

Bidder's Notice

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

Grant Procurement

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP # 1157

New York State AmeriCorps 2024 - 2025 Competitive Pool

This notice is being issued to focus attention on important information regarding the AmeriCorps 2024 - 2025 Competitive Pool RFP # 1157.

Applicants should be aware of the following requirements and/or changes from prior AmeriCorps funding opportunities (please see the full version of RFP 1157 for further information):

1. New NOFO Priorities **(p.21)**

- Community-based programs that enhance and expand service to second chance youth as AmeriCorps members (initiative with another federal agency)
- Programs that support civic bridgebuilding programs and projects to reduce polarization and community divisions; and providing training in civic bridgebuilding skills and techniques to AmeriCorps members; (Appropriations report language)
- Programs focused on implementing or expanding access to high-quality early learning and those that prepare AmeriCorps members to enter early learning careers. (Executive Order (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2023/04/18/executive-order-on-increasing-access-to-high-quality-care-and-supporting-caregivers/>))

2. Increasing the full-time AmeriCorps member's minimum living allowance to from \$17,600 to \$18,700 (\$11/hour) **(p.25)**

3. Increasing the maximum cost per MSY from \$23,000 to \$25,000 **(p. 26)**

4. Increasing the page limit for the Logic Model from three pages to a maximum of eight pages. **(p.34)**

5. Streamlining the NOFO to make it easier for applicants to apply by decreasing the NOFO criteria from 30 criteria to 17 criteria. Some of the more significant changes are:

- Increasing the information requested about the community in which the applicant seeks to serve. **(pp.36-37)**

- Avoiding asking applicants to provide duplicate information in both the Theory of Change and the Logic Model sections by eliminating the Theory of Change section and providing more directive guidance as to the information that should be included in the Logic Model. As we are requesting more information to ensure we capture all the need information, we have expanded the maximum page limit of the Logic Model section from three to eight pages. Applicants do not have to use the entire page count if they do not need it. **(same as above)**
- Refocusing the points related to DEIA into its own section in Organizational Capability and in Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy to implementation plans with resources attached. **(p.41)**
- Strengthening the Organizational background and Staffing section and taking it from 13 to 15 points. **(p.40)**
- Strengthening the Member Supervision section and taking it from 4 to 6 points. (pp.40-41)
- Removing the compliance criteria submitted at time of application. Instead, AmeriCorps will require that grantees/subgrantees, after notification but before award, submit a plan for compliance that is based on a template.
- Refocusing the points for the cost effectiveness and budget section from “did you add correctly and run formulas with fidelity” to a focus on some of the most pressing issues facing our existing grantees/subgrantees for whom attaching resources could make a difference: member recruitment, member retention, and data collection. **(pp.41-42)**

Given the complexity of this opportunity, The Commission will hold two (optional) informational sessions on November 6, 2023, starting at 1:00 p.m. Eastern time. Please use the following access information to participate:

Programmatic and Evidence Info Session 11/6/2023 @ 1:00 P.M. ET
Video Conference Access Link: [Link](#)
Password: AmeriCorps2024
Audio Conference number (518) 549-0500
Participant Code 161 150 8322

Technical Info Session 11/6/2023 @ 3:00 P.M. ET
Video Conference Access Link: [Link](#)
Password: AmeriCorps2024
Audio Conference number (518) 549-0500
Participant Code 161 413 4126