AmeriCorps: “Q & A”

The following is a list of frequently asked questions regarding policies and procedures for Montana Campus Corps:

Do I need to be currently enrolled as a full- or part-time student in order to apply to Montana Campus Corps?

Montana Campus Corps service team members (students) must be enrolled in at least 6 credits per semester (fall and spring) during the year of service.

What is the annual living allowance provided to participants?

Each participant receives an annual living allowance. The living allowance amounts for the 2011-2012 school year are as follows:

Leaders (1700 hour positions) = $11,800/year
Quarter-time members (450 hours) = $3,125/year

What happens if I only complete a portion of the minimum service hours required?

Any participant who accomplishes fewer than the minimum number of service hours will NOT be eligible for any part of the post-service educational award unless extenuating circumstances exist.

How much is the Education Award?

Upon successful completion of the service term and all assignments, Campus Corps members will receive the following Education Award amounts:

Leaders (1700 hours) = $5,350
Team Members (450 hours) = $1,415

What other monetary benefits do Campus Corps members receive?

In addition to the Education Award received by all successful participants, full-time members (Leaders) can expect to receive health care, child care (if eligibility requirements are met), and loan forbearance.

What happens if I receive my diploma prior to the end of my service commitment?

Members are still responsible for completing their term of service as agreed upon in the Member Contract. Members will be allowed to continue their term of service even though they have graduated.

Can I transfer midyear to another Montana Campus Corps position on a different campus?

We do not encourage applicants who cannot complete the one-year term at the initial campus.
How long will it take me to complete my term of service?

- Quarter-time members (450 hours) can anticipate working an average of approximately 12-15 hours per week during the course of the normal academic year (September through April).
- Full-time leaders (1700 hours) will complete their terms of service by working approximately 30-35 hours per week (mid-August 2011 through mid-July 2012).
- Weekly schedules will be agreed upon by the campus-based supervisor, the site supervisor, and the member.

Can I contribute all of my hours during the summer months?

Campus Corps is designed to assist campus and community agencies during the school year. If summer projects exist, and the student and site would like to pursue summer hours, decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

The training requires travel and time away from home and campus. Why is this important?

During the term of service, there will be 2 retreats (September and April) designed to offer training to members and leaders. The training sessions develop leadership and civic engagement skills to assist you in completing your service assignments, as well as cultivate professional skills that will serve you beyond the scope of the program. The mandatory trainings are a crucial time for the entire Campus Corps group to plan, solve problems, share best practices, and form a cohesive network of members across Montana. The trainings are also a place where a great deal of networking and exposure to professionals in the service field occurs. We will provide assistance in getting you to and from the trainings. There is no cost to you, personally. Training hours will be applied to your service hours.

What happens if I have to miss classes for training or another Campus Corps event?

Your attendance at the trainings is mandatory. In the event that it is necessary for you to miss class, The Montana Campus Corps Project Director, and/or your campus supervisor, will assist you in notifying your professors of the importance of Campus Corps. We will work with your professors to accommodate everyone’s needs.

I am involved in several activities on my college campus and may not have time for every aspect of this program. Will that be a problem?

Being a member of AmeriCorps is an intense experience that requires a great deal of commitment on the part of the participant. You should not plan to participate in the program if your other priorities will conflict with the program’s broad requirements. You may have other work or student life commitments, but please note that this is a 15 hour/week job.