

Bidder's Notice: March 31, 2022

**New York State
Office of Children and Family Services
Commission on National and Community Services**

Grant Procurement

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP # 1090

eGrants Cost-Reimbursement Application ID: 22AC246537

eGrants Fixed-Cost Application ID: 22ES246607

New York State AmeriCorps 2022- 2023 Formula Pool

This notice is being issued to focus attention on important information regarding the New York State AmeriCorps 2022- 2023 Formula Pool RFP# 1090. The following opportunities for award are being considered for funding:

1. Operating Funds – Annual Allocation - Formula Funding

Each state receives an annual AmeriCorps formula allocation of federal funds, to use in accordance with state strategic priorities, as identified by the Governor and the Commission. The Commission has not received notice of its annual allocation for 2022-2023 and it is currently not possible for the Commission to estimate the total amount of funds that will be available; however, for purposes of comparison, for the program year 2021-2022, New York State (NYS) was allocated \$7,774,117.00 in formula AmeriCorps funding.

2. Operating Funds – Excelsior Conservation Corps

The NYS Commission will be dedicating \$850,000 of their 2022-2023 annual allocation to fund the environmental initiative, Excelsior Conservation Corps (ECC). The ECC addresses stewardship needs throughout NYS and is a residential, crew-based program. The ECC will continue to create the next generation of conservation leaders in NYS by empowering young people of all backgrounds through education, hands-on experience, and training to address the most pressing environmental needs across NYS.

This program will be supported by 1) the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) which will provide \$300,000 from the Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) Stewardship; 2) the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) which will provide \$300,000 from the Environmental Protection Fund Stewardship; and 3) the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation which will provide \$200,000 Hard Dollar Capital for the ECC program on behalf of the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC). A total of \$1.65 million combining AmeriCorps resources with those of the State will be dedicated to the ECC. The NYS Commission will award one (1) contract to support the ECC. Please see Sections 2.3 and 11.1 for more information about the ECC.

3. Developmental Support Funds – AmeriCorps Planning Grant Applications

The Commission may, depending upon funding availability and score, support planning grants of up to \$50,000 for a period of twelve (12) months or less. Planning grants provide resources for agencies and organizations interested in supporting an AmeriCorps program to further explore community needs, possible sources of local support and match funding, and/or to develop a program design and budget that will be sustainable. See Sections 2.3 and 11.2 for more information about planning grants.

4. 2021-2023 State Service Plan Priorities Bonus Points (see Section 5.2 Bonus Points)

The Commission encourages applicants to focus on the following program areas:

- a. Regional Intermediaries
- b. Organizations Specializing in Services to the Population Ages 55 or Over

5. Applicants should be aware of the following requirements and/or changes from prior AmeriCorps funding opportunities:

- I. The minimum living allowance for a full-time AmeriCorps member has been raised to \$16,502.
- II. The maximum cost-per-MSY has been raised to \$28,800.

6. The following elements have been added to the instructions for the Narrative section of the application:

Program Design: The Theory of Change and Logic Model shall address that the problem described is prevalent and severe in the communities proposed to be served, and document the problem with relevant data

Program Design: Applicants should discuss the community need as it relates to the CDC's Social Vulnerability Index: <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/placeandhealth/svi/index.html>

Member Experience: The application should demonstrate that AmeriCorps members, as a result of their service, will have opportunities to develop as leaders.

Member Experience: The application should demonstrate that the applicant's organization and/or program has a diversity, equity, and inclusion council that seeks to diversify its staff and board, and creates a supportive and safe environment, as well as ensure that its programming is culturally and community appropriate.

Organizational Background and Staffing: The application should demonstrate that the organization has facilitated, partnered, or participated in educational or workforce development programs (i.e., pre-apprenticeship/registered apprenticeship, work experience and job training programs, etc.).

Organizational Background and Staffing: The application should demonstrate that the organization has a stated commitment and plan to advance diversity, equality, and inclusion (DEI) throughout its mission, for example by using a DEI council or strategic plan.

Compliance and Accountability: The application should demonstrate that the organization has sufficient policies, procedures, and controls in place to prevent, detect, and mitigate the risk of fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement, such as appropriate segregation of duties, internal oversight activities, measures to prevent timekeeping fraud, etc.

Compliance and Accountability: The application should demonstrate that the organization has an effective mechanism in place to report, without delay, any suspected criminal activity, waste, fraud, and/or abuse to both the AmeriCorps Office of Inspector General and AmeriCorps and a plan for training staff and participants on these reporting protocols.

Culture that Values Learning: The application should demonstrate that the applicant's board, management, and staff collect and use information to determine its programmatic effectiveness in serving in a community with members that are diverse.

Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy/Clarification Information: Applicants should make a heading in the Clarification Section of their application, entitled "FY 2022 Match replacement." If your agency is not able to meet its required match threshold, enter the dollar amount of federal dollars your program would like to designate as "match replacement." The amount cannot result in your program being above the maximum cost per MSY. Should your application go to clarification, this field will also be used to enter information that requires clarification in the post-review period.

Given the complexity of this opportunity, The Commission will hold two (optional) informational sessions on April 7, 2022, starting at 1:00 p.m. Eastern time. Please use the following access information to participate:

Programmatic and Evidence Info Session 4/7/2022 @ 1:00 P.M. ET

Video Conference Access Link: [Link](#)

Password: AmeriCorps2022

Audio Conference number (518) 549-0500

Participant Code 161 006 6424

Technical Info Session 4/7/2022 @ 3:00 P.M. ET

Video Conference Access Link: [Link](#)

Password: AmeriCorps2022

Audio Conference number (518) 549-0500

Participant Code 161 873 5377