May 2023

Washington Climate Corps Network

Building a climate resilient future through national service programs



What is the Washington Climate Corps Network?

The Washington Climate Corps Network (WCCN) is a network of AmeriCorps programs committed to helping build our clean-energy and climate-resilient future. One of nine such state-level programs nationwide, the WCCN will connect, amplify and grow climate-related service opportunities that mobilize and train young adults and veterans to build clean energy and climate-resilient communities, economies, and ecosystems. It will do this through a new grant program to be administered by Serve Washington, our state's commission on national and community service.

What climate resilience activities can the climate corps do?

The WCCN will participate in climate resilience activities. Climate resilience refers to strategies, activities, or plans that seek to help communities prepare for and adapt to the effects of climate change. Their activities may focus on mitigation or adaptation related to:

- Urban greening
- Wildfire reduction
- Heat island mitigation
- Distributed energy systems
- Sea-level rise management and response,
- Addressing food security.
- More activities may be added as the Climate Corps Network launches.

WCCN Funding

\$7.545 million

Amount the Washington Legislature approved for the funding the WCCN over the next biennium

Breakdown

\$4.485 million

Climate Commitment Account

\$3.060 million

Federal AmeriCorps match



SERVE WASHINGTON

Grants will support Climate Corps Network programs to:

- Augment living stipends for service members
- Reduce costs for community organizations and tribes to host service members
- Support service members currently ineligible to serve with AmeriCorps

How was the WCCN formed?

Legislation (HB 1176/SB5247) establishing the WCCN was approved by the 2023 legislature.

The legislation says the program's key focus will be to build "low-carbon and climate-resilient communities while providing education, workforce development and career pathways to service members, with a focus on overburdened communities."

What are the benefits of a climate corps network?

- Funding provided will help grow service programs in overburdened communities
- Barriers to engaging members of overburdened communities are reduced through increased member support funding
- The network will expand the role of service in addressing climate issues
- Service member will be supported to participate in events and service-related program that develop leadership skills, foster environmental stewardship and civic engagement
- Service members will receive climaterelated professional and educational opportunities



Get involved

How can community organizations apply to start a climate corps program?

As with all AmeriCorps service programs, Serve Washington will make climate corps grants available through a competitive request for funding opportunity. The grant application will be announced publicly on Serve Washington's website and through funding notification lists.

Get notifications for funding opportunities:

Receive notifications via email. Visit our website to <u>subscribe to email notifications</u>. After entering your email, make sure the "requests for grant applications" box is checked.

How can I apply to serve in the WCCN?

All open positions will be posted on the <u>Service Year</u> and <u>My AmeriCorps</u> websites.

Questions?

Contact Amber Martin-Jahn

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