



Georgia<sup>®</sup> Department of  
**Community Affairs**

The background features a series of concentric, overlapping circles in shades of light green and white, creating a sense of depth and movement. The circles are centered on the page and expand outwards towards the edges.

**2024 AmeriCorps  
Application  
NOFO Workshop**



Still  
thin  
for

**Welcome and Happy 30<sup>th</sup> to AmeriCorps!**



# Housekeeping

Questions are encouraged, but I ask you to hold them until the end of presentation.

Feel free to use the chat box at any time and I promise to address all questions and comments, in the chat box, at the end of the presentation.

If you prefer, at the end of the presentation, to ask verbal questions you may unmute your microphone and ask your question(s).

This webinar is being recorded. You should receive a link to the recording after the webinar. If you do not, you may contact us at [AmeriCorpsGA@dca.ga.gov](mailto:AmeriCorpsGA@dca.ga.gov).

If you have additional questions after this webinar and, after you've viewed all of the webinars and printed materials at <https://www.americorps.gov/funding-opportunity/fy-2024-ameri-corps-state-national-grants>, please feel free to email us at [AmeriCorpsGA@dca.ga.gov](mailto:AmeriCorpsGA@dca.ga.gov).



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## About me...

- **Linda Thompson,**
  - 2003-2014 Executive Director of the Missouri Commission for Service and Volunteerism
  - 2014 – Present Executive Director of Georgia Serves AKA Georgia Commission for Service and Volunteerism
  - Degrees:
    - Master of Business Administration from Lincoln University
    - Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems from Columbia College
    - Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Alcorn State University

# Georgia Serves' Mission

Georgia Serves is a catalyst to address critical needs in Georgia by working with AmeriCorps and community partners.

- We create and promote opportunities for Georgians to serve.
- We support organizations that use volunteer service to solve Georgia's community problems.
- We make sure the investment in volunteer service is protected and managed well.

# About Georgia Serves

- Established in 1994
- Housed within the Georgia Department of Community Affairs
- Currently composed of 5 full-time staff
- Board of directors composed of 15-25 governor-appointed board members
- Passthrough agency for AmeriCorps federal funds in Georgia
- On the average, oversees between 19-20+ federally funded programs annually
- Receives AmeriCorps federal funds based on a population-based formula – hence formula funds. FY23 allocation was \$5,475,599



# AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps is the federal agency for national service and volunteerism. AmeriCorps provides opportunities for Americans of all backgrounds to serve their country, address the nation's most pressing challenges, and improve lives and communities.

## **AmeriCorps' Mission**

To improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering.



# Pre-requisites...

AmeriCorps hosted technical assistance webinars for applicants to answer questions about the funding opportunity and eGrants.

These informational sessions were recorded and can be found here: [americorps.gov/funding-opportunity/fy-2024-americorps-state-national-grants](https://americorps.gov/funding-opportunity/fy-2024-americorps-state-national-grants).

Review ALL materials at this link including the Information Sessions.

# Before you start....

- From page 13 of the NOFO
  - Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)
  - System for Award Management (SAM)
- Establish an eGrants Account
  - [eGrants.cns.gov](https://eGrants.cns.gov)



# Additional Documents to submit with the application

## Operational and Financial Management Survey (OFMS)

This survey is intended to collect information about the capacity of applicants to manage federal grant funds.

## Immigration Affidavit

This is required of all applicants for an AmeriCorps grant as referenced in O.C.G.A. § 50-36-1, from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA).

See the “Notice of Funding Opportunity” page 4 for a complete list of other additional documents.

All additional documents are due by February 15<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm

## Eligible Applicants

501(c)3 Non-profit organizations

Indian Tribes

Local Governments

Educational Institutions

# Grant Types

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## **Operational Grants:**

Existing and new applicants proposing to engage AmeriCorps Members in evidence-based or evidence-informed interventions and practices to strengthen communities.

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## **Planning Grants:**

New applicants who plan to provide support to develop an AmeriCorps program that will engage AmeriCorps member in implementing evidence-based interventions to solve community problems. Planning grants may not be used to support AmeriCorps Members.

# Formula Applicants

Maximum Cost/MSY = \$27,000 for FT Members

Match is required

Minimum Living Allowance = \$18,700 and maximum living allowance \$37,400 for FT Members

Must read the NOFO, Application Instructions, Mandatory Supplemental Information, FAQs, etc.

Note that **Planning Grants** will have no AmeriCorps Members and the maximum award will be \$75,000

# Funding Priorities

All priorities set forth by AmeriCorps - Can be found on pages 4-5 of the NOFO

## Georgia Serves Funding Priorities:

- **Educators in Rural Communities** - organizations placing AmeriCorps members as tutors and/or individuals as teachers in rural schools and communities.
- **Homelessness** – As described in the preamble of the HUD Final Rule Defining Homelessness, the final rule establishes four categories of homelessness. These categories are as follows:
  - Individuals and families who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes a subset for an individual who is exiting an institution where he or she resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter, or a place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution.
  - Individuals and families who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence;
  - Unaccompanied youth and families with children and youth who are defined as homeless under other federal statutes who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition; or
  - Individuals and families who are fleeing, or are attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member.
- **Human Sex Trafficking** – As defined by the Advocates for Human Rights. Human sex trafficking is a form of slavery and involuntary servitude resulting in grave human rights violations. Sex trafficking involves individuals profiting from the sexual exploitation of others and has severe physical and psychological consequences for its victims.
- **Rural Communities** - those communities with a population of less than 50,000 and where the poverty percentage is 10% or greater.

# Georgia-Specific Timeline

## Application Deadline

February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 3:00  
p.m. EST

No Exceptions

Must be submitted via  
eGrants

Strongly encouraged to  
submit early

**No** Hand Deliveries

**No** email Attachments

**No** Mail-in Applications

## Funding Recommendation/ Notification

Board will vote on  
applications to be funded in  
May 2024. Applicants will be  
notified prior to May 31,  
2024

Recommendations will be  
submitted to AmeriCorps in  
June 2024

Award, denial, and feedback  
letters will be sent to all  
applicants in May or June,  
2024.

Clarification letters may be  
sent to applicants, as  
needed, between April-June,  
2024.

## Award Date

AmeriCorps will issue  
awards to successful  
applicants by mid-July 2024



# Additional Documents

- **Send to:**

- [AmeriCorpsGA@dca.ga.gov](mailto:AmeriCorpsGA@dca.ga.gov)
- Subject Line: “*Legal Applicant Name*” – “*Application ID Number.*” Emails should include:
  - legal applicant’s name and point of contact information
  - application ID number
  - list of documents attached to the email by filename
  - If the size of an applicant’s files requires multiple emails, please also include an ordering system in the subject line, such as “(1 of 3)”

- **Deadline:**

- Same as for the application: February 15, 2024 at 3:00 pm

- **Documents:**

- Evaluation briefs, reports, studies (if applicable)
- Labor union concurrence (if applicable)
- Operational and Financial Management Survey (OFMS).
- Financial statements and/or Most recent audit
- Documentation verifying Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate (if applicable)
- Memorandums of Agreement/Understanding – written confirmation when partnering with other sites or entities
- Immigration Affidavit (O.C.G.A. 50-36-1(e)(1) <https://www.dca.ga.gov/node/6055>)
- Logic Model – sometimes eGrants is tricky. **If** eGrants cuts off a portion of the logic model, you may submit a “Word” version with “Additional Documents”. You are still bound by the maximum number of pages as stated in the NOFO.

# Georgia-Specifics Processes

Background activities taking place from May - July, 2024 while anticipating awards by AmeriCorps. You will want to make sure we have correct contact information.

## Funding Decisions

Applications distributed to reviewers who are given up to 30 days to read and score them.

## Clarifications

If reviewers and/or staff have questions or need clarification, you will be contacted using the contact info provided on the face sheet of your application.

## Award Letters

Once the reviewers make funding recommendations, those recommendations will be placed before the board for voting and letters will be sent.

## Grant Agreements

While awaiting award notifications from AmeriCorps, grant agreements will be populated and sent for electronic signatures. You will be contacted in advance to determine the signatories.

# Other Georgia-Specifics

- **No late applications will be accepted.**
- **First time, new applicants** must apply for 5-10 MSY
- **No program should plan to start before August 1, 2024**
- All **new programs** must place the word “**AmeriCorps**” in the **Descriptive Title of Applicant’s Project in Section 11.a** of the face sheet.
- All Georgia Serves **planning grant applicants** must have the words “AmeriCorps Georgia Planning Grant” in the “**Descriptive Title of Applicant’s Project**” in section 11.a. of the Face Sheet.
- Planning Grants may be awarded up to \$75,000 for up to 12 months. Planning grants do not support AmeriCorps Members.
- **ALL** applicants must use their SAM registered name as their “**LEGAL NAME**” on the Face Sheet.

# Side-by-Side Scoring Comparison

## Formula Cost Reimbursement Grant

Executive Summary (Page 21)	0
<b>Program Design = 50%</b> (Page 21)	
• Community & Logic Model (Page 22)	24
• Evidence Tier (Page 23)	12
• Evidence Quality (Page 24)	8
• Notice Priority (Page 25)	0
• Member Experience (Page 25)	6
<b>Organizational Capability = 25%</b>	
• Organizational Background & Staffing (Page 25)	15
• Member Supervision (Page 25)	6
• Commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (Page 25)	4
<b>Cost Effectiveness &amp; Budget Adequacy = 25%</b>	
• Member Recruitment (Page 26)	7
• Member Retention (Page 26)	8
• Data Collection (Page 26)	7
• Budget Alignment to Program Design (Page 26)	3

## Planning Grants may be up to \$75,000

Executive Summary (Page 21)	0
<b>Program Design = 50%</b> (Page 21)	
• Community & Logic Model (Page 22)	24
• Evidence Tier (Page 23)	12
• Evidence Quality (Page 24)	8
• Planning Process and Timeline	6
• May be for 12 months or less	
<b>Organizational Capability = 25%</b>	
• Organizational Background & Staffing (Page 25)	15
• Planned Member Supervision (Page 25)	6
• Commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (Page 25)	4
<b>Cost Effectiveness &amp; Budget Adequacy = 25%</b>	
• NSCHC Checks (Page 26)	5
• Data Collection (Page 26)	10
• Budget Alignment to Program Design (Page 26)	10

# Planning Grant Applicants

- Must have the words “AmeriCorps Georgia Planning Grant” in the “Descriptive Title of Applicant’s Project” in section 11.a. of the Face Sheet.
- Just like other programs, the match requirement is 24%
- A well-developed planning timeline for all planning activities and who’s leading those activities
- List all expected accomplishments of this planning grant and incorporate those into the timeline.
- Anticipated Start Date and End Date
- A clear description of how the planning period will be used to develop the necessary components to effectively manage an AmeriCorps program in the future.
- Consider if any surveys or evaluations need to be conducted. Incorporate into timeline.
- Consider if any consultants or other staff will be hired and incorporate into timeline. Explain their significance to the AmeriCorps planning grant.
- Assess fidelity to the evidence-based intervention if being replicated,
  - Including any modifications
  - Assessing outcomes achieved in previous evaluations of the evidence-based intervention
  - Assessing any new outcomes anticipated as a result of integrating AmeriCorps members into the evidence-based intervention

**PLANNING GRANTS MAY NOT BE USED TO SUPPORT AMERICORPS MEMBERS.  
PLANNING GRANTEES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO PURCHASE AMERICORPS BRANDED  
PRODUCTS.**

**The above list is not exhaustive and you should add all necessary items to the timeline you deem necessary.**

# Planning Grant Executive Summary Template

0 Points Executive Summary: The **[Name of the organization]** proposes to develop an AmeriCorps program serving in **[the location(s) the AmeriCorps program will serve]** that will focus on the AmeriCorps focus area(s) of **[Focus Area(s)]**. The CNCS investment of **[\$amount of request]** will be matched with **[\$amount of projected match], \$[amount of local, state, tribal, and federal funds]** in public funding and **[\$amount of non-governmental funds]** in private funding. No AmeriCorps members will be needed to execute this plan.

**Template for formula grants is on page 21 of the NOFO**

# FAQ's

Unless instructed differently, all requirements are the same as in the FY 2024 AmeriCorps State and National Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).

Below are answers to some frequently asked questions:

- Match requirements are same as in the NOFO, see page 10
- Page limits requirements are same as in the NOFO, see page 12
- Maximum Cost per MSY is same as in the NOFO, see page 16
- Living Allowance is same as in the NOFO, see page 15



“How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these.”

George Washington Carver



# Thank you for your time!

**Presenter's Name**

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