

FY 2025 RSVP



Competition

AmeriCorps Seniors

General Questions and Answers

August 2024



Agenda

- Award Information
- Selection Criteria and Review
- eGrants
- Required Documents
- Volunteer and Volunteer Stations
- Geographic Service Area
- Other Q&A
- Important Reminder





Pre-Event Poll Questions

Which topic area do you have questions for?

- Award Information
- Selection Criteria and Review
- eGrants
- Required Documents
- Volunteer and Volunteer Stations
- Geographic Service Area
- Other

Have you utilized the training and technical assistance materials on americorps.gov?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure



FY 2025 RSVP



Competition

Award Information



**AmeriCorps
Seniors**

FY 2025 RSVP



Competition

Important Dates



Applications are due no later than **Wednesday, September 18, 2024, by 5:00 PM ET***

Successful applicants will be issued awards by **March 2025**



Successful applicants will be notified by **January 2025**

** See Section D.4.c for the Late Application process*



Late Applications

All applications received after the submission deadline are presumed to be noncompliant. Late applicants must:

- submit a **written explanation or justification** of the extenuating circumstance(s) that caused the delay, including:
 - the timing and specific cause(s) of the delay
 - the ticket number if a request for assistance was submitted to the AmeriCorps Hotline
 - any information provided to the applicant by the AmeriCorps Hotline
 - any other documentation or evidence that supports the justification
- ensure that AmeriCorps receives the written explanation via email to **LateApplications@americorps.gov** no later than 24 hours after the application deadline. AmeriCorps will not consider **an advance request** to submit a late application.



Incumbent vs New Applicants

Incumbent Applicants

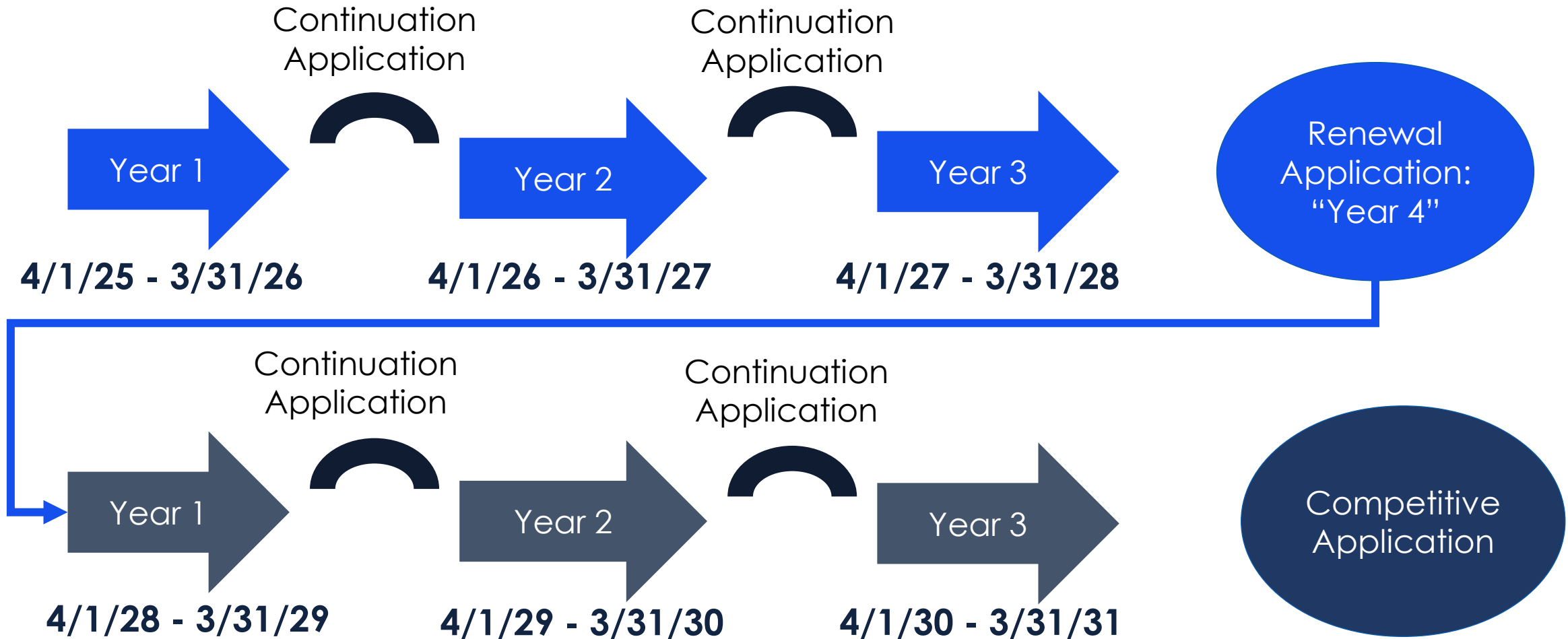
- Required to compete
 - 22SRXXXXX grant number
 - Temporary sponsors
- Any other current AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP grantee

New Applicants

- Organizations without a current active AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP grant



RSVP Grant Lifecycle





SAM Registration

FAQs

1. My SAM registration expires before the grant period begins. Will this be an issue? (Updated August 20, 2024)

Yes. Active SAM registration is required at the time of application submission and until the application process is complete. Please review sections D.3 and E.2.a of the Notice for more information.

2. I am having difficulty with my SAM Registration, who do I contact for help?

Contact the Federal Service Desk at https://www.fsd.gov/gsafsd_sp.



Funding Amount

How does my organization determine how much federal funding we should apply for?

Path 1- Assess how many volunteers you will seek to have in service.

100 undup. volunteers \times \$350 $=$ \$35,000 $+$ \$75,000 $=$ **\$110,000 is the max**

Option: You can ask for \$0 to \$110,000, but not more than \$110,000 with 100 unduplicated volunteers.



Funding Amount

Path 2 - Asses the minimum volunteer requirement based on how much you need.

You need \$100,000 $-$ \$75,000 $=$ \$25,000 \div \$350 $=$ **71 unduplicated volunteers**

Option: Have \$100,000 and 71 unduplicated volunteers or more. You can not have less then 71 unduplicated volunteers if you request \$100,000.

Recommend using the [Appendix E: Federal Share, Unduplicated Volunteer, and Match Calculators for RSVP Competition](#)



Appendix E: Federal Share, Unduplicated Volunteer, and Match Calculators for RSVP Competition



How Much Federal Funds May I request?

Enter the total number of unduplicated volunteers you are proposing for your project in the field below. The maximum amount of federal funding you may request will be calculated for you.

Total number of unduplicated volunteers you are proposing	
Maximum amount of federal funding you may request:	\$ 75,000

How Many Unduplicated Volunteers Do You Need?

Enter the amount of federal funding you wish to request in the field below. The minimum total number of unduplicated volunteers you have to place into your work plans for that amount of funding will be calculated for you.

Amount of AmeriCorps Seniors funding:	\$ 100,000
(Amount of funding - \$75,000) / \$350	71.4
Minimum number of unduplicated volunteers you have to place across all work plans:	71



Volunteers Age

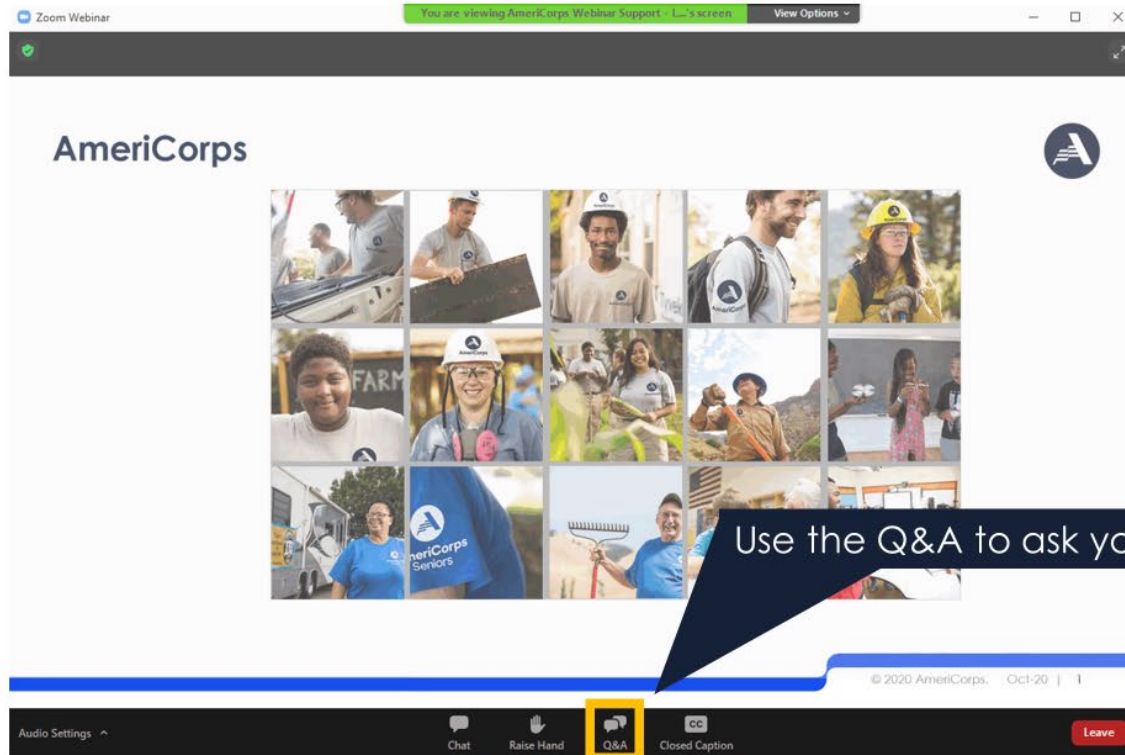
How old do the volunteers have to be to serve?

The Notice states:

Summary Statement: This funding announcement is an opportunity for communities to apply for funding to engage adults ages 55 and older in tackling the community's more pressing needs through the AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP program. This is an open competition across all states and territories.



Application Information Questions



Questions?

Please enter your questions into the Q&A box.



Resources

- [Fiscal Year 2025 AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
- [Appendix E: Federal Share, Unduplicated Volunteer, and Match Calculators for RSVP Competition](#)
- [45 CFR Part 2553](#)
- [FY 2025 AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Competition FAQ](#) (updated)

Webinars:

- [FY 2025 RSVP Competition: What's New](#)
- [Introduction to AmeriCorps Seniors](#)
- [Tour of the Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
- [Program Development: Critical Questions for Success](#) (e-Course)



FY 2025 RSVP



Competition

Selection Criteria and Priorities



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Competition

A.2. Funding Priorities



06 Supporting behavioral health initiatives

Reduce isolation, improve mental health, offer peer support, provide support, and use harm reduction methods

05 Supporting local climate change initiatives

Energy efficiency, waste management, and ecosystem restoration

04 Reducing the number of people who are unhoused

Provide affordable housing, support the unhoused, and addressing housing needs



01 Supporting older adults and their caregivers

Caregiver respite, support groups, system navigation, care coordination, and resources for custodial grandparents

02 Helping older adults re-enter the workforce

Job readiness support, mentoring, training, and removing barriers to employment

03 Preventing and mitigating fraud and scams

Digital navigators and other methods to prevent and mitigate financial fraud, abuse, and exploitation



Competition

Primary Focus Areas



Disaster Services



Economic Opportunity



Education



Environmental Stewardship



Healthy Futures



Veterans and Military Families

Note: Capacity Building and Other Community Priorities cannot be chosen as the Primary Focus Area but may be selected as the focus area for individual work plans



Difference Between Funding Priorities and Focus Areas

Funding Priorities

- For this cycle of competition
- Set by AmeriCorps Seniors for AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP only
- Demonstrated through the whole application
- Not required

Focus Areas

- High level categories related to impact of national service
- For all AmeriCorps programs including AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP
- Connected to the work plans
- Required that:
 - each work plan is assigned a focus area
 - you designate a primary focus area



Funding Priorities

We want to select the Supporting Behavioral Health Initiatives priority. Obesity and Food isn't listed as an objective in the selection rules for that priority. Does that mean we can't address community needs related to food security?

Applicants may include many community needs in their application. If you choose to address one or more optional FY 2025 RSVP Priorities, you do not have to focus the entire application on those priorities. You may have some community needs related to the priorities and some that are not.

You may create as many work plans under as many focus areas and objectives as necessary to meet community needs. If you choose one or more of the optional FY 2025 RSVP Priorities, there is no requirement that you must designate all your work plans for those priorities. You may have a combination of work plans that are and are not designated for the priorities.

Please see Section A.2 of the Notice for the requirements to receive priority consideration.



Funding Priorities vs Other Community Priorities

The Notice lists the new priorities, but it doesn't say anything about the old or current priorities. Does that mean Healthy Futures and Education are now considered other community needs and I can only have 20% of my volunteers working on those needs?

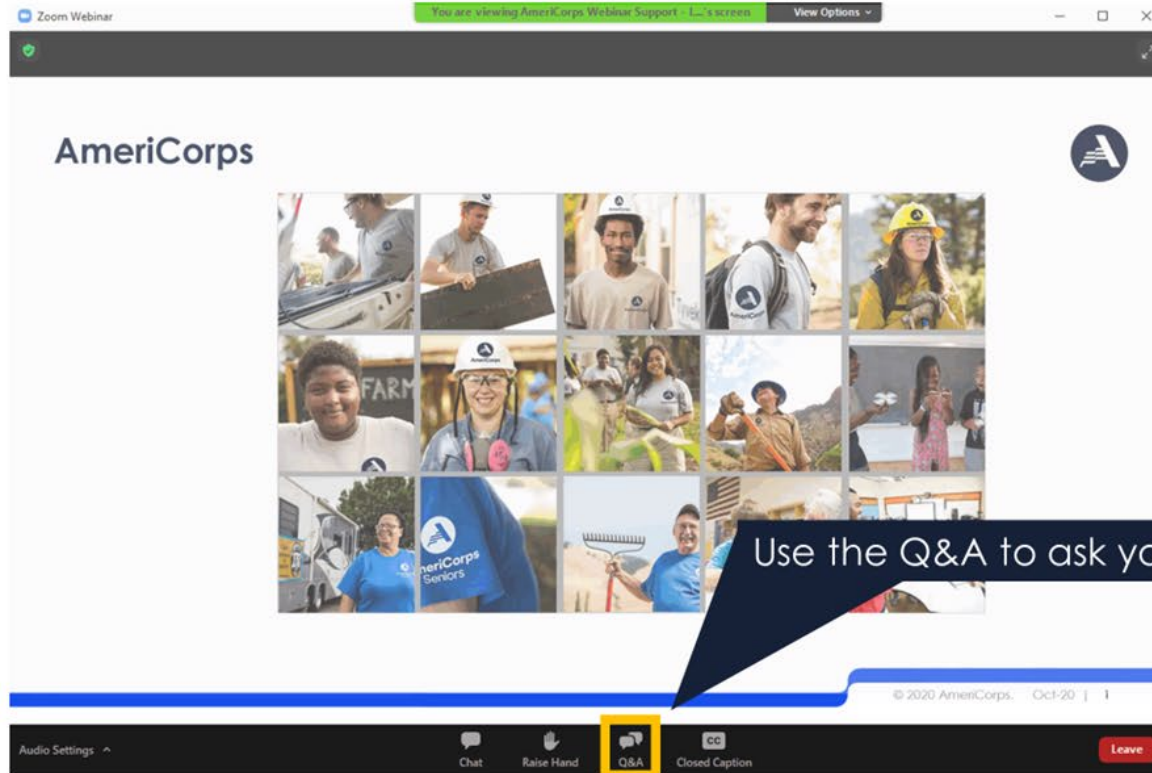
Selecting one of the competition priorities is optional. You do not have to include one of the FY 2025 RSVP Priorities in your application. You may propose to address any needs that are relevant to the community you are serving.

Healthy Futures and Education are focus areas, not priorities. You may place any number of volunteers in work plans for the seven AmeriCorps focus areas (see [Appendix B](#)).

“Other Community Priorities” is a focus area that AmeriCorps uses to capture service when grantees cannot collect outcomes OR service that does not fit within the seven AmeriCorps focus areas. If applicants choose to use Other Community Priorities work plans, they may place up to 20% of their unduplicated volunteers in those work plans.



Criteria and Priorities



Questions?

Please enter your questions into the Q&A box.

Use the Q&A to ask your questions.



Resources

- [Fiscal Year 2025 AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
- [Appendix A: AmeriCorps Seniors Grant Application Instructions](#) (Updated Aug 5)
- [Appendix B: AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Performance Measure Instructions](#)
- [FY 2025 AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Competition FAQ](#) (updated)

Webinars:

- [FY 2025 RSVP Competition: What's New](#)
- [Priorities and Selection Criteria](#)
- [Using Narratives and Work Plans to Make Your Case](#): Wed, Aug 28, 2:00 p.m. ET
- [Tour of the Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
- [Work Plans and Performance Measures Q&A](#): Thur, Sept 5, 4 p.m. ET
- [Program Development: Critical Questions for Success](#) (e-Course)
- [Submitting Your Application in eGrants](#)



FY 2025 RSVP



Competition

eGrants



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Create a NEW Application



eGRANTS MESSAGES

Welcome Your Name
Welcome to eGrants!

Creating an Application	Managing My Account
<p>1 New →</p> <p>Continuation/Renewal →</p> <p>Amendment →</p> <p>Concept Paper →</p>	<p>Click on the links below to access common account functions.</p> <p>My Account →</p>

508 Approved | Contact Help Desk | Privacy
Release version: 7.20

1. All applicants for FY 2025 RSVP Competition will select “New”

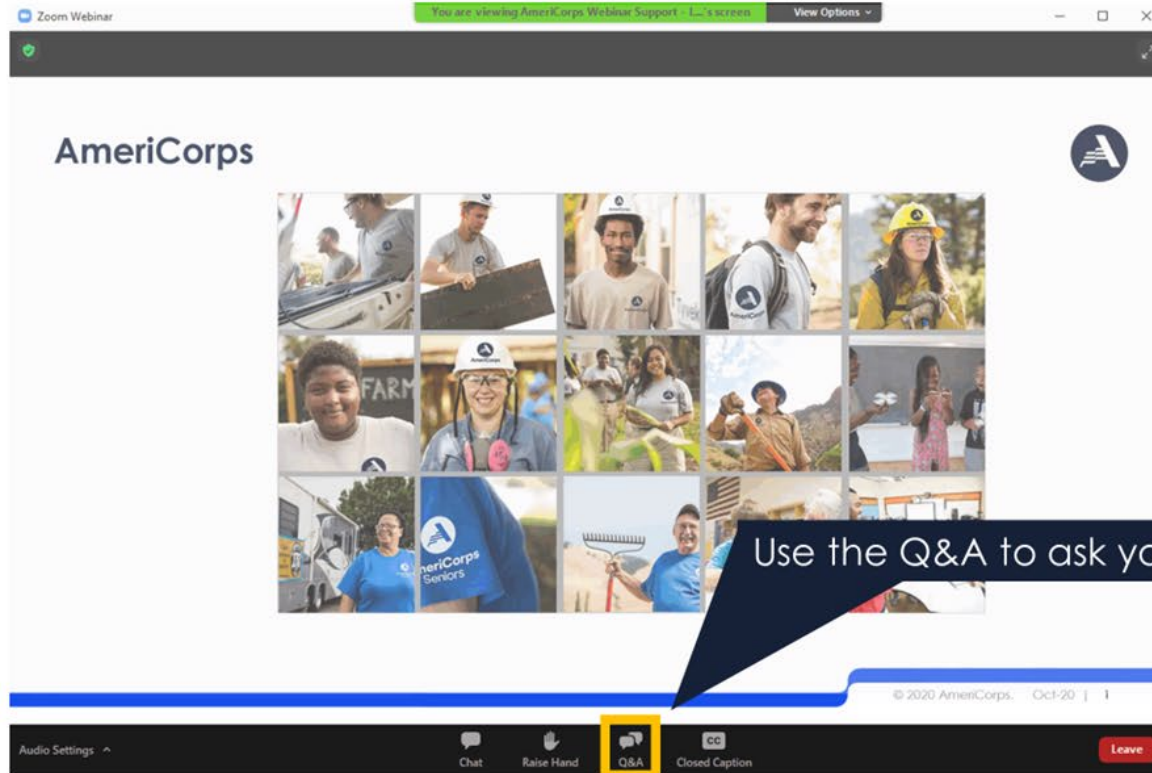


New or Re compete

I am incumbent applicant, do I need to submit a New Application or renewal/re compete application?

All applicants should submit a New Application. Follow the [Grant Application Instructions](#) in section Instructions for Starting a Grant Application for your Organization (page 10) and follow the steps for New Applications.

If you are an incumbent grantee and you see a notification in eGrants asking whether you mean to start a new application instead of continuing or renewing, please select “No, I am sure I want to apply for a new grant.”



Questions?

Please enter your questions into the Q&A box.

Use the Q&A to ask your questions.



Resources

- [Grant Application Instruction](#) – Walk through setting up your account to submitting.
- [Submitting Your Application in eGrants](#)- Pre-recorded

AmeriCorps Hotline

1-800-942-2677

For questions about your service as an AmeriCorps member or AmeriCorps Seniors volunteer, or applying for or administering an AmeriCorps program - including assistance with your Segal Education Award or support with eGrants and MyAmeriCorps Portal (including log-in, password, or error messages).

LIVE CHAT

WEBFORM



FY 2025 RSVP



Competition

Required Documents



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Additional Documents

1. All applicants, regardless of funding level, are required to submit an [Operational and Financial Management Survey \(OFMS\)](#). Please submit the OFMS using the link to the [online form](#), where you will be required to submit your response electronically. Forms submitted by email as a Word document, PDF, or any other document format may **not be accepted**.
2. Tribal organization eligibility documentation (see Section C.1 Eligible Applicants). Additional tribal organization eligibility documents must be emailed to AdditionalDocuments@americorps.gov.



OFMS Status

I emailed my OFMS but eGrants shows “not sent.” How do I proceed?

- The OFMS is to be submitted via online form rather than email. Please refer to section D.7.b. “Submission of Additional Documents” of the Notice for instructions on how to submit your OFMS.
- Please refer to the “Required Supplemental Documents List” section of the Grant Application Instructions for information on the documents section of the application.

Welcome Your Name Start New Grant Application

Start New

- Applicant Info
- Application Info
- Narratives
- Work Plan
- Program Information
- Documents
- Budget Section 1
- Budget Section 2
- Funding/Demographics
- Station Roster
- Review
- Authorize and Submit

Documents

Please select the appropriate status for each document.

Document Status List: [add a new](#)

status entered status not entered

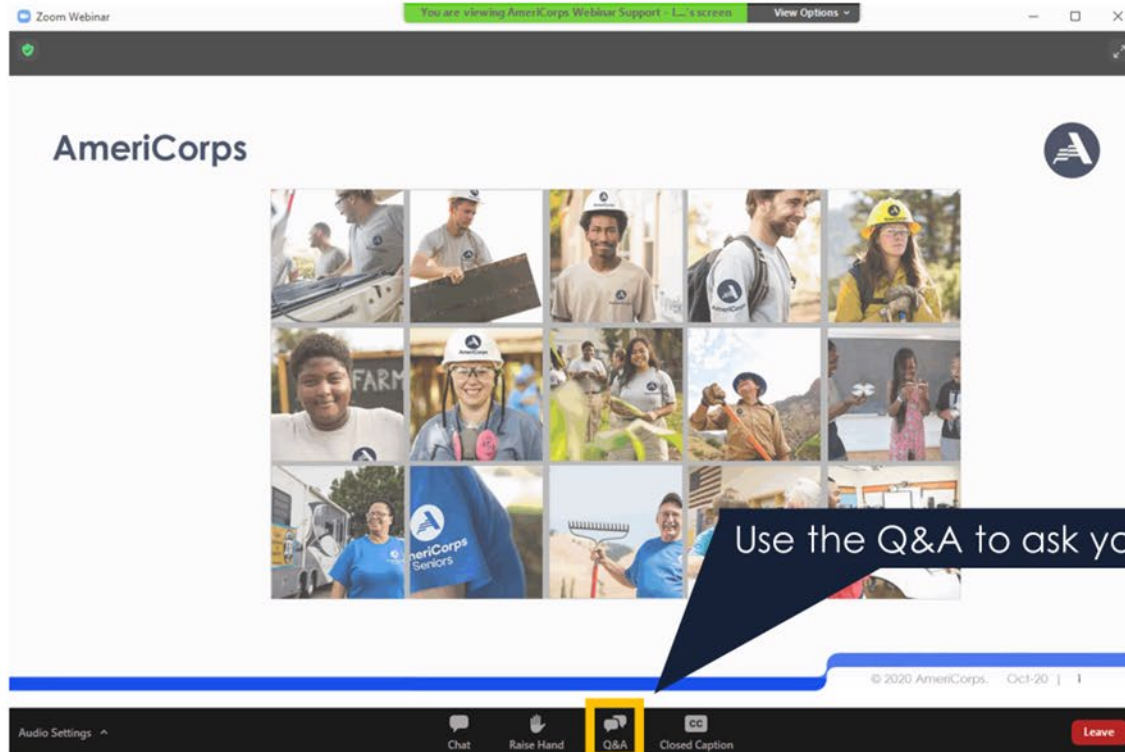
Document Name	Document Status	delete
Applicant Operational and Financial Management Survey (OFMS)	Not Sent	

See D.7.a of the Notice

1. Once you have submitted the OFMS, change the status from “Not Sent” to “Sent”
2. If you have tribal documents, please click “add a new” and enter the appropriate information

Do not enter any documents that aren’t specified in D.7.a of the Notice

Required Documents



Questions?

Please enter your questions into the Q&A box.

Use the Q&A to ask your questions.



Resources

- [Fiscal Year 2025 AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
- [Appendix A: AmeriCorps Seniors Grant Application Instructions](#) (Updated Aug 5)
- [FY 2025 AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Competition FAQ](#) (updated)

Webinars:

- [Program Development: Critical Questions for Success](#) (e-Course)
- [Submitting Your Application in eGrants](#)



FY 2025 RSVP



Competition

Volunteer and Volunteer Stations



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Regulations

[45 CFR Part 2553 Subpart D](#)

- Who is eligible to be an RSVP Volunteer
- What cost reimbursements and benefits may sponsors provide

[45 CFR Part 2553 Subpart E](#)

- Terms of Service

[45 CFR Part 2553 Subpart F](#)

- Responsibilities of a Volunteer Station



Recruitment

Does ‘unduplicated volunteers’ mean that you have to have different volunteers every year?

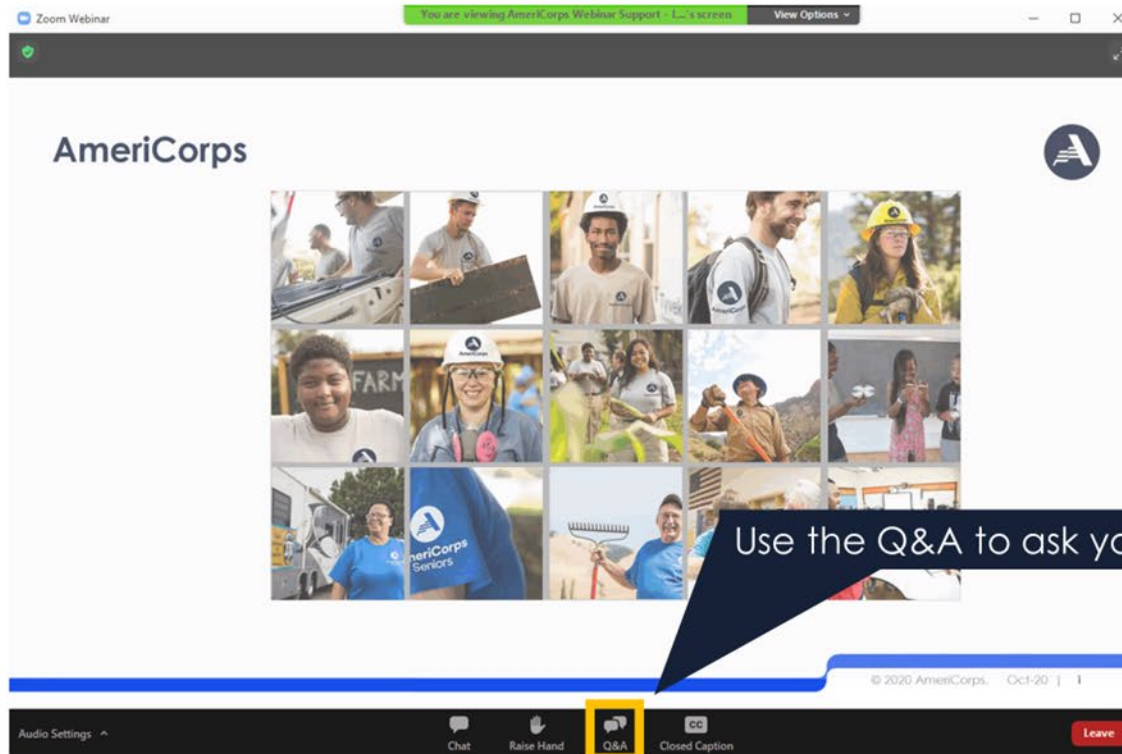
No. We actually encourage volunteer retention. Since work plans are completed annually, you may count one individual as an unduplicated volunteer in each year. Please keep in mind that you will be assessed on your plan and infrastructure to retain and recognize AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers (see Section E.1.b.ii Recruitment and Development in the Notice).

FY 2025 RSVP



Competition

Volunteers and Volunteer Stations



Questions?

Please enter your questions into the Q&A box.

Use the Q&A to ask your questions.



Resources

- [Fiscal Year 2025 AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
- [Appendix E: Federal Share, Unduplicated Volunteer, and Match Calculators for RSVP Competition](#)
- [45 CFR Part 2553](#)
- [FY 2025 AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Competition FAQ](#) (updated)

Webinars:

- [FY 2025 RSVP Competition: What's New](#)
- [Introduction to AmeriCorps Seniors](#)
- [Tour of the Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
- [Program Development: Critical Questions for Success](#) (e-Course)



FY 2025 RSVP



Competition

Geographic Service Area



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Areas Affected by the Project

Define your geographic service area:

- Open to all states/territories
- Incumbents not limited to previous service area
- More than one grantee can serve a single county
- List county names or tribal lands only; do not list cities, towns, etc.

Example:

If serving counties in one state

- Vermont: Addison, Orange, Washington

If serving a tribal land

- Arizona: Fort Yuma-Quechan Tribal lands

If serving counties in multiple states

- Arkansas: Crittenden
- Mississippi: DeSoto



Areas Affected by the Project

I seem to be having difficulties in locating the list of service areas available in the RSVP competition. When I click on all the links associated with this notice, I do not see the areas. Could you please provide the appropriate link?

In the Summary Statement on page 1 of the Notice, it states, “Summary Statement: This funding announcement is an opportunity for communities to apply for funding to engage adults ages 55 and older in tackling the community’s most pressing needs through the AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP program. This is an open competition across all states and territories.”

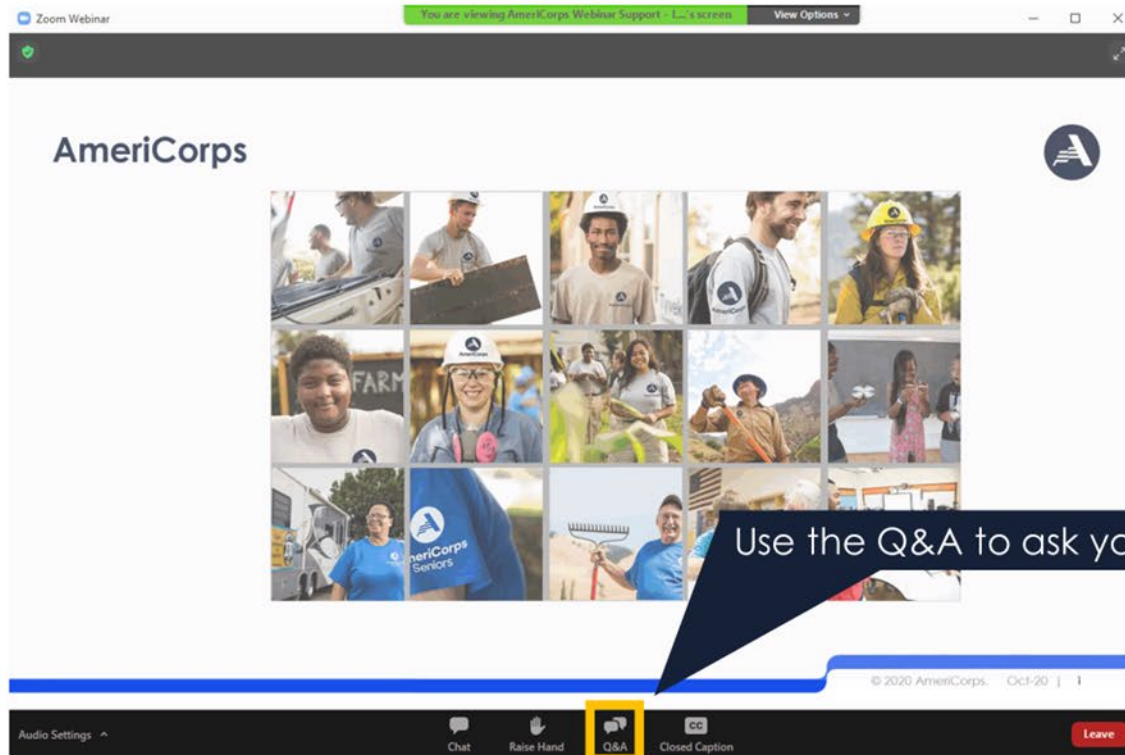


Overlap of Geographic Area

If we write the grant to cover counties A,B,C, but another agency writes for B,C also: 1) Is it possible for both agencies to serve B,C; 2) Is it possible that our agency might get A and the other agency B.C? And if we only get A, would it still be 75K + \$/volunteer for that one county.

Applications will be assessed and selected based the Notice requirements, criteria, and available funds as outlined in the Notice.

Geographic Service Area



Questions?

Please enter your questions into the Q&A box.

Use the Q&A to ask your questions.



Resources

- [Fiscal Year 2025 AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
- [Appendix A: AmeriCorps Seniors Grant Application Instructions](#) (Updated Aug 5)
- [FY 2025 AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Competition FAQ](#) (updated)

Webinars:

- [FY 2025 RSVP Competition: What's New](#)
- [Priorities and Selection Criteria](#)
- [Tour of the Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
- [Program Development: Critical Questions for Success](#) (e-Course)
- [Submitting Your Application in eGrants](#)



FY 2025 RSVP



Competition

Other Questions



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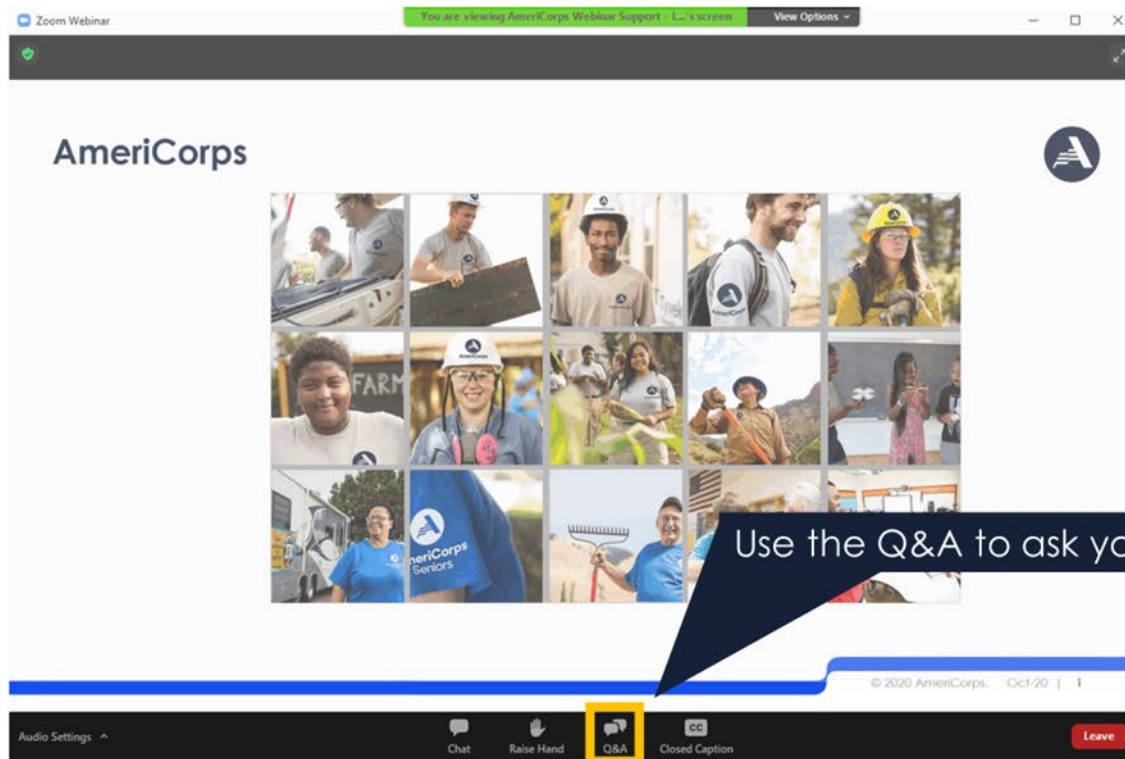
CRF updates

Will there be adjustments to grants if proposed CFR changes happen in regard to match, staffing, etc?

Applications are being accepted based on the current CFRs that are in place. If there are changes that impact the application before the deadline, AmeriCorps will notify all applicants.

In the event, the CFRs are updated between the deadline and award, applications may be updated during the resolution process or after the award.

Other Questions



Questions?

Please enter your questions into the Q&A box.

Use the Q&A to ask your questions.



FY 2025 RSVP



Competition

Important Reminders

Things to Remember



AmeriCorps
Seniors



Funding Opportunity Page

- Notice of Funding Opportunity and Appendices
- Grant Application Instructions
- Training and Technical Assistance Webinars
- FAQs and Other Resources for Applicants

Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Opportunity

[← BACK](#)

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- [Training and Technical Assistance Recordings](#)

[AmeriCorps Pre-Award Requirements and Other Resources](#)

About RSVP

Established in 1971 and now one of the largest senior volunteer programs in the nation, AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP engages people ages 55 and older in a diverse range of volunteer activities. AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP volunteers tutor children, help prepare simple taxes, assist victims of natural disasters, provide nutrition/food support, facilitate opioid and substance abuse education workshops, and serve in their communities in many other ways. AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP volunteers choose how, where, and how often they want to serve, with commitments ranging from a few hours to a maximum of 40 hours per week. While serving, AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP volunteers improve their own lives by staying active and civically engaged. To read the statute that regulates the AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP program, view the [Uniform Guidance § CFR 800](#) and [RSVP Federal Regulations](#).

Application Deadline

Applications are due by 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Thursday, September 18, 2024. Successful applicants will be issued awards by end of March 2025.

For more information, visit the [Funding Opportunity Page](#).

FY 2025 RSVP



Competition

Important Dates



Applications are due no later than **Wednesday, September 18, 2024, by 5:00 PM ET**

Successful applicants will be issued awards by **March 2025**



Successful applicants will be notified by **January 2025**

** See Section D.4.c for the Late Application process*

FY 2025 RSVF



Competition

Training and Technical Assistance



Upcoming Training Opportunities

- [Using Narratives and Work Plans to Make Your Case](#): Aug 28, 2 PM ET

[Pre-submit a question](#) for the Q&A webinars.





Key Contacts

Who to Contact and When

Question/Issue	Send an email to...
To receive a printed copy of the Notice, Grant Application Instructions, and Appendix B	RSVPCompetition@americorps.gov
Late application request	LateApplications@americorps.gov
Request a federally negotiated indirect cost rate from AmeriCorps	IndirectCostRate@americorps.gov
Submit the Operational and Financial Management Survey (OFMS)	Submit online ; forms submitted by email will not be accepted
Submit Tribal organization eligibility documentation	AdditionalDocuments@americorps.gov
General questions about the competition or AmeriCorps Seniors	RSVPCompetition@americorps.gov

Please note: Incumbent grantees **should not** contact their portfolio manager for questions about the RSVP Competition.

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Competition

Issues with eGrants

Who to Contact and When



Call the AmeriCorps Hotline at 800-942-2677

- Make note of your ticket number
- If assistance is needed on an application within 10 days of the submission deadline, choose option #3

Submit a question to the support team via the [web form](#)

Hotline hours:

- Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time
- Closed on federal holidays



Post-Event Poll Questions

How confident do you feel in applying the skills and knowledge gained from “General Q&A” session?

- 5- Very Confident
- 4- Confident
- 3- Somewhat Confident
- 2- Not Very Confident
- 1- Not Confident at All

Do you intend to apply for an AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP grant?

- Yes, this year (FY2025)
- Yes, but in the future
- Possibly
- Probably not
- No, definitely not



AmeriCorps Seniors

FY 2025 RSVP Competition

RSVPCompetition@americorps.gov

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