



AmeriCorps Washington

FFY23 State Formula Grants PLANNING GRANT RFGA

February 12, 2024 at 9:00 am

Please sign-in via the chat box:

- Name(s)
- Organization/Program
- City/County

Welcome

- House Keeping Items
 - **Please Sign-in!** Name, organization, city/county in the chat box
 - Call is intended for PLANNING GRANT applicants
 - Silence phones, use webinar features, closed caption available
 - Recording
- Agenda
 - Purpose of AmeriCorps Funding – Operational & Planning Grants
 - Eligibility
 - Process and Timeline
 - RFGA Key Highlights – Helpful Hints & Tips
 - Q & A





WHAT IS AMERICORPS?



National Service in WA



AmeriCorps.gov/WashingtonState

SERVE WASHINGTON



AmeriCorps Funding

“...brings people together to tackle pressing challenges through national service...AmeriCorps helps make service a cornerstone of our national culture...”

Commission Funding Types (Operational Grants)

- Formula Funding (Spring, 10-35 AmeriCorps Members)
- Competitive Funding (Fall, 20+ AmeriCorps Members)

Historic AmeriCorps Focus Areas

- Disaster Services
- Economic Opportunity
- Education
- Environmental Stewardship
- Healthy Futures
- Veterans and Military Families



Serve WA Priorities

- Strategies driven by community
- Organizations that reflect those served
- AmeriCorps members that reflect those served
- Programs addressing structural and institutional inequities
- Career pathway models
- Models with demonstrated commitment to Justice, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging, and Access
- Programs that prioritize member benefits

Serve WA seeks to ensure resources are available to tribes, rural, underrepresented communities, and a geographically diverse portfolio.



AmeriCorps Members

- Engage in Direct Service
 - Minimum 70% Direct Service
 - Maximum 20% Training
 - Maximum 10% Fundraising

**Planning Grants DO NOT Receive AC Members*



AmeriCorps Members

- Do Not Duplicate or Displace
 - Service should not duplicate activities already in locality of program
 - Position can't supplant paid employees or volunteer positions
- Abide by [Prohibited Activities](#) (45 CFR 2520.65)
- Are Not Employees
 - “Participant” in national service position, perform service, serve, have a position description
 - Avoid terms such as “work,” “job,” or “job description”

**Planning Grants DO NOT Receive AC Members*



AmeriCorps Members

- Recruitment
 - Local and/or National
 - Program Responsibility
- Service Terms
 - Between 100 and 1700 Hours
 - 1700 Hours usually equates to 10-12 months
- Member Benefits
 - Living Allowance (1700 Hours, Minimum \$18,700)
 - Health Care, Child Care, Loan Forbearance
 - Education Award

**Planning Grants DO NOT Receive AC Members*



Eligible Applicants

Eligible Entities (new organizations or new projects only)

- Nonprofits
- Institutions of Higher Ed
- State and Local Governments
- Tribal Governments

Additionally

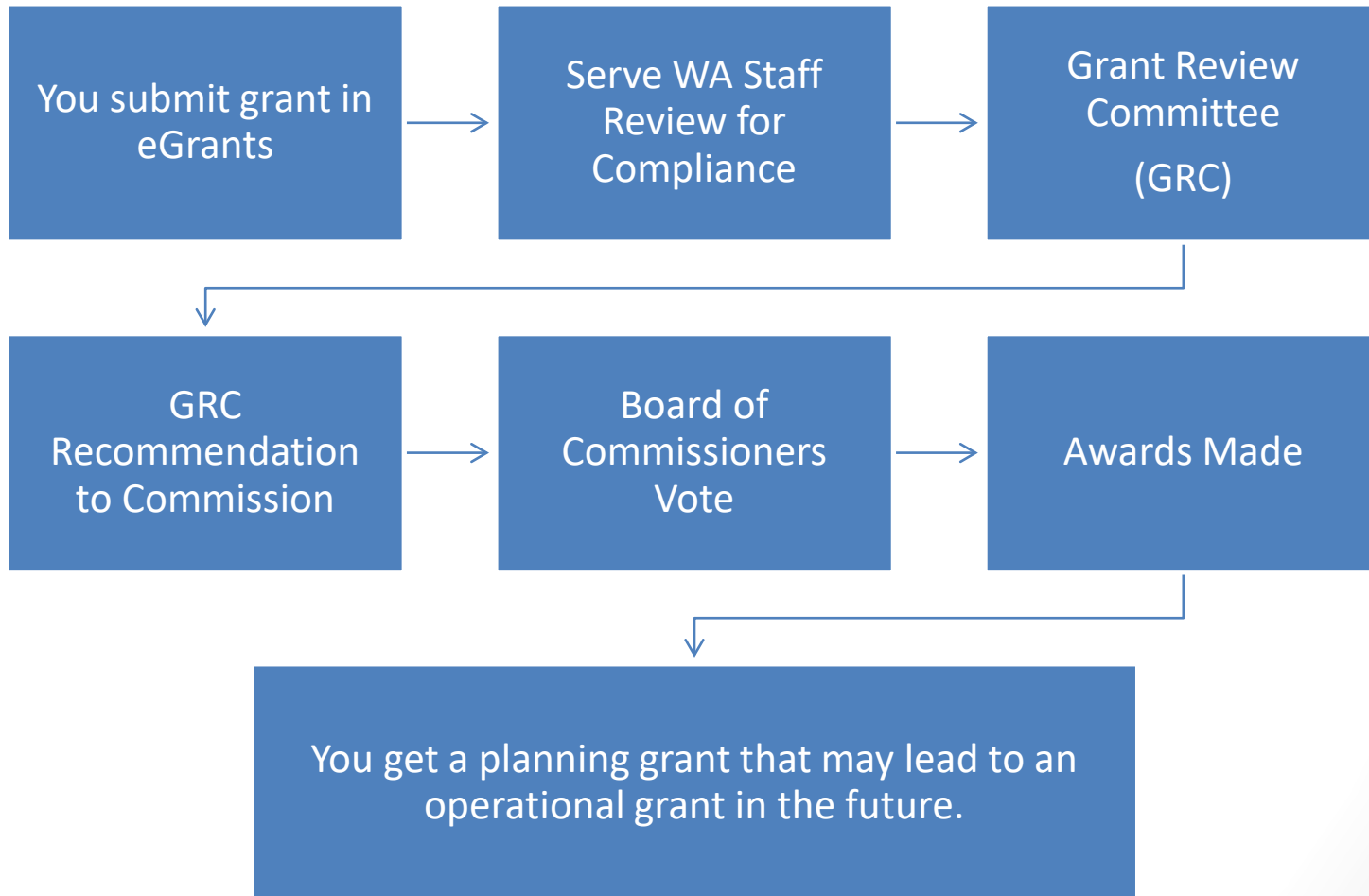
- UEI number, EIN, SAM registration

Project Period

- **August 1, 2024 – July 31, 2025**



RFGA Process



RFGA Timeline

Request for Grant Applications Released	February 8, 2024
Technical Assistance Zoom for Potential Applicants	February 12, 2024, 9:00am PST
Completed Applications Due from Applicants	March 4, 2024, by 5:00pm PST
Staff Review for Compliance	March 5, 2024
Grant Review Committee Application Review	March 6 – 29, 2024
Grant Review Committee (GRC) Meeting Note: Applicants must be available by phone on this day in the event the GRC needs additional information or clarification. Interviews will not be conducted.	April 4, 2024
Clarification/Revision Period for Some Applicants	Beginning On/Around April 4, 2024
Serve Washington Commissioners Vote on Grant Review Committee Recommendation	April 10, 2024
Notification to Applicants Regarding Serve Washington Vote	Week of April 15, 2024
Serve Washington to submit applications to AmeriCorps (No Later Than)	May 17, 2024
AmeriCorps to Award Grants (No Later Than)	July 2024



Awarded Applicants

Orientation	August 10
Webinar	September 14
Webinar	October 12
Webinar	November 9
Webinar	December 14
Webinar	January 11
Webinar	February 8
In-Person Regional Training Conference	Spring, Three-Day, Pacific Region
Webinar	March 14
Webinar	April 11
Webinar	May 9
Webinar	June 13
In-Person Subgrantee Meeting	July 12-13, Two-Day, Olympia

*webinars are scheduled from 10am-12pm, via Zoom.



Key Highlights

- Use eGrants (build for operational grants, follow RFGA closely)
- Narratives – 10 pages (does not include additional eGrants pages)
- Budget – not to exceed \$75,000
- Budget – include travel and training



eGrants Tips

- Create application pieces outside of eGrants
- eGrants does not allow for fancy formatting
 - No bold, italics, bulleted lists, charts
 - Can use ALL CAPS for section headings
- eGrants automatically double spaces when printing
- Spacing not always perfect between Word and eGrants
- Save and validate often once in eGrants
- Print for best review



Additional Docs

Submit to servewa@ofm.wa.gov

- Operational/Financial Management Survey
 - Series of yes/no questions
- Audited Financials (Single Audit or other)
 - Most recent
 - If none, a statement as to why





Q&A

Are you ready for AmeriCorps?

[Serve WA Readiness Assessment](#) and Flow Chart

[Serve WA RFGA](#)

Email questions to servewa@ofm.wa.gov

What else would be helpful to know today?

Applications due no later than March 4 by 5pm!

