

FY 2024 Notice of Funding Opportunity: Frequently Asked Questions

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FY 2024 Public Health AmeriCorps Notice of Funding Opportunity Frequently Asked Questions

Below is a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) about the FY 2024 Public Health AmeriCorps Notice of Funding Opportunity (PHA NOFO). This is a supplementary document, and all eligible applicants interested in pursuing continuation funding through PHA should read the FY 2024 PHA NOFO.

Q1: How will the FY 2024 PHA continuation process work?

Please use section E of the NOFO for more information regarding the FY 2024 PHA continuation process. Please also use the "Technical Assistance Webinars" section of the <u>Public Health AmeriCorps webpage</u> to access a webinar providing an overview.

Q2: When are FY 2024 PHA continuation applications due?

FY 2024 PHA continuation applications are due Thursday, January 4, 2024, 5pm ET. Single-state continuation applicant deadlines to State Service Commissions may be significantly before the AmeriCorps deadlines, so state applicants seeking continuation funding should contact the Commission in the state or territory where they intend to apply as early as possible. The list of Commissions can be found on the AmeriCorps State Service Commissions' webpage.

Q3: Who is eligible to apply for funding through the FY 2024 PHA NOFO?

Only current Public Health AmeriCorps grantees, also known as PHA continuation applicants, are eligible. Eligible applicants are those organizations that have current Public Health AmeriCorps awards that will be in program Year 2 or 3 in FY 2024. Applicants must have a valid SAM registration and Unique Entity Identifier to receive an award. Please use section C of the FY 2024 PHA NOFO for more information.

Q4: I am not a current PHA grantee, am I eligible for funding through the FY 2024 PHA NOFO?

No, only PHA grantees in their second or third year of program operation in FY 2024 are eligible to apply for funding through the FY 2024 PHA NOFO.

Q5: I am a current ASN grantee, am I eligible for funding through the FY 2024 PHA NOFO?

No, only PHA grantees in their second or third year of program operation in FY 2024 are eligible to apply for funding through the FY 2024 PHA NOFO.



Q6: I am not a current PHA grantee but wanted to apply for a PHA funding in FY 2024, what can I do?

Please explore funding opportunities through <u>AmeriCorps State and National</u> and other AmeriCorps grant programs.

Q7: Can I apply for an expansion request through the FY 2024 PHA continuation process?

Yes, current PHA grantees may request funding that exceeds their FY 2023 award; however, AmeriCorps does not expect to award expansion requests through the FY 2024 PHA NOFO.

Q8: How much funding can I request through the FY 2024 PHA NOFO?Eligible applicants may request a budget that reflects program needs, but please note that AmeriCorps does not expect to award continuation grants that is greater than the grantee's FY 2023 award.

Q9: When will my organization know how much continuation funding has been granted?

It is anticipated that continuation applicants will be notified by July 2024, and awards will be issued by September 2024.

Q10: My grant start date is before September. Will the FY 2024 PHA NOFO's new timeline impact my project's activities?

FY 2024 programming cannot begin until new member slots are made available through the completion of the award process. If available and allowable per the organization's policies and procedures, grantees may use unexpended funds to cover pre-award staffing costs to prepare for FY 2024 programming.

Q11: Can a state commission reallocate unexpended Public Health AmeriCorps funding from one sub-grantee to another?

No, state commissions are not permitted to re-allocate unexpended Public Health AmeriCorps funding from one sub-grantee to another sub-grantee.

Q12: Are all single-state continuation applicants required to submit their applications through their respective state commissions?

No, single-state continuation applicants who applied to the Public Health AmeriCorps program in FY 22 as National Directs and were awarded as National



Directs will continue to apply as National Directs for the FY 2024 Public Health AmeriCorps grant cycle. These applicants will not apply through State Service Commissions.

Q13: I am a Public Health AmeriCorps grantee that would like to apply to a FY 2024 AmeriCorps State and National funding opportunity. How do I apply and in what funding year will I be for purposes of the match requirement?

If you are eligible and desire to do so, Public Health AmeriCorps grantees may apply for a <u>FY 2024 AmeriCorps State and National funding opportunity</u>. Please note that AmeriCorps anticipates that the FY 2024 AmeriCorps State and National cycle will be particularly competitive.

The AmeriCorps State and National funding opportunity has a match requirement. If a current Public Health AmeriCorps grantee applies to the FY 2024 AmeriCorps State and National funding opportunity and is selected for award, they will be considered as "Year 1" for the purposes of the match requirement. Please review section C.2. of the FY 2024 AmeriCorps State and National Notice of Funding Opportunity for more information.

For the system to recognize your application as "Year 1" for the FY 2024 AmeriCorps State and National funding opportunity, submit your application using a new project. The new project must be created by your Portfolio Manager.

Q14: I am a Public Health AmeriCorps grantee that applied to the FY 2024 AmeriCorps State and National funding opportunity. If my project is selected for award through the FY 2024 AmeriCorps State and National funding opportunity, may I also accept my Public Health AmeriCorps continuation award?

Please note that if the same organization submits both a PHA continuation application and a FY 2024 AmeriCorps State and National application for the same AmeriCorps activities, and they are selected for an FY 2024 AmeriCorps State and National award – the Public Health AmeriCorps grantee may only accept one award – an AmeriCorps State and National award or a Public Health AmeriCorps continuation award.

It is anticipated that AmeriCorps State and National award notifications will happen before Public Health AmeriCorps continuation notifications. If accepting the AmeriCorps State and National award, please notify your Portfolio Manager and the Public Health AmeriCorps team at publichealth@americorps.gov.



Q15: What are key factors to keep in mind if I am a Public Health AmeriCorps grantee that is interested in applying for an AmeriCorps State and National grant?

If a Public Health AmeriCorps grantee applies for and accepts the AmeriCorps State and National award, they will receive **up to the ASN max cost per MSY (\$25,000** for a full-time ASN member as compared to **\$27,000** for full-time PHA members) and will not have access to PHA trainings, professional development opportunities, nor other resources provided to PHA grantees.

Additionally, the FY 2024 **Public Health AmeriCorps Continuation award process** will be **non-competitive**. A Public Health AmeriCorps grantee that is in good standing will receive at least a portion of funding requested, pending funding availability. AmeriCorps anticipates that the FY 2024 AmeriCorps State and National cycle will be particularly competitive.

The AmeriCorps State and National funding opportunity has a **match requirement**. Please review section C.2. of the FY 2024 AmeriCorps State and National Notice of Funding Opportunity for more information. Please review the AmeriCorps State and National Notice of Funding Opportunity <u>webpage</u> for application resources.

Q16: I am a Public Health AmeriCorps grantee that applied for an AmeriCorps State and National grant; however, I did not submit as a "New Project" as outlined in question 13 of this document. It seems that I now cannot submit my FY24 PHA Continuation application. How can this be resolved in eGrants?

Please contact the AmeriCorps Hotline at 1-800-942-2677 as soon as possible to request that your application to AmeriCorps State and National be changed from continuation to new and that a new project be created.

PHA grantees that apply to AmeriCorps State and National as continuation applicants or that do not create a new project will be contacted by AmeriCorps following the application submission deadline to determine whether the application was intended to be submitted to AmeriCorps State and National or to the PHA continuation in eGrants. All compliance and eligibility requirements, including on time submission, must be met for the AmeriCorps State and National competition to be considered. Please note that the AmeriCorps State and National grant application deadline is also January 4th, 5pm ET.

You will not be able to start a PHA continuation application if your PHA project is being used in eGrants for an AmeriCorps State and National application and must work with the AmeriCorps Hotline on next steps for your PHA continuation application.



Q17: I am a current PHA grantee and will not pursue a FY 2024 PHA Continuation award. I want to finish the work associated with my FY 2023 PHA award. Do I have to apply for a no cost extension?

*No. Public Health AmeriCorps grantees at the time of FY 2023 awards were assigned 2-year budget periods and project periods that extend into 2025. If you have FY 2023 unexpended funds, and unfilled FY 2023 slots, you are permitted to continue to enroll FY 2023 members through your project's member enrollment period. Find your project's member enrollment period in the "Program Information" screen of eGrants. Those enrolled members may serve any time during your project period.

Grantees may use FY 2023 unexpended funds during your budget period to cover associated costs that align with the FY 2023 approved budget.

*A no cost extension would be necessary only if the member's time in service extends beyond the budget period and/ or project period. Find your budget period and project period in your grant's notice of award.

Q18: My FY 2023 member enrollment period is ending soon, and I am not pursuing a FY24 PHA continuation award; however, I still have unfilled FY 2023 PHA slots and unexpended funds. How can I extend my enrollment period?

There is no amendment process that will allow grantees to extend the member enrollment period. Grantees must pursue and be granted a FY 2024 PHA continuation award to receive a new 365-day enrollment period. Remember, grantees may enroll members through the last day of their current member enrollment period. Refer to eGrants to find your current member enrollment period. Refer to Q17 for background regarding key grant dates to keep in mind.

Q19: My FY 2023 PHA project start date is well before September 1, 2024. Can AmeriCorps issue my FY 2024 award in time to align with my FY 2023 project start date?

AmeriCorps must determine the amount of unexpended funds available to make FY 2024 Public Health AmeriCorps funding decisions. This information is not available until the end of April 2024 and requires several weeks to be validated. As a result, the FY 2024 PHA award timeline is later than in previous cycles, and it is anticipated that award notifications will be released in early summer. Grantees should promptly and accurately respond to agency continuation application inquiries to move their paperwork along in the process. While the agency seeks to disrupt PHA programs as little as possible, AmeriCorps cannot guarantee specific award dates prior to September 2024.

Q20: When reviewing unexpended funds information for FY 2024 PHA primes, will unexpended funds be considered at the prime level or at the subgrantee level?

AmeriCorps will review unexpended funds information at the subgrantee level and maintain those unexpended funds at the level of the subgrantee.



Q21: Where can I find guidance about the Unexpended Funds and Federal Financial Report (FFR) submission process?

The Unexpended Funds Report and the FFR are due April 30th. Please refer to the resources below when completing these forms:

- New! Reporting Public Health AmeriCorps Unexpended Funds for use in Fiscal Year 2024
- <u>Federal Financial Report (FFR) Training for Grantees. Federal Financial Report (PDF)</u> | <u>Federal Financial Report (XLS)</u>
- New! Funds Management Training for AmeriCorps Grantees

Q22: As a state commission, it is important to know FY24 PHA award decisions before making final determinations regarding formula funding. Current timelines do not allow for this to happen. What can I do?

A: In some cases, you may need to make the best decision you can with the information available at the time. Please contact your ORO regional office to discuss your options. If necessary and when possible, ORO regional offices may determine an extension can be granted.

