

# FUNDING RESOURCES FOR EDUCATION SERVICE YEAR PROGRAMS

## How to Use This Resource

Service Year Alliance knows that one of the main barriers to starting a service year program is developing a funding strategy to build, create, and sustain a service year program. This resource is a starting place for the reader to understand your options and possibilities. While this resource is geared towards helping education-focused programs, the resources for the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), state funding, and corporate & philanthropic funding could be used for any organization that is starting a service year program.

As you figure out your funding needs, know that most programs have a combination of many funding sources; some are mentioned in this resource. The most common sources of funding for education focused service year programs are: AmeriCorps funds (from CNCS), non-CNCS federal funds, state funding, school budgets, corporate and philanthropic funding, local government funding, fee-for-service revenue, individual donations, and host site contributions. We suggest diversifying your funding to ensure sustainability. In the case of AmeriCorps grants, the grant from CNCS does not pay the full amount needed to run a service year program and you will need to have matching funds in order to use the awarded grant money.

Service Year Alliance highly recommends that before going to funders, you define your service year program model and outcome you want. Fortunately, we can help you design your program model. Contact us at [growth@serviceyear.org](mailto:growth@serviceyear.org) to start defining your needs. Readers can also start by downloading our [Service Years as a Strategy to Improve Education Outcomes Guide](#) and [Creating a New Program Toolkit](#) to understand the building blocks to starting a new program or replicating, hosting, or expanding an existing education program.



## Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) Funding

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) is the independent federal agency that administers AmeriCorps. AmeriCorps allow schools, local education agencies (LEAs), state education agencies (SEAs), nonprofits, state and local government agencies, universities/colleges, tribal nations, and other entities to apply. With federal funding from CNCS, schools across the country are using this proven source of human capital to help students succeed in school and in life. AmeriCorps funds pay but only a part of program costs requiring that organizations secure remaining funding from other sources. In this way, AmeriCorps funding provides foundational support for many programs while leveraging other funding, including private sector donations, to make up the full cost.

School districts and state education agencies can apply directly; apply in partnership with a city, state, university, or nonprofit organization; or be a service location for other applicants. Over half of CNCS's budget supports education-related programs. [AmeriCorps grants](#) typically last three years or more. Most states have both a [CNCS State Office](#) and a Governor-appointed [State Service Commission](#) who can help you think about how to leverage national service in your school, district, or state. You can also download the [Leveraging National Service in Your Schools: A Superintendent's/Principal's Toolkit to Utilizing National Service Resources](#), which is a toolkit from CNCS for education stakeholders to determine the best ways for you to leverage national service resources in your schools.

## Other Federal Funding Sources

CNCS is not the only source of federal funds that schools can access to create, build, and sustain a service year program. The following sources of funding are other federal funds awarded through the states to programs addressing specific outcomes that may be available to fund a service year program. The funding options are broken down by education level: early childhood, K-12, and post-secondary access sources.

### ***Early Childhood Development Sources***

Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)

[also called Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)]

[www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/ccdf-reauthorization](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/ccdf-reauthorization)

Head Start

[www.acf.hhs.gov/ohs](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/ohs)

Maternal, Infant and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV)

[mchb.hrsa.gov/maternal-child-health-initiatives/home-visiting-overview](http://mchb.hrsa.gov/maternal-child-health-initiatives/home-visiting-overview)

Social Impact Partnerships to Produce Results Act (SIPPR)

[socialfinance.org/what-is-pay-for-success/sippra/](http://socialfinance.org/what-is-pay-for-success/sippra/)

State Targeted Response Block Grant (STR)

[www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/ti-18-020](http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/ti-18-020)

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

[www.acf.hhs.gov/ofa/programs/tanf](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/ofa/programs/tanf)

### ***K-12 Sources***

Career and Technical Education Act

[www.careertech.org/perkins](http://www.careertech.org/perkins)

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)

[www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/comm\\_planning/community\\_development/programs](http://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/community_development/programs)

Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)

[www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/programs/csbg](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/ocs/programs/csbg)

Families First

[chronicleofsocialchange.org/finance-reform/chronicles-complete-guide-family-first-prevention-services-act](http://chronicleofsocialchange.org/finance-reform/chronicles-complete-guide-family-first-prevention-services-act)

Social Impact Partnerships to Produce Results Act (SIPPR)

[socialfinance.org/what-is-pay-for-success/sippra/](http://socialfinance.org/what-is-pay-for-success/sippra/)

State Targeted Response Block Grant (STR)

[www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/ti-18-020](http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/grant-announcements/ti-18-020)

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

[www.acf.hhs.gov/ofa/programs/tanf](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/ofa/programs/tanf)

Title IV-A of ESSA, Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grants (SSAEG)

[safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/ESSA-TitleIVPartA-SSAE](http://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/ESSA-TitleIVPartA-SSAE)

## Post-secondary Access Sources

Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP)

[www2.ed.gov/programs/gearup/index.html](http://www2.ed.gov/programs/gearup/index.html)

TRIO Programs

*[Includes Upward Bound (UB), Talent Search (TS), Student Support Services (SSS), Educational Opportunity Centers (EOCs), Veterans Upward Bound (VUB), Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program (McNair), Upward Bound Math and Science (UBMS), and Training Program for TRIO]*

[www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/trio/index.html](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/trio/index.html)

## State Funding

In some cases, state appropriations support specific programs. For example, Minnesota appropriates more than \$10 million annually for Reading Corps and Math Corps. Other states replicating these programs, including Iowa, Washington, and Colorado, have also used state funding to supplement AmeriCorps funding. You can read about these examples in our Expanding Service Years in States guide. Ultimately, this may be a funding option for you depending on your state's budget. You can check out your state's enacted budgets through the [National Association of State Budget Officers website](#).

## Corporate & Philanthropic Funding

Virtually all programs receive a portion of their funding from philanthropic or corporate sources. The amount of private sector funds varies program to program. If you already receive funds from a corporation or foundation, they can be a great place to start. If you are starting from square one, having your service year model together is necessary in order to submit to new opportunities. Once you have your model, you can research corporations and foundations granting funds for the outcomes you want to achieve.

## School Budgets

Most service year programs operating in schools receive a portion of their budget from the school budget. If you are a superintendent or school official, knowing how much you can appropriate for a service year program will be key to pulling together your diversified funds to run a service year program. Here are a couple examples of how school funds can be used to run a service year program:

- In the case of teacher corps, service year corps member salaries can be paid by schools, while the costs of training and supporting corps members are supported through other funding means.
- In another model, programs that place service year corps members in schools to play roles other than a full-time teacher may have a set fee on a per-corps member or per-team basis. These fees may come from general budget support or, in some cases, a federal grant such as Title I, Title IIA, School Improvement Grants, or 21st Century Community Learning Centers grants could be used.

## Additional Resources

Service Year Alliance & American Youth Policy Forum Webinar: The Role of National Service in Improving K-12 Education Outcomes <http://resources.serviceyear.org/media/?mediaId=56598C06-AE0B-4F20-BBA877CC6F11C8A2>

Communities in Schools Webinar - Untapped Resources: Leveraging ESSA and Other Federal Support for Community Schools <http://coordinators.communityschools.org/page/national-forum-hot-topics-webinar-series-equipping-coordinators-w>

Email [growth@serviceyear.org](mailto:growth@serviceyear.org) to start defining your needs and building a service year program.