



AmeriCorps Washington

FFY26 State Competitive Grants CONTINUATION RFGA

February 5, 10:00 am

Please sign-in via the chat box:

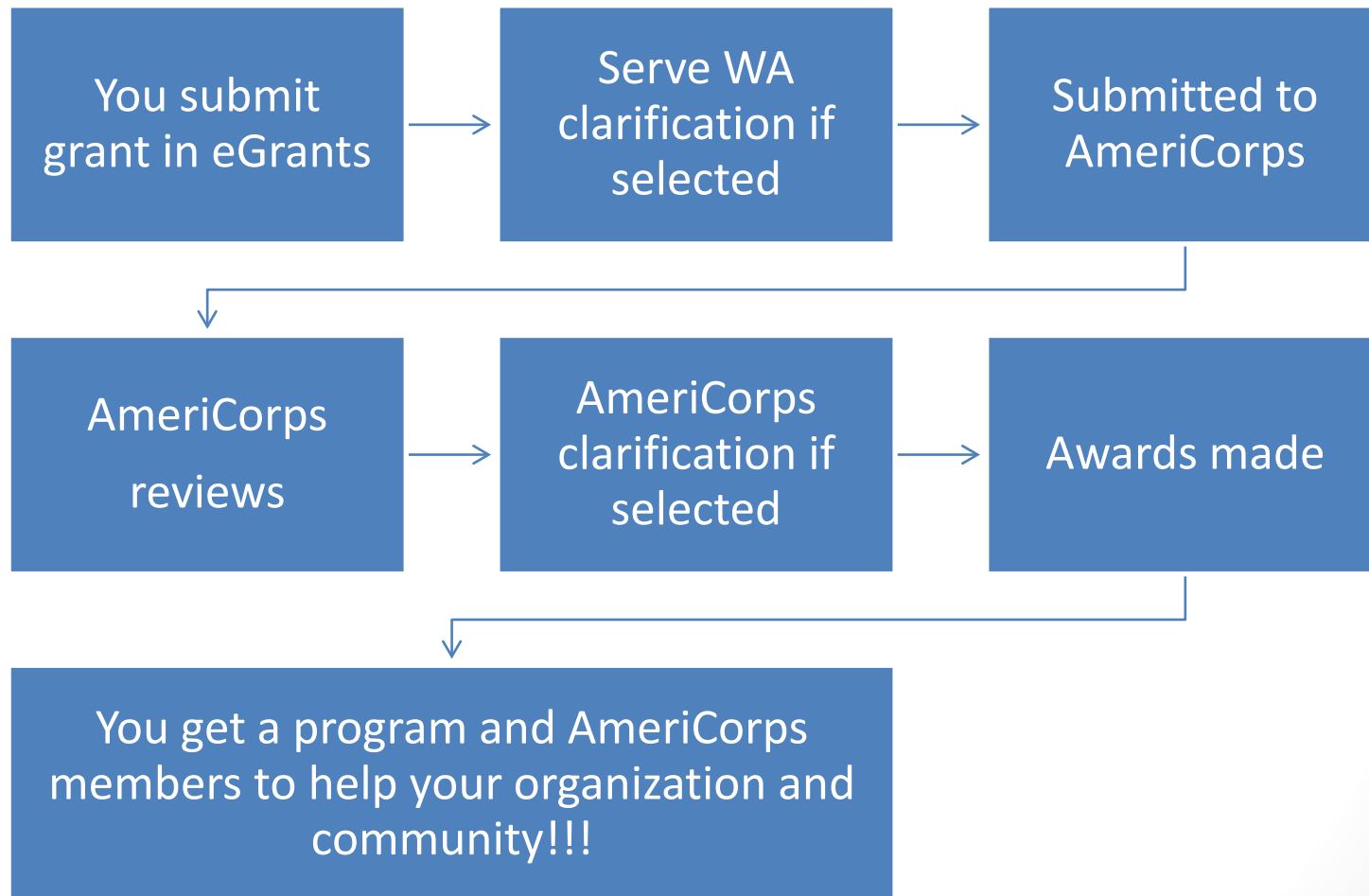
- Name(s)
- Organization/Program

Welcome

- House Keeping Items
 - **Please Sign-in!** Name/Organization in the chat box
 - Call is intended for CONTINUATION applicants
 - Recording
- Agenda
 - Process and Timeline
 - RFGA/NOFO Key Highlights
 - Helpful Tips and Tricks
 - Q & A



RFGA Process



IMPORTANT DATES

Serve WA Releases FY26 Competitive Request for Grant Applications (RFGA)	January 30, 2026
Serve WA Technical Assistance Call for Applicants	February 5, 2026 New/Recompete: 9:00 – 10:00 am Continuation: 10:00 -11:00 am
Completed Applications Due from Applicants	February 25, 2026: 5:00pm
Serve WA Staff Review for Compliance	February 26, 2026
Serve WA Internal Review	February 27 – March 9, 2026
Serve WA Clarification/Revision Period for Some Applicants	March 9 – 24, 2026
Serve WA Staff Ranking	March 25, 2026
Serve WA Submits Applications to AmeriCorps (by)	March 26, 2026: 5:00pm
AmeriCorps Notifies Successful Applicants	Mid-June 2026: ASN
AmeriCorps Clarification/Revision Period	TBD (after notification, before award)
AmeriCorps Issues Awards	Mid-August 2026: ASN

Key Highlights

NOFO Items that **DO NOT** apply to Serve Washington applicants:

- Dates – instead, **follow the dates in the RFGA**
- **DO NOT** send additional documents to AmeriCorps – instead, **follow RFGA** and send to serveva@ofm.wa.gov
 - Most recent Single Audit or Audited Financial Statement
 - Evaluation Report, if applicable to AEs



Key Highlights

NOFO Items that **DO** apply to Serve Washington applicants:

- Page Limits – 11 – narrative; logic model - 8
- Cost Share (match; no change):

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%

- Maximum Cost per MSY \$25,000 (no change)
- FT Living Allowance \$20,400-\$40,800 (no change)
- Criminal History Checks (no change)
 - Approx. budget (in WA) - \$68 per staff/member + out-of-state variable costs



Application Instructions

- DO NOT start a new application, click on cont/renewal
- Go section by section in instructions, cont applicants often assume they know what's in the instructions – please read each year it's only a couple pages
- No change? Really no changes? Great, enter N/A for continuation narrative
- Changes? Keep it simple and clear in the continuation narrative
- DO NOT make changes in original narratives
- Changes to Evaluation Plan? Talk to PO first
- Budget, instructions allow for expansion



Budget Instructions

Ask for what you need!

- Suggestion - Only request MSY or member expansion if enrollment history is at or above 90% (especially fixed awards as ability to draw funds is directly related)
- Suggestion - Only request \$ at a proportional rate – what are your overall increases, show that the program will share in the increase
 - No guarantee, award could be flat
 - Will need to amend budget based on final decision(s)
 - Speak to increase request fully in continuation narrative...



Match Updates

(FY26 Reminder – what year are you?)

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

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
- Use Chrome



Application Tips

- Read App Instructions
- Numbers/Data/Demo should match in all sections – if you update one section, think to yourself “where else might this need updated”
 - New targets in continuation narrative, update PM module
- Be accurate on the Face Sheet as to the Authorized Rep vs project/program director (Auth Rep has signing authority)
- Project/Contract date: one full year (1st of the month through last day of last month)(not the same as Member Service Year)
- Print final application for review
- Give yourself an early deadline – system has been known to be down or challenging



Budget Tips

Cost-Reimbursement: (app instructions pg. 22)

- Fully explain the calculations used for each amount in the budget “narrative”
- Ensure the budget “narrative” mathematically adds up to the actual amount in the associated line item
 - Staff Travel to Meeting X = \$1,186
 - Narrative = Airfare \$650, Ground Transport \$50, Lodging Two Nights \$400, Per Diem Two Days \$86 (all equals \$1,186)
 - Registration Fees = Training (not travel)
- Itemize
 - Salary and Fringe Benefits categories are per person/role, not one lump item in each category



Budget Tips

...cont. Cost-Reimbursement: (app instructions pg. 22)

- If you change a line item in section I or II, be sure to recalculate section III – admin/indirect rate
 - The de minimis indirect rate is now 15%
 - This means you might get slightly more match with the de minimis than with the Corporation fixed 5%/10% option
 - Don't forget that once you use the de minimis rate on a Federal grant, you will be expected to use it on ALL Federal grants
 - The de minimis also has other limitations in its application compared to other options
- Don't forget Source of Funds section which is an explanation of funds used for grantee share – the two totals should match



Budget Tips

Fixed-Amount: (app instructions pg. 33)

- Don't forget Source of Funds section which is an explanation of additional funds used – this total should match the total you under “other revenue” in the demographics section

*Checklist on pg. 35 applies to all budget types



...a little something extra...

Does the design lend to workforce development opportunities (apprenticeships, certifications, professional development)

- Does the program provide additional benefits to members/enhance member experience (higher living allowance, transportation, etc.)



...a little something extra...

B.3. Period of Performance

AmeriCorps plans to make three-year grant awards. AmeriCorps generally makes an initial award for the first year of the three-year period of performance. Applicants must submit a one-year budget. Applicants may propose any project start date that fits their program design. The period of performance may not start before September 1, 2026. Continuation awards for future years are not guaranteed; they depend upon future appropriations and satisfactory performance.



Q&A

Email questions to servewa@ofm.wa.gov

