracy prior to submission.

Appeal Process

In the event the Commission does not recommend funding an application, or a deadline has been missed, the following appeal procedure must be followed. All correspondence must be sent to the contact person listed above.

The appeal procedure of Serve Alaska is as follows:

Missed Deadline:

- A request for appeal of a missed deadline must be made prior to the missed deadline.
 - Appeals must be sent via email to the Contact person listed above.

Funding:

Serve Alaska will notify proposal applicants of the Application Review results and potential funding recommendations.

- If the applicant has substantive objections to the results of the Application Review Group and/ or the Commission decision, the applicant may request an appeal.
- A request for appeal must be made to the Chair of Serve Alaska by the due date noted in this RFP.
 - Appeals must be sent via email to the Contact person listed above.
- If a request for an appeal is made, Serve Alaska shall hear such additional information as may be deemed appropriate and pertinent to the matter involved. A delegation of not more than three representatives of the requesting applicant may present such additional information. In its discretion, Serve Alaska may invite discussion or comments from others knowledgeable in the matter being appealed.
- Serve Alaska shall send to the applicant and others as deemed appropriate, its written determination pursuant to the request for appeal. The Chair's determination shall be final.
- If an application, which has previously been rejected by Serve Alaska, is submitted for future funding in a substantially altered condition, Serve Alaska shall treat this grant as a new grant request, and all policies and procedures relating to a new grant will apply.

Mandatory Online Resources/References

The 2023 AmeriCorps State and National Grants Competition funding opportunity and related resources is found here: <https://americorps.gov/funding-opportunity/fy-2023-ameri-corps-state-national-grants>.

2023 Notice of Funding Opportunity The *Notice* is a **MUST** read for applicants. Any instructions that are not contained in the Application Instructions are included in the *Notice*. The *Notice* explains in more detail Performance Measures, the Tier status of funding priorities and other important, specific grant information. The *Notice* includes deadlines, eligibility requirements, submission requirements, maximum amount of funding per Member Service Year (MSY), and other information that is specific to the grant competition.

2023 Application Instructions This is a **MUST** read – this document has all the details needed to submit a complete and nationally competitive application. Any details that are not included on this document are included in AmeriCorps's Application Instructions. Use these instructions in conjunction with the *Notice*, and the AmeriCorps Regulations, 45 CFR 2520–2550. Be sure to use the timeline in this RFP only, if submitting grants to Serve Alaska.

2023 Performance Measure Requirements This a **MUST** read for those that are creating or changing their measures. All applications must include at least one aligned performance measure (output paired with outcome) that corresponds to the proposed primary intervention. This may be a National Performance Measure or an applicant-determined measure depending on the program's Theory of Change. Applications may also include National Performance Measure outputs without associated outcome(s) provided that the output measures a significant program activity. These output-only measures do not fulfill the requirement for an aligned performance measure, but may be selected in addition to the aligned measure(s).

All performance measures must reflect significant program activities whose outputs and outcomes are consistent with the applicant's core Theory of Change. Applicants are not expected to have performance measures for every program activity. AmeriCorps does not require applicants to use National Performance Measures but expects them to do so if National Performance Measures reflect key outputs and/or outcomes of the Theory of Change. Applicants may not create applicant determined outputs or outcomes that duplicate existing National Performance Measures.

All performance measures, including output-only measures, must be associated with one or more interventions (service activities). Applicants are expected to use the system-defined intervention categories if they appropriately represent the applicant's program activities. Applicants may not create user-defined intervention labels that duplicate existing intervention categories.

2023 Mandatory Supplemental Information This is a **MUST** read. The Supplemental Information is intended to provide applicants with additional information for the preparation of their applications under the *Notice*. The Supplemental Information provides both detailed definitions of certain terms included in the *Notice*, as well as additional details regarding how to properly file an application under the *Notice*. This Supplemental Information is incorporated by reference in the *Notice*, and applicants must comply with any requirements stated in this Supplemental Information.

New AmeriCorps eGrants Account (<https://egrants.cns.gov/espan/main/login.jsp>) Applicants will need to do this to apply, if one doesn't exist for your organization.

Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

All applicants **must** register with the System for Award Management (SAM) at <https://www.sam.gov/SAM/> and maintain an active SAM registration until the application process is complete. If an applicant is awarded a grant, it must maintain an active SAM registration throughout the life of the award. See the [SAM Quick Guide for Grantees](#).

SAM registration must be renewed annually. AmeriCorps suggests that applicants finalize a new registration or renew an existing one at least three weeks before the application deadline, to allow time to resolve any issues that may arise.

Applicants must use their SAM-registered legal name and physical address on all grant applications. The legal applicant's name and physical address in eGrants must match exactly the applicant's SAM-registered information.

AmeriCorps will not make awards to entities that do not have a valid SAM registration and Unique Entity Identifier. If an applicant has not fully complied with these requirements by the time AmeriCorps is ready to make a federal award, AmeriCorps may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award and use that determination as a basis for making a federal award to another applicant.

Applications must include an Employer Identification Number.

Applications must include a valid Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), which is generated as part of the SAM registration process.

Selection for Funding

Strategic Considerations

The review and selection process are designed to:

- identify how well eligible applications are aligned with the [application selection criteria](#)
- build a diversified portfolio based on the following strategic considerations:
 - AmeriCorps Funding Priorities
 - meaningful representation of
 - rural communities
 - innovative community strategies
 - CEO discretion to advance strategic goals

Applicants must check the relevant boxes in the Program Information tab in eGrants in order to be considered for AmeriCorps's assessment of the strategic considerations. Applicants should only check the boxes if the strategic consideration is a significant and intentional part of their program design and if implementation strategies are described in the application.

In selecting applicants to receive awards under this Notice, the Chief Executive Officer will endeavor to include a diverse portfolio of applications based on staff recommendations, alignment with selection criteria, and strategic considerations.

Appendix I – AmeriCorps Focus Areas

The National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended by the Serve America Act, emphasizes measuring the impact of service and focusing on a core set of issue areas. In order to carry out Congress's intent and to maximize the impact of investment in national service, and to achieve the goals laid out in our Strategic Plan (2022-2026), AmeriCorps has the following Focus Areas:

Disaster Services

Helping individuals and communities prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of disasters and increase community resiliency.

Economic Opportunity

Improving the economic well-being and security of underserved individuals.

Education

Improving educational outcomes for underserved people, especially children. AmeriCorps is particularly interested in program designs that support youth engagement and service learning as strategies to achieve high educational outcomes.

Environmental Stewardship

Supporting communities to become more resilient through measures that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, conserve land and water, increase renewable energy use and improve at-risk ecosystems, especially in underserved households and communities.

Healthy Futures

Supporting for health needs within communities, including mitigating the impacts of COVID-19 and other public health crises, access to care, aging in place, and addressing childhood obesity, especially in underserved communities.

Veterans and Military Families

Improving the quality of life of veterans, military families, caregivers, and survivors.