



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON COMMISSION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE
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Washington Awarded \$16.9 million in AmeriCorps Grants

OLYMPIA –The Washington Commission for National and Community Service (WCNCS) has received \$15.6 million in AmeriCorps grants from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). The state was awarded \$13.1 million in competitive funding that will support 1,150 positions that will help hundreds of nonprofits, schools, local government and community-based entities use service as a strategy to address many of the social challenges facing our communities during these tough economic times. In July, the WCNCS will announce additional AmeriCorps grants supported by \$2.5 million in AmeriCorps formula funding.

Additionally, Washington Campus Compact received two national direct multi-state grants from CNCS totaling \$1.3 million that will engage more than 1,100 college students in service in Washington and an additional 2,700 students from campuses across the country.

“AmeriCorps national service is an effective strategy to support struggling communities while creating opportunities for unemployed Washingtonians to make a positive difference in their own lives and in their community,” said Governor Chris Gregoire.

AmeriCorps grant resources focus on six key areas: strengthening education; fostering economic opportunity; preparing for and responding to disasters; improving health; meeting environmental and energy efficiency needs; and assisting veterans and military families.

The following agencies and organizations were selected through a national grant competition:

Employment Security Department – Washington Service Corps: \$6,166,000
Employment Security Department – Washington Reading Corps: \$3,350,000
Department of Ecology – Washington Conservation Corps: \$1,920,000
Educational Service District #101 – Spokane Service Team: \$720,335
Kitsap Community Resources – KCR-AmeriCorps: \$630,005
EarthCorps – EarthCorps Corps Program: \$286,000

In addition to grant dollars, the Corporation is setting aside funding to pay for Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards for individuals who will serve in positions funded by these grants. After completing a full term of service, AmeriCorps members receive an education award of \$5,550 that they can use to pay for college or to pay off student loans.

The current year's AmeriCorps grant cycle was highly competitive, due to the strong and growing demand by organizations seeking AmeriCorps resources. Organizations requested nearly twice the number of grant dollars and AmeriCorps positions than could be funded.

AmeriCorps is a national service program that engages Americans of all ages and backgrounds in service to meet critical needs. Administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, AmeriCorps engages 80,000 people each year in intensive, results-driven service through more than 14,000 nonprofits across the country. Since 1994, more than 700,000 Americans have provided more than 860 million hours of service to their communities and country through AmeriCorps.

Interested individuals can learn about available service opportunities and apply online by visiting <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/servewa/> or AmeriCorps.gov.

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