



COVID-19 Program Information



Agenda:

- Go over options around member hours and compelling personal circumstances
 - Continuing service
 - Suspension
 - Exiting
 - Documentation needed for each option
- Alternate service activities and procedure
- Meeting dates and cancellations
- Open Q&A



Program Options

- Option 1: Member continues serving until end of their program year
- *If they do meet hours:* they will their earn education award as usual
- *If they do not meet their hours:* they will receive a pro-rated education award based on hours met (as long as they have served at least 15% of their hours)
 - You will have to exit them for compelling personal circumstances.
 - Contact Serve Idaho when you exit them for compelling personal circumstances to receive our approval.
- *This would be our recommendation*



Pro-Rated Education Award Calculation

- # hours completed/# minimum hours required for the position) x maximum value of education award.
- For Example: If a Full-Time AmeriCorps member has served 1,200 hours of the 1,700 requirement, you would:
 - $1,200 / 1,700 = .70588$
 - $.70588 \times \$6,195.00 = \$4,372.94$
- This member would earn a pro-rated education award of \$4,372.94.



Education Award Amounts

- Segal AmeriCorps Education Award amounts for national service positions approved in Fiscal Year 2020 (*October 1, 2019-September 30, 2020*)
 - Minimum-Time = \$1,311.11*
 - Quarter-Time = \$1,638.89*
 - Reduced Half-Time = \$2,360.00*
 - Half-Time = \$3,097.50*
 - Reduced Full-Time/Three-Quarter Time = \$4,336.50*
 - Full-Time = \$6,195.00*
- **Please note that these values change annually.*



Option 1: Required Documentation

- Documentation in each member's file regarding why this is a compelling personal circumstance in regards to the crisis.
- Emails about site closures.
- Copy of guidance from CNCS about CPC in each member file.
- Email from Serve Idaho with authorization to exit member for compelling personal circumstance.



Program Options

- Option 2: The program suspends the member
 - Because of COVID-19, the member is allowed to earn their living allowance for the duration and other benefits (up to 12 weeks) (this is not normally the case)
 - When you reinstate the member, they will have up to two years to complete their service
 - You as a program will need to look at your budget and how that would impact your sites next year – As this would increase your member living allowance costs
 - Watch for maximum cost per member caps
- Documentation: Renee's email, CNCS Guidance Allowing programs to pay member during suspension
- [How to suspend a member in Egrants](#)



Program Options

- Option 3: Early exit
 - You can also exit your members for a Compelling personal circumstance
 - The member will earn a pro-rated education award if they have completed at least 15% of their hours.
 - They will no longer receive their living allowance and benefits
- Documentation: Renee's email, sites closure documentation, etc.
- [How to exit a member in Egrants](#)



Alternate Service Activities

- Check in calls with Senior Corps to other seniors
- Delivery of food to someone by setting food on doorstep
- Remote call center support—dial in remote call centers are ideal.
- Modifying in-person coaching around accessing higher education or other types of case management to zoom or other web/phone based coaching.
- Using online resources to engage with fellow AmeriCorps members in Civic Reflection activities or weekly team meetings.
- Coordinating with schools to help with delivery of educational content using online resources (for example, reading books that can be shared with students, conducting science experiments, virtual tours, virtual lessons) material may be recorded or presented “live”.
- Provide support to 2-1-1 or other community call centers



Alternate Service Activities

- Assist with local health departments/offices with coordinating public health initiatives and health/safety education efforts
- Provide community feeding support, such as meal and food prep, planning/coordination, packing, distribution/delivery, warehousing/inventory, safety inspection, and related activities
- Conduct wellness checks on the elderly and vulnerable populations via phone calls, text messaging, or talking through the door
- Assist with coordinating in-kind donations related to COVID-19 community needs (food donations, supply drives, blood drives, etc.)
- Assemble hygiene and disaster preparedness kits for high-need populations such as the homeless, those living in shelters, and other low-income communities
- Participate in or lead virtual civic reflections or other discussions related to how to serve the community during COVID-19



Alternate Service Activities

- Assist with childcare or other support for first responders
- Assist with data entry/analysis for response efforts
- Provide support to neighborhood initiatives such as stocking free community libraries, micro food pantries, etc.



Alternate Service Activities

- If *outside* the scope of your grant, you must:
 - Email Serve Idaho with a list of sample activities, how many members, and general language around not allowing prohibited activities
 - We will reply back with an approval message
- Documentation:
 - Renee's email about COVID-19
 - Our approval message



Upcoming Events

- Spring members trainings are cancelled – we hope to move to the Fall
- May PD Meeting will most likely be virtual
 - Next meeting will be July 22nd
- ASC Regional Training – July 27-29th
- Weekly COVID-19 Check In Calls
- Monthly calls with members, member Task Force

Resources:

- CNCS FAQ:
 - <https://www.nationalservice.gov/coronavirus>
 - They are updating regularly





Questions?