

**§ 2540.620 What are my rights if the Corporation determines that I have made a false or misleading statement?**

If the Corporation determines that you have made a false or misleading statement in connection with your eligibility for a benefit from, or qualification to participate in, a Corporation-funded program, you will be hand delivered a written notice, or sent a written notice to your last known street address or e-mail address or that of your identified counsel at least 15 days before any proposed action is taken. The notice will include the facts surrounding the determination and the action the Corporation proposes to take. The notice will also identify the reviewing official in your case and provide other pertinent information. You will be allowed to show good cause as to why forfeiture, revocation, the denial of a benefit, or other action should not be implemented. You will be given 10 calendar days to submit written materials in opposition to the proposed action.

**§ 2540.630 What information must I provide to contest a proposed action?**

Your written response must include specific facts that contradict the statements made in the notice of proposed action. A general statement of denial is insufficient to raise a dispute over the facts material to the proposed action. Your response should also include copies of any documents that support your argument.

**§ 2540.640 When will the reviewing official make a decision on the proposed action?**

The reviewing official will issue a decision within 45 days of receipt of your response.

**§ 2540.650 How may I contest a reviewing official's decision to uphold the proposed action?**

If the Corporation's reviewing official concludes that the proposed action, in full or in part, should still be implemented, you will have an opportunity to request an additional proceeding. A Corporation program director or designee will conduct a review of

the complete record, including such additional relevant documents you submit. If deemed appropriate, such as where there are material facts in genuine dispute, the program director or designee may conduct a telephonic or in person meeting. If a meeting is conducted, it will be recorded and you will be provided a copy of the recording. The program director or designee will issue a decision within 30 days of the conclusion of the review of the record or meeting. The decision of the program director or designee is final and cannot be appealed further within the agency.

**§ 2540.660 If the final decision determines that I received a financial benefit improperly, will I be required to repay that benefit?**

If it is determined that you received a financial benefit improperly, you may be required to reimburse the program for that benefit.

**§ 2540.670 Will my qualification to participate or eligibility for benefits be suspended during the review process?**

If the reviewing official determines that, based on the information available, there is a reasonable likelihood that you will be determined disqualified or ineligible, your qualification or eligibility may be suspended, pending issuance of a final decision, to protect the public interest.

**PARTS 2541–2543 [RESERVED]**

**PART 2544—SOLICITATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS**

Sec.

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## § 2544.100

2544.140 How will the Corporation accept or reject an offer?

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2544.150 How will accepted donations be recorded and used?

AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 12501 *et seq.*

SOURCE: 60 FR 28355, May 31, 1995, unless otherwise noted.

### § 2544.100 What is the purpose of this part?

This part establishes rules to ensure that the solicitation, acceptance, holding, administration, and use of property and services donated to the Corporation:

(a) Will not reflect unfavorably upon the ability of the Corporation or its officers and employees, to carry out their official duties and responsibilities in a fair and objective manner; and

(b) Will not compromise the integrity of the Corporation's programs or its officers and employees involved in such programs.

### § 2544.105 What is the legal authority for soliciting and accepting donations to the Corporation?

Section 196(a) of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended (42 U.S.C. 12651g(a)).

### § 2544.110 What definitions apply to terms used in this part?

(a) *Donation* means a transfer of money, property, or services to or for the use of the Corporation by gift, devise, bequest, or other means.

(b) *Solicitation* means a request for a donation.

(c) *Volunteer* means an individual who donates his/her personal service to the Corporation to assist the Corporation in carrying out its duties under the national service laws, but who is not a participant in a program funded or sponsored by the Corporation under the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended. Such individual is not subject to provisions of law related to Federal employment, including those relating to hours of work, rates of compensation, leave, unemployment compensation and Federal employee benefits, except that—

(1) Volunteers will be considered Federal employees for the purpose of the

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tort claims provisions of 28 U.S.C. chapter 171;

(2) Volunteers will be considered Federal employees for the purposes of 5 U.S.C. chapter 81, subchapter I, relating to compensation to Federal employees for work injuries; and

(3) Volunteers will be considered special Government employees for the purpose of ethics and public integrity under the provisions of 18 U.S.C. chapter 11, part I, and 5 CFR chapter XVI, subchapter B.

(d) *Inherently governmental function* means any activity that is so intimately related to the public interest as to mandate performance by an officer or employee of the Federal Government, including an activity that requires either the exercise of discretion in applying the authority of the Government or the use of value judgment in making a decision for the Government.

### § 2544.115 Who may offer a donation?

Anyone, including an individual, group of individuals, organization, corporation, or association may offer a donation to the Corporation.

### § 2544.120 What personal services from a volunteer may be solicited and accepted?

A donation in the form of personal services from a volunteer may be solicited and accepted to assist the Corporation in carrying out its duties. However, volunteers may not perform an inherently governmental function.

### § 2544.125 Who has the authority to solicit and accept or reject a donation?

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Corporation has the authority to solicit, accept, or reject a donation offered to the Corporation and to make the determinations described in § 2544.130 (c) and (d). The CEO may delegate this authority in writing to other officials of the Corporation.

### § 2544.130 How will the Corporation determine whether to solicit or accept a donation?

(a) The Corporation will solicit and accept a donation only for the purpose

of furthering the mission and goals of the Corporation.

(b) In order to be accepted, the donation must be economically advantageous to the Corporation, considering foreseeable expenditures for matters such as storage, transportation, maintenance, and distribution.

(c) An official or employee of the Corporation will not solicit or accept a donation if the solicitation or acceptance would present a real or apparent conflict of interest. An apparent conflict of interest is presented if the solicitation or acceptance would raise a question in the mind of a reasonable person, with knowledge of the relevant facts, about the integrity of the Corporation's programs or operations.

(d) The Corporation will determine whether a conflict of interest exists by considering any business relationship, financial interest, litigation, or other factors that may indicate such a conflict. Donations of property or voluntary services may not be solicited or accepted from a source which:

(1) Is a party to a grant or contract with the Corporation or is seeking to do business with the Corporation;

(2) Has pecuniary interests that may be substantially affected by performance or nonperformance of the Corporation; or

(3) Is an organization a majority of whose members are described in paragraphs (d)(1) and (2) of this section.

(e) Any solicitation or offer of a donation that raises a question or concern of a potential, real, or apparent conflict of interest will be forwarded to the Corporation's Designated Ethics Official for an opinion.

**§ 2544.135 How should an offer of a donation be made?**

(a) In general, an offer of donation should be made by providing a letter of tender that offers a donation. The letter should be directed to an official authorized to accept donations, describe the property or service offered, and specify any purpose for, or condition on, the use of the donation.

(b) If an offer is made orally, the Corporation will send a letter of acknowledgment to the offeror. If the donor is anonymous, the Corporation will prepare a memorandum to the file ac-

knowledging receipt of a tendered donation and describing the donation including any special terms or conditions.

(c) Only those employees or officials with expressed notice of authority may accept donations on behalf of the Corporation. If an offer is directed to an unauthorized employee or official of the Corporation, that person must immediately forward the offer to an appropriate official for disposition.

**§ 2544.140 How will the Corporation accept or reject an offer?**

(a) In general, the Corporation will respond to an offer of a donation in writing and include in the response:

(1) An acknowledgment of receipt of the offer;

(2) A brief description of the offer and any purpose or condition that the offeror specified for the use of the donation;

(3) A statement either accepting or rejecting the donation; and

(4) A statement informing the donor that any acceptance of services or property can not be used in any manner, directly or indirectly, that endorses the donor's products or services or appears to benefit the financial interests or business goals of the donor.

(b) If a purpose or condition for the use of the donation specified by the offeror can not be accommodated, the Corporation may request the offeror to modify the terms of the donation.

**§ 2544.145 What will be done with property that is not accepted?**

In general, property offered to the Corporation but not accepted will be returned to the offeror. If the offeror is unknown or the donation would spoil if returned, the property will either be disposed of in accordance with Federal Property Management regulations (41 CFR chapter 101) or given to local charities determined by the Corporation.

**§ 2544.150 How will accepted donations be recorded and used?**

(a) All accepted donations of money and other property will be reported to the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the Corporation for recording and appropriate disposition.

(b) All donations of personal services of a volunteer will be reported to the CFO and to the Personnel Division of the Corporation for processing and documentation.

(c) Donations not designated for a particular purpose will be used for an authorized purpose described in § 2544.125.

(d) Property will be used as nearly as possible in accordance with the terms of the donation. If no terms are specified, or the property can no longer be used for its original purpose, the property will be converted to another authorized use or sold in accordance with Federal regulations. The proceeds of the sale will be used for an authorized purpose described in § 2544.125.

## PART 2550—REQUIREMENTS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR STATE COMMISSIONS AND ALTERNATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITIES

Sec.

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2550.110 What grants will be available from the Corporation to assist in establishing and operating a State Commission, Alternative Administrative Entity, or Transitional Entity?

AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 12638.

SOURCE: 58 FR 60981, Nov. 18, 1993, unless otherwise noted.

### § 2550.10 What is the purpose of this part?

(a) The Corporation for National and Community Service (the Corporation) seeks to meet the Nation's pressing human, educational, environmental and public safety needs through service and to reinvigorate the ethic of civic responsibility across the Nation. If the Corporation is to meet these goals, it is critical for each of the States to be actively involved.

(b) To be eligible to apply for program funding, or approved national service positions, each State must establish a State commission on national and community service to administer the State program grant making process and to develop a State plan. The Corporation may, in some instances, approve an alternative administrative entity (AAE).

(c) The Corporation will distribute grants of between \$125,000 and \$750,000 to States to cover the Federal share of operating the State commissions or AAEs.

(d) The purpose of this part is to provide States with the basic information essential to participate in the subtitle C programs. Of equal importance, this part gives an explanation of the preliminary steps States must take in order to receive money from the Corporation. This part also offers guidance on which of the two State entities States should seek to establish, and it explains the composition requirements, duties, responsibilities, restrictions, and other relevant information for State commissions and AAEs.

[58 FR 60981, Nov. 18, 1993, as amended at 67 FR 45362, July 9, 2002; 70 FR 39607, July 8, 2005]

### § 2550.20 Definitions.

(a) *AAE*. Alternative Administrative Entity.

(b) *Administrative costs*. As used in this part, those costs incurred by a State in the establishing and operating a State entity; the specific administrative costs for which a Corporation administrative grant may be used as defined in the Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements to State and Local Governments.