

Questions and Answers for RFP #1110 AmeriCorps Competitive and PHA

This RFP is for new and re-competing applicants in the third and final year of a competitive funding cycle and applying for a new Competitive grant cycle AND applicants that are applying for a new PHA funding cycle. Continuation applicants were sent separate instructions via email and do not need to respond to this RFP. If you did not receive these instructions, please reach out to your Program Administrator. All questions received that pertain to individual continuation requests, have been answered directly.

New York State Commission of National and Community Resources

Programmatic and Evidence Information Session: [Recorded Webinar](#) / [PowerPoint](#)

Technical Requirement Information Session: [Recorded Webinar](#) / [PowerPoint](#)

AmeriCorps Resources

[Technical Assistance Calls and Webinars](#) / [Evidence Exchange](#)

Q1	In reviewing the recent RFP, I did not see a cap on the number of AmeriCorps/PH AmeriCorps fellows you could propose to hire or the total amount of funding you could request. Please confirm this is unlimited.
A1	As per Section 4.2 of the RFP, AmeriCorps's general practice is to award no more than fifty (50) member positions (slots) to organizations receiving an AmeriCorps grant for the first time.
Q2	Is it allowed to ask for funds to support program administration staff and OTPS?
A2	Yes. Please see 2023 ASN Application Instructions for the budget instructions for both ASN and PHA applicants.
Q3	Can we apply our federally approved indirect cost rate?
A3	Yes, please see section 4.2.A.vi of the RFP for additional information.
Q4	I am also curious if as an accredited public school of public health, we could substitute our own certificate program for the Cornell public health essentials course that the fellows are required to take?
A4	Applicants applying for Public Health AmeriCorps (PHA) funding are required to budget for the Cornell Public Health Essentials course; however, if funded the Commission will work with awarded programs on the specifics of this requirement. Please see section 5.3 of the RFP.
Q5	May Teachers College, Columbia University apply for national Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 AmeriCorps State and National Grants 94.006?
A5	Please see Section 3.1 Minimum Qualifications, for eligibility requirements.
Q6	Do we need to submit new User Authorization forms if our staff is already enrolled in CMS?

A6	No. If your program has an existing CMS account and there are no changes to staff or their current roles, you do not need to submit a new user authorization form.										
Q7	In order to accommodate expected annual cost of living increases, may applicants request more funding for their proposal in subsequent years?										
A7	Yes, both PHA and ASN Competitive applicants can refer to ASN FY23 Application Instructions for additional information on expansion requests. Application instructions include requirements each year.										
Q8	I see PHA funding caps provided for MSY and members (see below) and I just want to make sure that there is no salary restriction for personnel cost. 8. PHA - Maximum Cost Per MSY for Cost Reimbursement is \$28,800 9. PHA - The Minimum Living Allowance for Full-time members is \$17,600 10. PHA - The Maximum Total Living Allowance for Full-time members is \$35,200 11. PHA - Additional Slot Types available: Quarter-time (450 hrs.), Minimum-time (300 hrs.) and Abbreviated-time (100 hrs).										
A8	That is correct. There are no salary restrictions for personnel costs.										
Q9	The PHA NOFO indicates that there is no cost-share required; yet, the budget instructions mention a match requirement of 24% of program costs. Can this requirement be waived? Please clarify.										
	<p style="text-align: center;">Table 2: Match Requirements in the AmeriCorps Regulations</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Grant Type</th> <th>Match Requirement</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cost Reimbursement including States and Territories without Commissions, Native Nations</td> <td>Minimum grantee share is 24% of program costs for the first three years. Overall grantee share of total program costs increases gradually beginning in year four to 50% by the tenth year of funding and any year thereafter.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EAP Fixed Amount Grants</td> <td>There are no specific match requirements for fixed amount grants. Grantees pay all program costs over the cost in the Notice provided by AmeriCorps.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Professional Corps Fixed Amount Grants</td> <td>There are no specific match requirements for fixed amount grants. Grantees pay all program costs over the cost in the Notice provided by AmeriCorps.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Stipended Fixed Amount Grants</td> <td>There are no specific match requirements for full-cost fixed amount grants. Grantees pay all program costs over the maximum cost in the Notice provided by AmeriCorps.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Grant Type	Match Requirement	Cost Reimbursement including States and Territories without Commissions, Native Nations	Minimum grantee share is 24% of program costs for the first three years. Overall grantee share of total program costs increases gradually beginning in year four to 50% by the tenth year of funding and any year thereafter.	EAP Fixed Amount Grants	There are no specific match requirements for fixed amount grants. Grantees pay all program costs over the cost in the Notice provided by AmeriCorps.	Professional Corps Fixed Amount Grants	There are no specific match requirements for fixed amount grants. Grantees pay all program costs over the cost in the Notice provided by AmeriCorps.	Stipended Fixed Amount Grants	There are no specific match requirements for full-cost fixed amount grants. Grantees pay all program costs over the maximum cost in the Notice provided by AmeriCorps.
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A9	As per the PHA NOFO p. 8 C.2 and Section 4.1.A.v., Public Health AmeriCorps (PHA) programs have no matching requirements. The information in Table 2, pertains to ASN applicants only.										
Q10	I did not see a budget cap. Would you please confirm that there is no cap?										
A10	There is no budget cap; however, there is a cap on the amount of federal grants funds per MSY, see Section 4.2A.iii. Please also see A1.										
Q11	As an ASN applicant who is required to provide match, can we request a match waiver for the 2023 grant cycle?										
A11	Yes, ASN applicants required to provide match will be able to request a match waiver . For additional information, please see AmeriCorps FAQ and AmeriCorps webpage under Manage Your Grant										
Q12	Is it necessary to budget for member’s health care costs if none of these funds were ever utilized in previous grant cycles?										

A12	Yes, however funds can be re-budgeted if members don't require insurance once serving.
Q13	Do public entities like municipal housing authorities have to pre-qualify through Grants Gateway?
A13	No. Governmental and Sovereign Entities (including other states and federal agencies), Department of Transportation/Thruway/Canals – railroad/utility reimbursement, Public Colleges and Universities (does not include Cornell University), Preferred Source purchases, Public Corporations (e.g., public authorities, public benefit corporations, industrial development agencies), and Research Foundations are exempt from this requirement . A complete list of exempt entities is provided online at: https://www.osc.state.ny.us/vendrep/resources_docreq_agency.htm
Q14	Are there any M/WBE certification requirements for AmeriCorps contracts?
A14	All applicants are required to submit an OCFS-3460, Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE) Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Policy Statement, by the deadline for submission of proposals in eGrants. Please see section 8.0 of the RFP for documents required with bid submission.
Q15	Do grantees have to attach any evaluation study or document?
A15	Requirements differ depending on which grant they are applying for. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASN applicants use the NOFO here under E.1.e. Evaluation Plan, for submission requirements and instructions. • PHA applicants use the NOFO here under E.1.e. Evaluation Plan, for submission requirements and instructions.