
Employers of National Service



"If you're an employer who wants to hire talented, dedicated, patriotic, skilled, tireless, energetic workers, look to AmeriCorps, look to the Peace Corps... Citizens who perform national service are special. You want them on your team."

– President Barack Obama

What Is Employers of National Service?

The Corporation for National and Community Service launched the Employers of National Service initiative along with its partners: Peace Corps, AmeriCorps Alums, National Peace Corps Association, and The Franklin Project.

In recognition of the unique and transferable skills that participants develop during national service, Employers of National Service builds a talent pipeline to connect AmeriCorps and Peace Corps alumni with leading employers from private, public, and nonprofit sectors to create recruitment, hiring, and advancement opportunities. Through this initiative, employers have access to a dedicated, highly qualified, and mission-oriented pool of potential employees, and national service alumni will have additional opportunities to apply their skills in the workplace.

President Obama launched Employers of National Service at the White House on September 12, 2014 as part of the celebration of the 20th anniversary of AmeriCorps. More than two dozen charter Employers of National Service were announced as part of this launch, including American Red Cross, Comcast and NBC Universal, CSX, Disney, the City of Nashville, Habitat for Humanity International, United Way Worldwide, and numerous federal agencies.



The list of participating employers can be viewed at www.nationalservice.gov/employers/search.

Why Hire National Service Alumni?

National service develops essential skills that make AmeriCorps and Peace Corps alumni assets for organizations and companies seeking high-quality employees. National service alumni are strong leaders who are motivated, flexible, innovative, and outcome-oriented. They learn quickly and work well on diverse teams. Selection for AmeriCorps and Peace Corps is competitive, and participants have been rigorously screened and selected from among many applicants.

More than 900,000 individuals have participated in AmeriCorps over the past 20 years and more than 215,000 have served in Peace Corps, making a lasting impact on these individuals and the communities in which they served. Peace Corps volunteers serve in 65 countries around the world, working at the grassroots level to develop sustainable solutions that address challenges in education, health, economic development, agriculture, environment, and youth development. AmeriCorps members serve communities across the country through organizations such as Public Allies, City Year, Teach for America, and the Student Conservation Association.

These diverse national service alumni have worked as educators, emergency responders, economic development advisors, disaster preparation and recovery leaders, and counselors. Through their service, participants develop hard skills as well as the professionalism, teamwork, communication, management, and leadership skills that are so important to success in today's workplace.

AmeriCorps and Peace Corps alumni are solution-focused leaders and excel at taking the initiative to get the job done. By working hand-in-hand with local partners, AmeriCorps and Peace Corps alumni know how to mobilize others to tackle some of the most pressing challenges facing our nation and our world.



What Are the Benefits of Being an Employer of National Service?

Employers of National Service will have a competitive edge in reaching a large and diverse pool of talented individuals. Participating employers will have their job opportunities highlighted via promotional channels that reach a vast network of talented job seekers. They will also receive invitations to special events and garner public recognition for their commitment to national service alumni.

Which Employers Should Consider Joining the Program?

Every employer from the nonprofit, government, and corporate sectors should strongly consider the value that national service alumni can add to their organization. With their diverse experiences and skills, AmeriCorps and Peace Corps alumni are high achievers in a wide variety of fields. National service alumni have demonstrated that they have the skills and dedication to be successful with employers of all kinds.

How Does an Organization Become an Employer of National Service?

To become an Employer of National Service, organizations will demonstrate policies and practices that emphasize the skills that national service alumni bring to the workplace. A commitment to be an Employer of National Service could include at least one of the following:

- Explicitly indicate in relevant job announcements an interest in recruiting AmeriCorps members and returned Peace Corps volunteers (For example, “AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, and other national service alumni are encouraged to apply.”)
- Provide an opportunity for job applicants to identify themselves as AmeriCorps or Peace Corps alumni. (For example, placing a check box on your employment application that asks a question along the following lines: “Did you serve in an AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, or another national service program?”)



Organizations will receive special recognition when they exceed the basic commitments outlined above. Among the additional steps employers could take are providing special hiring consideration for national service alumni (e.g., extra points as part of an application scoring system or adding a filter to resume screening processes), guaranteeing an interview for any job applicant who is an AmeriCorps or Peace Corps alumnus and meets the minimum qualifications, or creating some positions that are only open to AmeriCorps and Peace Corps alumni.

As part of their commitment, organizations will be asked to provide information regarding their efforts and achievements for an annual Employers of National Service summary report.

How Does an Organization Sign Up to Be an Employer of National Service?

Any company, organization, or agency can become an Employer of National Service! To sign up, please submit your organization’s information at www.nationalservice.gov/employers/sign-up. For additional information, please contact employers@cns.gov or visit nationalservice.gov/employers.

EMPLOYERS OF NATIONAL SERVICE PARTNERS The Corporation for National and Community Service

The country's largest funder of service and volunteering, the Corporation for National and Community Service is the federal agency that helps more than 5 million Americans improve the lives of their fellow citizens through service. The members and volunteers in our programs— AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, the Social Innovation Fund, and the Volunteer Generation Fund— serve, build, and make an impact that changes lives and communities. For more information, please visit NationalService.gov.



The Peace Corps

As the preeminent international service organization of the United States, the Peace Corps sends Americans abroad to tackle the most pressing needs of people around the world. Peace Corps volunteers work at the grassroots level with local governments, schools, communities, small businesses and entrepreneurs to develop sustainable solutions that address challenges in education, health, economic development, agriculture, environment and youth development. When they return home, volunteers bring their knowledge and experiences—and a global outlook— back to the United States that enriches the lives of those around them. Since 1961, more than 215,000 Americans of all ages have served in 139 countries worldwide. For more information, please visit PeaceCorps.gov.



AmeriCorps Alums

AmeriCorps Alums builds a community of engaged citizens and civic leaders that get things done for America. It is the only national network that connects the nearly 1 million alumni of all AmeriCorps programs who have served since 1994 (including an estimated 80,000 new alumni each year) to the people, ideas, and resources that support their commitment to a lifetime of service. To learn more about who alums are and to understand their aspirations and impact on America, read their 2014 national survey, Untapped Potential. For more information, please visit AmeriCorpsAlums.org.



National Peace Corps Association

Founded in 1979 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., the National Peace Corps Association (NPCA) is the nonprofit alumni organization at the center of a vibrant network of 215,000 individuals who share the Peace Corps experience. The NPCA champions a lifelong commitment to Peace Corps ideals by connecting, engaging, and promoting its members and member groups as they continue to make a difference in communities in the U.S. and around the world. NPCA is also dedicated to advocating for, contributing to, and supporting the betterment of the Peace Corps. For more information, please visit PeaceCorpsConnect.org.



The Franklin Project

The Franklin Project is a new venture by the Aspen Institute, which envisions a future where a year of fulltime national service—a service year—is a cultural expectation, a common opportunity, and a civic rite of passage for every young American. A young person would discharge his or her national service obligation by either serving in the military or as a civilian by completing a fulltime paid service year through programs such as AmeriCorps or the Peace Corps. For more information, please visit FranklinProject.org.

