KANSAS VOLUNTEER COMMISSION

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2027 – 2028 AmeriCorps Kansas
Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
Operational Grant

Deadline for Final Applications:
January 29, 2027
Via email to: americorps@ksde.gov

For more information contact:
Kansas Volunteer Commission
785-368-7436
americorps@ksde.gov

AmeriCorps Kansas

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NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Federal Agency Name: AmeriCorps
Issuing Agency Name: Kansas Volunteer Commission
Funding Opportunity Title: AmeriCorps Kansas Operational Grant 2027-2028
Issue Date: October 9, 2026

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is for AmeriCorps Kansas programs, which are AmeriCorps state grants. These grants are awarded to programs that will place AmeriCorps members in service solely within the state of Kansas.

Applicants who review this NOFO and determine they would prefer a 12-month planning period to develop an AmeriCorps Kansas program, should refer to the AmeriCorps Kansas Planning Grant NOFO available at AmeriCorps Kansas Planning Grant.

Disclosure: Publication of this NOFO does not obligate AmeriCorps or the Commission to award any specific number of grants or to commit any particular amount of funding. Kansas Volunteer Commission reserves the right to re-focus program dollars for this competition in the event of disaster or other compelling needs.

Date	Activity
October 9, 2026	AmeriCorps Kansas NOFO released
November 10, 2026	AmeriCorps Kansas NOFO Informational Webinar – prerecorded and available online
January 29, 2027	**Final applications due to Commission**
February 26, 2027	Applicants receive clarification questions
March 15, 2027	Clarification question responses due to Commission
April 6, 2027	Kansas Volunteer Commission votes on AmeriCorps portfolio
May 11, 2027	Kansas State Board of Education votes on AmeriCorps portfolio
July 31, 2027	Official AmeriCorps Kansas grant award notifications
September 1, 2027	Program start date

A. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A.1 Purpose of AmeriCorps Funding

AmeriCorps is the federal grantmaking organization for all AmeriCorps programming nationally. AmeriCorps brings people together to tackle some of the country's most pressing challenges through national service and volunteering. AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers serve with organizations dedicated to the improvement of communities.

AmeriCorps grants are awarded to eligible organizations (see section *C.1 Eligible Applicants*) proposing to engage AmeriCorps members in evidence-informed interventions/practices to strengthen communities. An AmeriCorps member is an individual who engages in community service through an approved national service position. Members may receive a living allowance and other benefits while serving. Upon successful completion of their service, members earn a Segal AmeriCorps Education Award they can use to pay higher education expenses or apply to qualified student loans.

Kansas Volunteer Commission

The mission of the Commission is to empower all Kansans to meet community needs through service. The Commission, a program of the Kansas State Department of Education, directs effective national service programs, supports statewide mentoring efforts, and leads volunteer engagement training opportunities. AmeriCorps Kansas programs are funded from federal resources allocated to the Commission according to a formula based on state population. Each year, AmeriCorps notifies the Commission of the amount of formula funding available. In most years, the Commission does not have adequate funding to cover all requests.

A.2 Funding Priorities

The Commission's priorities for this grant competition are

- **Education**: Efforts that support improved educational and behavioral outcomes, school readiness, and/or preparation for success in postsecondary educational institutions.
- **Youth Development & Mentoring**: Efforts that empower youth through opportunities and support, positive relationships, and leadership development, particularly among youth in foster care.

To receive priority consideration, applicants must show that the priority area is a significant part of the program focus and intended outcomes. Proposing programs that receive priority consideration does not guarantee funding.

A.3 Technical Assistance

Applicants are highly encouraged to view a prerecorded online technical assistance session to review application instructions. This session will be made available at AmeriCorps Kansas Operational Grant.

In addition, applicants may request one-on-one consultation and technical assistance from Commission staff by emailing americorps@ksde.gov before the application due date.

B. AMERICORPS KANSAS AWARD INFORMATION

B.1 Estimated Available Funds

The Commission expects a highly competitive AmeriCorps grant competition. The actual level of funding will be subject to the availability of annual appropriations, which have not yet been made. Award amounts will vary, as determined by the scope of the projects.

B.2 Period of Performance

The Commission anticipates making grants on an annual basis. Continuation awards for subsequent years are not guaranteed. Factors considered in awarding continuation grants include satisfactory performance, demonstrated capacity to manage the grant, compliance with grant requirements, agency priorities, and the availability of appropriated funds.

The AmeriCorps program year in Kansas runs from September 1 to August 31. All applicants should be aware that it is prohibited for any Commission-funded project to start activities prior to the award of the grant, signed agreements, and member enrollment period.

B.3 Program Authority

Awards under this NOFO are authorized by the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended.

C. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

C.1 Eligible Applicants

Receiving funding previously from AmeriCorps or another federal agency is not a prerequisite to apply under this NOFO. The following entities are eligible to apply:

- Public or private nonprofit organizations, including faith-based and other community organizations;
- Federally Recognized Tribes;
- Institutions of higher education and school districts; and
- Government entities within the state (e.g., cities and counties).

The Commission requests applicants to apply for at least three (3) Member Service Years (MSY) (see section *D.2 Member Service Year*). Applicants may request fewer than three (3) MSY by emailing a rationale to americorps@ksde.gov prior to submitting application.

First-Time Applicants
The Commission encourages organizations that have not received prior funding from the Commission to apply. New applicants are eligible to apply for Cost Reimbursement but are not eligible to apply for Fixed Amount grants.

Continuation Applicants
Organizations that have current AmeriCorps awards must apply in order to be eligible to receive funding for the following year. Requests from existing continuation applicants for increases in the level of funding or number of positions will be assessed using the criteria under this NOFO. Existing subgrantees that can demonstrate a compliant track record and capacity to manage a fixed amount grant may apply for fixed amount grants.

C.2 System for Award Management
All applicants **must** register with the System for Award Management (SAM) at https://www.sam.gov/SAM/ to receive a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). The applicant must have an active SAM registration throughout the duration of the award, and it must be renewed on an annual basis.

The Commission suggests that applicants finalize a new registration or renew an existing one **at least six weeks before** the application deadline, to allow time to resolve any issues that may arise. Applicants must use their SAM-registered legal name and address on all grant applications to the Commission. The Commission will not make awards to entities that do not have a valid SAM registration. If an applicant has not fully complied with these requirements by the time the Commission is ready to make an award, the Commission may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award and use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

C.3 Other Eligibility Requirements
Under Section 132A(b) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended, organizations that have been convicted of a federal crime may not receive assistance described in this NOFO. Applications that propose to engage in activities that are prohibited or unallowable under the AmeriCorps statutes, regulations, or the terms and conditions of its awards are not eligible to receive Commission funding (see *Glossary*). Pursuant to the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995, an organization described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(4), that engages in lobbying activities is not eligible to apply for Commission funding.

D. GRANT DETAILS

D.1 Types of Grants
The Commission may award a cost reimbursement or a fixed amount grant to any successful applicant, but the availability of a fixed amount grant is limited to certain applicants. First-year applicants are not eligible for a fixed amount grant.

Cost reimbursement grants fund a portion of the program operating costs and member living allowances with flexibility to use all funds for allowable costs regardless of whether the program recruits and retains all AmeriCorps members.

Fixed amount grants provide a fixed amount of funding per MSY that is substantially lower than the amount required to operate the program and organizations use other resources to cover the remaining costs.

Kansas Volunteer Commission will not provide both types of grants for the same project in one fiscal year (see *Table 1* and *Glossary* for additional details on both grant types).

Table 1. Grant Types: Cost Reimbursement and Fixed Amount Grants

Grant Types	Cost Reimbursement	Fixed Amount
Type of slots in the national service trust	All	All
Budget submission required	Yes	No
Availability of funds linked to enrollment and retention of awarded MSY	No	Yes
Match requirements	Yes	No, but organizations must raise the additional revenue required to operate the program
Financial reporting requirements	Yes	No
Available to first-time applicants	Yes	No

D.2 Member Service Year

One Member Service Year (MSY) is equivalent to a full-time AmeriCorps slot (at least 1,700 service hours). Applicants may request any combination of slot types, so long as the MSY equals at least three.

Table 2. Slot Type MSY and Hours

Slot Type	Approximate MSY	Minimum # of Hours
Full-time	1.0	1,700
Three quarter-time	0.7	1,200
Half-time	0.5	900
Quarter-time	0.2646	450
Minimum-time	0.2116	300

D.3 Member Living Allowance

The proposed budget must include a living allowance for full-time members that is between $20,954 (minimum) and $41,908 (maximum) per full-time member (see *Table 3*).

A living allowance is not considered a salary or a wage. Cost reimbursement programs are not required to provide a living allowance for members serving in less than full-time terms of service. If a program chooses to provide a living allowance for a less than full-time member, it must comply with the maximum limits in the table below. For cost reimbursement grants, the amount must be included in the proposed budget as either AmeriCorps or grantee share.

Although not required, funding priority will be given to applicants who provide a living allowance for all members serving in less than full-time terms of service.

Please note that member living allowance and cost per MSY are different. The member living allowance is provided to the member. The cost per MSY is determined by dividing the AmeriCorps share of budgeted grant costs by the sum of MSYs requested. The available slot types have been streamlined from seven to five, removing Reduced Half Time and Abbreviated Time for new and recompete competitive and formula applicants.

Table 3. Minimum and Maximum Living Allowance for FY 2027 New and Recompete Competitive and Applicants

Slot Types	Minimum # of Hours	Minimum Living Allowance	Maximum Total Living Allowance
Full-time	1,700	$20,954	$41,908
Three Quarter-time	1,200	n/a	$29,336
Half-time	900	n/a	$20,954
Quarter-time	450	n/a	$10,896
Minimum-time	300	n/a	$8,801

D.4 Maximum Cost per Member Service Year (MSY)

Maximum costs per MSY is $27,000. The Commission cost per MSY is determined by dividing the AmeriCorps share of budgeted grant costs by the number of MSYs requested. It does not include childcare or the value of the education award a member may earn. The maximum amount an applicant may request from AmeriCorps per MSY is determined on an annual basis.

D.5 Segal AmeriCorps Education Award

AmeriCorps members who successfully complete a term of service will be eligible for an education award from the National Service Trust. The amount of the education award is linked to the value of the Pell Grant. A member has up to seven years after their term of service to use the education award. The Commission will provide the updated education award amounts at the time of grant award.

D.6 Cost Sharing or Matching

Applicants must demonstrate the ability to meet the match requirement at the time of application submission. A first-time successful applicant is required to match at 24 percent for the first three-year funding period. Starting with year four, the match requirement gradually increases every three years to 30 percent by Year 10.

Cost Reimbursement Grants

Applicants are required to match funds based on the chart below. The applicant's match must be non-AmeriCorps cash and/or in-kind contributions. Applicants must indicate whether the match is proposed or secured.

AmeriCorps Funding Year	**Years 1, 2, and 3**	**Years 4, 5, and 6**	**Years 7, 8, and 9**	**Years 10 +**
Grantee Share Requirements	24%	26%	28%	30%

Fixed Amount Grants

There is no match requirement for fixed amount grants. The Commission does not provide all the funds necessary to operate the program, therefore organizations should raise the additional revenue required to operate the program.

D.7 Pre-Award Costs

The Commission does not allow pre-award costs.

E. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

This NOFO should be read together with the AmeriCorps Regulations, 45 CFR 2520–2550, Budget Instructions and Performance Measure Instructions which are incorporated by reference. These documents can be found on AmeriCorps Kansas Operational Grant web page. The full regulations are available online at www.ecfr.gov.

Final applications are **due no later than January 29, 2027** via email to americorps@ksde.gov. The Commission will not accept applications that are late, mailed or faxed.

The Commission encourages applicants to be concise but thorough. Applicant should also avoid usage of styling formatting features included but not limited to bold, underline, tabs, outlines, bulleted lists, smart quotes, and hyperlinks. The Commission reserves the right to extend the submission deadline, and any notice of such extended deadline will be posted to apply to all applicants.

E.1 Application Content

Narratives (written in a word document):

- Executive Summary
- Program Design
- Organizational Review

Attachments:

- Cover Letter Worksheet
- Budget Worksheet
- Performance Measure Worksheet

E.2 Application Page Limits

Applications **may not exceed 12 pages** for the narratives. In determining whether an application complies with page limits, the Commission will count the following as narrative:

- Executive Summary
- Program Design (not including continuation changes)
- Organizational Review

The application page limit does not include the cover letter, continuation changes narrative, budget, or performance measure worksheets.

E.3 Submission of Additional Documents

Applicants are required to submit the additional documents by the application submission deadline via email at americorps@ksde.gov.

New applicants:

- Most recent single audit (entities subject to 2 CFR 200 Subpart F) OR most recent audited financial statements OR an explanation as to why neither are available; and
- W-9 form.

Continuation applicants:

- Evaluation report, if required

Entities applying on behalf of a Federally Recognized Tribe (new and continuation):

- Tribal organization eligibility documentation

F. APPLICATION FIELDS

Each applicant must describe a project that will deploy AmeriCorps members effectively to solve a significant community problem. The Commission urges applicants to submit high-quality applications that carefully follow the guidance in this NOFO. The quality of an application will be an important factor in determining whether an organization will receive funding.

Categories/Subcategories	Percentage
Executive Summary	**0**
Program Design	**70**
Funding Priority	5
Community Need	10
Intervention	20
Outputs & Outcomes	10
Evidence	10
Member Experience and Supervision	15
Continuation Changes	0
Organizational Review	**30**
Organization Capacity	15
Fiscal Oversight	15
Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy	**0**
Performance Measures	**0**

F.1 Executive Summary

Please fill in the blanks of these sentences to complete the Executive Summary. Do not deviate from the template below.

> The [Name of the organization] proposes to have [Number of] AmeriCorps members who will [service activities the members will be doing] in [the locations the AmeriCorps members will serve]. At the end of the program year, the AmeriCorps members will be responsible for [anticipated outcome of project]. In addition, the AmeriCorps members will leverage [number of leveraged volunteers, if applicable] who will be engaged in [what the leveraged volunteers will be doing].
>
> This program will focus on the Commission priority area(s) of [Priority Area(s)].*
> The Commission investment of $[amount of request] will be matched with $[amount of projected match], $[amount of local, state, and federal funds] in public funding and $[amount of non-governmental funds] in private funding.
>
> *If the program is not operating in a Commission priority area, omit this sentence.

F.2 Program Design (70 percent)

Funding Priority

1. Describe how the proposed program ties into one or more funding priority areas (leave blank if not applicable).

Community Need

1. Describe in detail the community need and target population the proposed program will address. Provide a brief summary of specific evidence to support the need for your proposed AmeriCorps program. **Cite sources within the last five years** from your local community.

Intervention

1. Describe in detail the intervention that AmeriCorps members will perform to address the community need. Be sure to include the following:
    a. Describe the intervention service(s).
    b. Describe how often, how long and over what period of time the intervention will be delivered.
2. Describe in detail the resources your organization will need to implement the intervention. Be sure to include the following:
    a. Describe where (organization, city, county) the AmeriCorps Kansas members will serve.
    b. Indicate the number of AmeriCorps members who will deliver the intervention.
    c. Indicate the number of program staff needed to implement the program.
    d. Identify what software, office space, equipment, etc. is needed for the program.

Outputs & Outcomes

1. Describe in detail the outputs and outcomes expected as a result of the intervention provided by AmeriCorps members.

Evidence

1. Describe in detail the evidence used to inform the program design and interventions and cite relevant research and data (preferably within last 10 years). Evidence discussion items may include the following (applicants should select items most relevant to how their program model was built):
    a. Describe the evidence or studies used to inform the program model.
    b. Describe how the applicant determined what intervention is needed to address the community need/problem.
    c. If the proposed program is modeled after an existing program, then describe the original program, its success in meeting objectives, and how similar or different the proposed program will be compared to the original. Discuss ways the proposed program may need to be adapted to meet the specific community need identified.

d. If an evaluation or study of this program has been conducted, then discuss the evaluation results and how the evaluation will inform programmatic decisions going forward.

Member Experience and Supervision

1. Describe the skills AmeriCorps members will gain as a result of their training and service and how those skills will assist with future employment.
2. Describe the actions that the program will take to recruit AmeriCorps members from the geographic or demographic communities in which the program operates.
3. Describe how the program will foster an inclusive service culture where diverse backgrounds, talents, and capabilities are welcomed and leveraged for learning and effective service delivery.
4. Describe how the program will:
    a. Onboard and train AmeriCorps members for a successful term of service;
    b. Provide guidance and support to AmeriCorps members; and
    c. Provide supervision of AmeriCorps members to ensure compliant and allowable activities.

Continuation Changes - This narrative is only required for continuation applicants.

1. Describe how this application has changed from your 2026-2027 AmeriCorps application. Be sure to address the following:
    a. Changes to program design (community need, intervention);
    b. Changes to AmeriCorps member count, slot types, and MSY;
    c. Changes to outcomes and outputs;
    d. Changes in staffing and/or host sites for the program; and
    e. Any other notable changes to the application.

F.3 Organizational Review (30 percent)

Organization Capacity

1. Indicate who will be the lead staff managing this initiative and explain why they are qualified to lead the organization through this project.
2. Describe the infrastructure that the program has developed to ensure effective project oversight.
3. Provide examples of your organization's prior experience administering similar projects or programs.
4. Discuss the level of buy-in or organizational commitment your executive leadership and community partners have for this project.
5. Explain how the organization will monitor and oversee operating sites and program staff to prevent and detect non-compliance.

Fiscal Oversight

1. Describe the experience your organization has in managing grants.

2. Describe the infrastructure that your organization has developed to ensure effective fiscal oversight.
3. Describe what experience your organization has in managing federal and non-federal grants.
4. Explain how your organization will ensure compliance with the grant requirements.

F.4 Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy

No narrative should be entered. Use the Budget Worksheet. **See separate Budget Instructions for REQUIRED expenses.**

- Budget is submitted without mathematical errors and proposed costs are allowable, reasonable, and allocable to the award.
- Budget is submitted with adequate information to assess how each line item is calculated.
- Match is submitted with adequate information to support the amount written in the budget.
- The budgeted match is equal to or more than the required match for the given program year.
- The cost per MSY is equal to or less than the maximum cost per MSY.

F.5 Performance Measures

No narrative should be entered. Use the Performance Measures Worksheet. **See separate Performance Measure Instructions for more details.**

- All applications must include at least one aligned performance measure (output and outcome) that corresponds to the proposed primary intervention.
- Applicants should use both performance and evaluation data to learn from their work as well as make tactical and strategic adjustments to achieve their goals.

G. APPLICATION REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

The assessment of applications involves a wide range of factors and considerations. The Commission will engage external reviewers to provide insight and input with respect to eligible applications. In addition, Commission staff will apply their experience and expertise in evaluating applications. In the end, the review and selection process will produce a diversified set of high-quality programs that represent the priorities and strategic consideration described in this NOFO. Applicants will be selected based on quality of application, demonstrated need and past performance (including enrollment and retention rate).

G.1 Federal Award Notices

The Commission will make awards following the grant selection announcement. The Commission anticipates announcing the results of this competition by **July 31, 2027**, contingent on the availability of congressional appropriations. All applicants, successful or not, will be notified of funding decisions via email. Notification of an award is not an authorization to begin grant activities. The Subgrant Agreement is the authorizing document

for grant activities. An awardee may not expend federal funds until the start of the Project Period identified on the Subgrant Agreement.

H. FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

H.1 Uniform Guidance

All awards made under this NOFO will be subject to the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance) in 2 CFR Parts 200 and 2205.

H.2 AmeriCorps Terms and Conditions

All awards made under this NOFO will be subject to the FY 2027 AmeriCorps General Terms and Conditions and the FY 2027 AmeriCorps State and National Terms and Conditions. These Terms and Conditions contain detailed, mandatory compliance and reporting requirements. Current versions of the AmeriCorps General and Program Specific Terms and Conditions for each of its programs is available at State subgrantees | AmeriCorps.

H.3 National Service Criminal History Check Requirements

The National Service Criminal History Check (NSCHC) is a specific screening procedure established by law to protect the beneficiaries of national service. We encourage grantees to minimize barriers to service without putting their program beneficiaries at genuine risk.

- In general, award recipients and subrecipients must conduct an NSCHC for AmeriCorps members and staff whose salary is paid out of the grant or reflected as match on the award.
- AmeriCorps strongly encourages applicants to review the regulations and additional guidance to fully understand how to comply with the requirements.
- The Commission requires that funded applicants utilize the AmeriCorps-approved vendor, Truescreen, to conduct the required NSCHCs.
- Failure to conduct a compliant NSCHC may result in significant disallowed costs.
- The cost of conducting NSCHC is an allowable expense under the award and the individual subject to the NSCHC may not be required to cover the cost without being reimbursed.

An NSCHC consists of a check of the:

1. National Sex Offender Public Website check (nationwide check);
2. State criminal history record repository or agency-designated alternative for the individual's State of residence *and* State of service; and
3. Fingerprint-based check of the FBI criminal history record database.

All checks must be conducted, reviewed, and an eligibility determination made before the individual begins work or service. See 45 CFR 2540.200– 2540.207 and National Service Criminal History Check Resources for complete information and FAQs.

H.4 Official Guidance

All AmeriCorps active guidance is available on the agency's webpage, Grantees and Sponsors | AmeriCorps. The contents of these documents do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way unless incorporated into a contract or grant agreement. These documents are intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.

H.5 Use of Material

To ensure that materials generated with AmeriCorps funding are available to the public and readily accessible to recipients and non-recipients, AmeriCorps reserves a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to obtain, use, modify, reproduce, publish, or disseminate publications and materials produced under the award, including data, and to authorize others to do so (2 CFR §200.315).

H.6 Reporting

Recipients are required to submit a variety of reports which are due at specific times during the life cycle of an award. All reports must be accurate, complete, and submitted on time. Once the grant is awarded, recipients will be expected to have data collection and data management policies and practices that provide reasonable assurance that they are providing the Commission with high quality programmatic and financial data. At a minimum, grantees should have policies and practices which address the following five aspects of data quality:

- The data measures what it intends to measure;
- The grantee collects data in a consistent manner;
- The grantee takes steps to correct data errors;
- The grantee ensures that the data reported is complete; and
- The grantee actively reviews data prior to submission.

Commission funded programs are required to provide semi-annual reports that include performance measure outputs and outcomes, additional demographic and narrative data, the number of applicants for AmeriCorps positions and the number of volunteers recruited and/or supported by AmeriCorps members (both episodic and ongoing volunteers).

I. CONTACT INFORMATION

All communication relating to this NOFO must be directed to AmeriCorps Kansas at americorps@ksde.gov.

For questions regarding multi-state or Indian Tribe applicants (who wish to apply under the NOFO of Federal Funding Opportunity for Indian Tribes), contact:

AmeriCorps
Phone: 202-606-7508
TTY: 800-833-3722
Email: AmeriCorpsgrants@cns.gov

J. GLOSSARY

This section is intended to provide applicants with additional information for the preparation of their application.

Cost Reimbursement Grants
These grants fund a portion of program operating costs and member living allowances with flexibility to use all of the funds for allowable costs regardless of whether or not the program recruits and retains all AmeriCorps members. Cost reimbursement grants include a formal matching requirement and require the submission of a budget and financial reports.

Enrollment Rate
The enrollment rate is calculated as slots filled, plus refill slots filled, divided by slots awarded.

Fixed Amount Grants
These grants provide a fixed amount of funding per Member Service Year (MSY) that is substantially lower than the amount required to operate the program. Organizations use their own or other resources to cover the remaining costs. Programs are not required to submit budgets or financial reports, there is no specific match requirement, and programs are not required to track and maintain documentation of match. However, the Commission provides only a portion of the cost of running the program and organizations must raise the additional resources needed to run the program. Programs can access all of the funds, provided they recruit and retain the members supported under the grant based on the MSY level awarded.

Other Revenue
Funds are necessary to operate the AmeriCorps program that are not AmeriCorps funds or grantee share (match) identified in the budget. Programs should not enter the total operating budget for their organization unless the entire operating budget supports the AmeriCorps

program. Programs that have additional revenue sources not included in the matching funds section of the budget should provide the amount of this additional revenue that supports the program. This amount should not include the AmeriCorps or grantee share amounts in the budget. Fixed amount grantees should enter all non-AmeriCorps funds that support the program in this field. All fixed grants will have other revenue.

Prohibited Activities

While charging time to the AmeriCorps program, accumulating service or training hours, or otherwise performing activities supported by the AmeriCorps program or AmeriCorps, staff and members may not engage in the following activities (see 45 CFR § 2520.65):

(1) Attempting to influence legislation;
(2) Organizing or engaging in protests, petitions, boycotts, or strikes;
(3) Assisting, promoting, or deterring union organizing;
(4) Impairing existing contracts for services or collective bargaining agreements;
(5) Engaging in partisan political activities, or other activities designed to influence the outcome of an election to any public office;
(6) Participating in, or endorsing, events or activities that are likely to include advocacy for or against political parties, political platforms, political candidates, proposed legislation, or elected officials;
(7) Engaging in religious instruction, conducting worship services, providing instruction as part of a program that includes mandatory religious instruction or worship, constructing or operating facilities devoted to religious instruction or worship, maintaining facilities primarily or inherently devoted to religious instruction or worship, or engaging in any form of religious proselytization;
(8) Providing a direct benefit to— a. a business organized for profit; b. a labor union; c. a partisan political organization; d. a nonprofit organization that fails to comply with the restrictions contained in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 related to engaging in political activities or substantial amount of lobbying except that nothing in these provisions shall be construed to prevent participants from engaging in advocacy activities undertaken at their own initiative; and e. an organization engaged in the religious activities described in bulleted item # 7 above, unless AmeriCorps assistance is not used to support those religious activities;
(9) Conducting a voter registration drive or using AmeriCorps funds to conduct a voter registration drive;
(10) Providing abortion services or referrals for receipt of such services; and
(11) Such other activities as AmeriCorps may be prohibited.

AmeriCorps members may not engage in the above activities directly or indirectly by recruiting, training, or managing others for the primary purpose of engaging in one of the activities listed above. Individuals may exercise their rights as private citizens and may participate in the activities listed above on their own initiative, on non-AmeriCorps time, and using non- AmeriCorps funds.

Retention Rate
The AmeriCorps member retention rate is calculated as the number of members exited with an education award (full or partial award) divided by the number of members enrolled.

Rural Intermediary
The Commission recognizes that severely under-resourced communities may have limited capacity to successfully apply for and implement an AmeriCorps program, due to the size and organizational capacity of eligible applicant/host site organizations or the lack of available matching funds in these communities. Thus, it may be effective for a single eligible applicant (intermediary) to develop an application and oversee the implementation of an AmeriCorps program that engages multiple organizations (referred to as a consortium) that, individually, do not have the necessary capacity to apply for and run an AmeriCorps program. Applicants seeking consideration under this priority must demonstrate that they will be serving in severely under-resourced rural communities; that their application represents a consortium, and that the activities provided by the consortium collectively address a compelling community need or set of needs; and that they have sufficient financial and management capacity to act as an umbrella organization for the consortium.

Unallowable Activities
In addition to the *Prohibited Activities*, the following restrictions also apply to the service of AmeriCorps members:

- **Nonduplication**
  AmeriCorps assistance may not be used to duplicate an activity that is already available in the locality of a program. AmeriCorps assistance will not be provided to a private nonprofit entity to conduct activities that are the same or substantially equivalent to activities provided by a state or local government agency in which such entity resides unless the entity complies with the following "nondisplacement" requirements.
- **Nondisplacement**
  (1) An employer may not displace an employee or position, including partial displacement such as reduction in hours, wages, or employment benefits, as a result of the use by such employer of a participant in a program receiving AmeriCorps assistance.
  (2) An organization may not displace a volunteer by using a participant in a program receiving AmeriCorps assistance.
  (3) A service opportunity will not be created under this chapter that will infringe in any manner on the promotional opportunity of an employed individual.
  (4) A participant in a program receiving AmeriCorps assistance may not perform any services or duties or engage in activities that would otherwise be performed by an employee as part of the assigned duties of such employee.
  (5) A participant in any program receiving assistance may not perform any services or duties, or engage in activities, that—
    (i) Will supplant the hiring of employed workers; or

(ii) Are services, duties, or activities with respect to which an individual has recall rights pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement or applicable personnel procedures.

(6) A participant in any program receiving assistance may not perform services or duties that have been performed by or were assigned to any—

(i) Presently employed worker;

(ii) Employee who recently resigned or was discharged;

(iii) Employee who is subject to a reduction in force or who has recall rights pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement or applicable personnel procedures;

(iv) Employee who is on leave (terminal, temporary, vacation, emergency, or sick); or

(v) Employee who is on strike or who is being locked out.

An Equal Employment/Educational Opportunity Agency:
The Kansas State Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: KSDE General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, KSDE, Landon State Office Building, 900 S.W. Jackson, Suite 102, Topeka, KS 66612, (785) 296-3201.