

PlusTime NH AmeriCorps Program Fact Sheet Information for Potential Members and Host Sites

About PlusTime NH



PlusTime NH was established in 1990 in response to the rising problems of unsupervised youth. Since then, PlusTime NH has become a nationally recognized state-wide non-profit organization.

Values: PlusTime NH strongly believes that all youth need and deserve quality afterschool experiences that will increase their capacity for success and happiness.

Mission: To provide the guidance, leadership, and support essential to create, expand, and sustain afterschool programs in New Hampshire communities.

What We Do: At PlusTime NH we (1) distribute resources and funding to afterschool programs; (2) consult with afterschool program staff and community members to start new programs and enhance existing ones; (3) provide professional development opportunities for afterschool administrators and staff; (4) promote the idea of afterschool through an educational social marketing campaign; (5) advocate at local, state and national levels for the financial and professional advancement of the afterschool field; (6) sponsor both an AmeriCorps and an AmeriCorps*VISTA Program, which offers programs the opportunity to host a National Service member while also receiving critical project support from the PlusTime Project Managers.

Where We Are Located: PlusTime NH's office is located at 202 North State Street in Concord, NH.

PlusTime NH's AmeriCorps Program



AmeriCorps was established by the US Government in 1993, the purpose of AmeriCorps is to engage AmeriCorps members in direct service and capacity-building to address unmet community needs. Local programs design service activities for a team of members serving full- or part-time for one year or during the summer. Sample activities include tutoring and mentoring youth, assisting crime victims, building homes, and restoring parks. AmeriCorps members also mobilize community volunteers and strengthen the capacity of the organizations where they serve.

PlusTime NH is proud to be the sponsoring organization for a dynamic, multi-state AmeriCorps Program. Through this sponsorship, PlusTime NH is able to offer AmeriCorps as a resource to afterschool programs and organizations.

Geographic Locations of the Program

PlusTime NH AmeriCorps members serve in an afterschool program or organization throughout New Hampshire. **Currently, we are able to offer A*VISTA positions throughout New Hampshire.**

Types of Service Performed by PlusTime NH AmeriCorps Members

The main objective for PlusTime NH AmeriCorps members is to assist in creating programs for youth with a focus on expanding and enhancing the quality of afterschool programs and organizations. Based on both the needs of the host site and the skills of the member, tasks may include:

- Strengthening youth participation in a program by creating innovative curriculum.
- Building community support through volunteer recruitment and outreach.
- Develop Service Learning projects that engage youth in the community
- Development and implementation of health and wellness activities for the youth

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- Enhancing programming options by researching and coordinating innovative curriculum ideas, strengthening relationships with local schools to develop the connection between the school-day and the afterschool program, creating connections with local enrichment providers, etc.

The beauty of the AmeriCorps Program is that depending on interests and skills, AmeriCorps members can work with their host sites to develop special projects which would benefit both the member, host site and community.

Creativity is both allowed and encouraged!

AmeriCorps Program Parameters

Time Commitment

AmeriCorps members commit to 10.5 month at their host site, and must complete 1700 hours of service during that timeframe.

During this time, members are required to serve full-time, or approximately 40 hours/week. Daily schedules can vary slightly between host sites, but will usually follow a typical business day. Some positions may occasionally require evening or weekend hours if members are participating in program/community meetings or special events.

AmeriCorps members are allowed to hold additional employment or attend school while serving. If the member is employed part-time outside of AmeriCorps or taking classes, it is advised that the AmeriCorps position be the priority.

AmeriCorps positions start in September for the 10.5 month position.

AmeriCorps Benefits

Members receive a modest monthly living stipend, which is directly deposited on a bi-weekly basis.

- New Hampshire = \$526.49/bi-weekly pay period (gross amount before taxes).
- Members also receive:
 - ✓ Health coverage (no stipend deductions are taken for this coverage)
 - ✓ Life insurance
 - ✓ Federal student loan deferral (with interest paid)
 - ✓ Education award for **\$4725** for the 10.5 month position, upon successful completion of service.

****Special Bonus for PlusTime NH AmeriCorps Members:** For members who serve with PlusTime NH, we are able to offer the option of choosing an additional \$45/month compensation in the form of gas and/or grocery gift cards! Hooray!

PlusTime NH AmeriCorps Program Requirements

Member Requirements

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age, and there is no upper age limit. Applicants must be U.S. Citizens or have Permanent Resident Status. High school or GED requirements must be completed. However, most PlusTime positions prefer candidates with Bachelor Degrees in specific fields. Applicants must be able to serve on a full-time basis for the duration of the project. Applicants must have reliable transportation. AmeriCorps service cannot be used to satisfy requirements of parole or probation.

Throughout a member's term of service, there are various requirements that must be successfully completed: timesheets are submitted bi-weekly, project progress reports are submitted quarterly, performance reviews are completed twice/year. In addition, there are team meetings and events that require participation from all members.

Host Site Requirements

Applicant organizations must provide services to children and/or youth during the afterschool hours, or be an organization that promotes afterschool through research, advocacy, program consultation, etc. Host Site applicants must have an established governance system, and be able to appoint a direct project supervisor for the AmeriCorps member. The direct supervisor must be employed full-time with the host site, and must be able to provide effective guidance and support throughout the member's term of service.

Throughout a member's term of service, there are various requirements that must be successfully completed: timesheets are submitted bi-weekly, project progress reports are submitted quarterly, performance reviews are completed twice/year. In addition, there are team meetings and events that require participation from all members. Host Sites must be willing and able to plan for their member's absence during these times.

Upon successful recruitment of an AmeriCorps member, Host Sites are required to submit a cost-share to PlusTime NH. This cost-share is a requirement of the Federal Grant that supports our efforts to manage this AmeriCorps Program.

The cost share amount is \$7,000. This amount will be pro-rated if, for some reason, an AmeriCorps Member is unable to complete his/her 10.5 month service term.

Application Procedures

AmeriCorps applicants must complete an on-line application that includes a motivational statement (essay) and two written professional references. Additionally, all applicants will go through a two-step interview process and criminal background check.

Host Site Applicants initially meet with the AmeriCorps Project Manager to review the application process and guidelines. A written application must then be submitted (which includes a Program Narrative section and a Project Plan section - member work plan). Additionally, an organizational chart, supervisor resume, and two letters of support for the proposed AmeriCorps project must be submitted.

To receive instructions for either application, OR if you have any further questions, please contact:

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