



AmeriCorps

PCEI AmeriCorps Program

Sponsor Applicant Fact Sheet

What is AmeriCorps?

AmeriCorps is the federal agency for national service and volunteerism. National service connects over 200,000 individuals with organizations each year to help communities tackle their toughest challenges. Organizations may apply and be awarded an AmeriCorps grant to assist in recruiting, training, and placing AmeriCorps members to address a community need in the area of economic opportunity, education, environmental stewardship, disaster response, healthy futures, or veterans and military families.

What is PCEI?

The Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute (PCEI) mission is to increase citizen involvement in decisions that affect our region's environment. Based in Moscow, Idaho, PCEI provides community organizing and environmental education to engage members of the community in making environmentally sound and economically viable decisions that promote a sustainable future. To help achieve this vision, PCEI has developed an AmeriCorps program to place AmeriCorps members in organizations focused on environmental education throughout Idaho.

Our program helps provide the means for organizations like yours to educate and engage your community about their relationship to the environment.

What is an AmeriCorps Member?

AmeriCorps Members are individuals who put their values into action by choosing to serve with AmeriCorps programs. PCEI, an AmeriCorps State Program, hosts and places Members in positions that focus on making a positive impact in relation to the environment. Members may be 17 years of age and older and come from varying social, cultural, economic and educational backgrounds. Members receive modest benefits, including a living allowance, and may be eligible to receive an education award upon successful completion of their term.



AmeriCorps

What is an AmeriCorps Sponsor?

An AmeriCorps Sponsor is a non-profit organization, school or government agency that hosts an AmeriCorps Member during their term of service. A prospective Sponsor may submit an application to the PCEI AmeriCorps Program that describes the need and plan for hosting an AmeriCorps Member. Over the course of a member's term, the Sponsor ensures a meaningful service experience. This includes a well-defined and impactful project, professional development opportunities, and mentoring and supervisory support for the Member. PCEI AmeriCorps provides oversight and additional administrative support for the Sponsor and Member experience.

AN IDEAL SPONSOR:

- Creates a well-defined project with measurable goals and outcomes.
- Organizes adequate Member workspace, resources and training.
- Provides ongoing mentoring and supervision.

TO SPONSOR AN AMERICORPS MEMBER YOU MUST BE:

- Located in the state of Idaho, and
- A 501(c)(3) community-based organization, or
- A school, school district or educational service district, or
- A government agency (city, county, regional, state, or federal) ...

Sponsor Project Considerations

The PCEI AmeriCorps Program places AmeriCorps Members in organizations whose goal is to educate and engage communities in positive and beneficial environmentally focused practices, to protect Idaho's natural resources and maintain our safety and quality of life.

PCEI's goals include:

- Informing and educating community members of all ages on issues of the environment.
- Encouraging active participation in sustainable living and caring for the environment.
- Providing opportunities for service in conservation, preservation and restoration of the environment.
- Encouraging dialogue around environmental issues that affect the community.



AmeriCorps

Projects that enlist PCEI AmeriCorps Members should be designed to:

- Provide education and direct experience so residents of all ages gain knowledge to make informed decisions addressing critical environmental issues in a real-world context.
- Provide opportunities for Members and the community to complete restoration activities that lead to the protection and enhancement of our lands and waterways.

Projects in which PCEI AmeriCorps Members have participated include:

- Environmental education and outreach programming involving schools or community groups.
- Sustainable land use planning and community development projects.
- Restoration of watersheds, wetlands, forests, and wildlife habitat.
- Stewardship advocacy and guided interpretation of natural spaces.
- Collaborating with community partners to plan events and create programming.
- Engaging volunteers in restoration/stewardship activities.

PCEI AmeriCorps will provide the following administrative support and guidance:

- Assisting the Sponsor in recruiting, interviewing, and selecting qualified Members.
- Providing orientation and programmatic training for Members and their Supervisors.
- Providing opportunities for personal and professional development.
- Managing Member payroll, benefits and fiscal reporting.
- Ongoing support via team meetings, site visits, and periodic evaluations.

Key Factors Impacting Project Success

The questions and information below will help prospective sponsors evaluate their current project idea, location, and resources to ensure that they can meet the requirements of hosting a member with our program.

Costs

SLOT TYPE (PROJECT HOURS)	MIN TERM LENGTH	SPONSOR FEE	IN-KIND MATCH: SUPERVISOR TIME
1700-HR	11 months	\$12,000	\$3,960
1200-HR	8 months	\$8,400	\$2,772
900-HR	5.5 months	\$6,000	\$1,980
675-HR	4 months	\$4,560	\$1,504.80
450-hr	3 months	\$3,120	\$1,029.60
300-hr	2 months	\$2,520	\$831.60



AmeriCorps

Commitments

- An experienced and committed Supervisor.
- An environment that supports AmeriCorps culture and expectations.
- A workspace designated for the AmeriCorps Member.
- A desire to support the Member to successfully complete their term of service.

Quality of Project

- Does your project meet an environmental need and have a community involvement component?
- Does your project involve environmental education for community members?
- Does your project involve hands-on restoration activities?
- Will your project engage local volunteers?

Organizational Capacity

- Is your organization a public school, nonprofit or government agency?
- Is your organization based in the State of Idaho?
- Who will be the Supervisor? Do they have the time, ability, and project expertise to effectively mentor and supervise a Member?
- Do you have appropriate workspace and resources for the Member to carry out the project?

Evaluation

- How will you determine if your placement is successful?
- How will your Member succeed in achieving identified outcomes?

Sustainability

- What is your long-term plan or vision for the project?
- Who will take on the project after AmeriCorps support has ended?

Staff Displacement

****AmeriCorps Member(s) CAN NOT, MUST NOT, AND WILL NOT displace or replace staff within your organization.***



AmeriCorps

PCEI is an equal opportunity employer and does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of Ethnicity, race, age, gender, gender identification, gender expression, sexual orientation, national origin, income, educational background, work experience, appearance, relationship or family status, political affiliation, religion, or the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability. If you believe that you or others have been discriminated against, or if you want more information, please contact us.

Questions? Please contact PCEI AmeriCorps Program Director
Courtney Warner (courtneywarner@pceiamericorps.org)
208-882-1444