

(2) They are high quality programs with demonstrated experience in establishing and implementing projects that provide benefits to participants and communities.

(3) They have operated with Corporation funds for at least six months.

(4) They have secured the minimum matching funds required by §§ 2521.30(g), 2522.240(b)(6), 2522.250(a)(4), and 2522.250(b)(2) of this chapter.

(c) *Allowable program activities.* Challenge grants are intended to provide special opportunities for national and community service programs to enroll additional participants or undertake other activities specified by the Corporation.

(d) *Application procedures.* Eligible applicants must comply with the requirements specified in the Corporation's application materials.

(e) *Limitation on use of the funds.* Each year the Corporation will establish a maximum award that a program may receive as a challenge grant.

(f) *Allocation of funds.* The Corporation will determine annually how much funding will be allocated to challenge grants from funds appropriated for AmeriCorps programs.

[59 FR 13805, Mar. 23, 1994, as amended at 73 FR 53760, Sept. 17, 2008]

#### **§ 2524.40 What are the guidelines for grants to involve persons with disabilities?**

(a) *Purpose.* There are two general purposes for these grants: (1) To assist AmeriCorps grantees in placing applicants who require reasonable accommodation (as defined in section 101(9) of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. 12111(9)) or auxiliary aids and services (as defined in section 3(1) of such Act, 42 U.S.C. 12102(1)) in an AmeriCorps program; and

(2) To conduct outreach activities to individuals with disabilities to recruit them for participation in AmeriCorps programs.

(b) *Eligibility—(1) Placement, accommodation, and auxiliary services.* Eligibility for assistance under this part is limited to AmeriCorps programs that: (i) Receive competitive funding from the Corporation under § 2521.30(a)(3) or 2521.30(b)(3) of this chapter; and

(ii) Demonstrate that the program has received a substantial number of applications for placement from persons who are individuals with a disability and who require a reasonable accommodation (as defined in section 101(9) of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990), or auxiliary aids and services (as defined in section 3(1) of such Act) in order to perform national service; and

(iii) Demonstrate that additional funding would assist the program in placing a substantial number of such individuals with a disability as participants in projects carried out through the program.

(2) *Outreach.* Corporation grantees and any public or private nonprofit organization may apply for funds to conduct outreach to individuals with disabilities to recruit them for participation in AmeriCorps programs. Outreach funds can also be used by any organization to assist AmeriCorps programs in adapting their programs to encourage greater participation by individuals with disabilities.

(c) *Application procedures.* Eligible applicants must comply with the requirements specified in the Corporation's application materials.

#### **§ 2524.50 What are the guidelines for assistance with disaster relief?**

(a) *Purpose.* Disaster relief funds are intended to provide emergency assistance not otherwise available to enable national and community service programs to respond quickly and effectively to a Presidentially-declared disaster.

(b) *Eligibility.* Any AmeriCorps program (including youth corps, the National Civilian Community Corps, VISTA, and other programs authorized under the Domestic Volunteer Services Act) or grant making entity (such as a State or Federal agency) that is supported by the Corporation may apply for disaster relief grants.

(c) *Application process.* Eligible applicants must comply with the requirements specified in the Corporation's application materials.

(d) *Waivers.* In appropriate cases, due to the limited nature of disaster activities, the Corporation may waive specific program requirements such as

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matching requirements and the provision of AmeriCorps educational awards for participants supported with disaster relief funds.

**PART 2525—NATIONAL SERVICE TRUST**

**Subpart A—Purpose and Definitions**

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- 2525.1 What is the National Service Trust?  
2525.2 Definitions.

**Subpart B—Eligibility for an Education Award**

- 2525.10 When can an Eligible Individual receive an education award from the National Service Trust?  
2525.15 Upon what basis may an entity responsible for the supervision of an Eligible Individual certify that the Eligible Individual successfully completed a term of service?  
2525.20 Under what circumstances is an Eligible Individual who does not complete an approved term of service eligible to receive a pro-rated education award?  
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2525.30 How do convictions for the possession or sale of controlled substances affect an Eligible Individual's ability to use their award?  
2525.40 How long is an education award available for use?  
2525.41 When must an application for an extension be submitted?  
2525.42 Under what circumstances will AmeriCorps grant an extension?  
2525.43 What if the request for an extension is missing information or documentation?  
2525.44 How will AmeriCorps notify an Eligible Individual or Designated Recipient of its decision on the extension request?  
2525.45 Can an Eligible Individual or Designated Recipient appeal a denied request for an extension?  
2525.50 Is there a limit on the total amount of education awards an individual may receive?  
2525.55 What is the impact of the aggregate value of education awards received on an individual's ability to serve in additional terms of service?  
2525.60 May an individual receive an education award and related interest benefits from the National Service Trust as well as other loan cancellation benefits for the same term of service?

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- 2525.70 What are the effects of an erroneous certification of successful completion of a term of service?

**Subpart C—Determining the Amount of an Education Award**

- 2525.100 What is the amount of an education award?

**Subpart D—Using an Education Award**

- 2525.210 For what purposes may an education award be used?  
2525.220 What steps are necessary to use an education award to repay a qualified student loan?  
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2525.240 Is there a limit on the amount of an Eligible Individual's education award that AmeriCorps will disburse to an institution for a given period of enrollment?  
2525.250 What happens if an individual withdraws or fails to complete the period of enrollment in an institution of higher education for which AmeriCorps has disbursed all or part of that individual's education award?  
2525.260 Who may use the education award to pay expenses incurred in enrolling in a G.I. Bill-approved program?  
2525.270 What steps are necessary to use an education award to pay expenses incurred in enrolling in a G.I. Bill-approved program?  
2525.280 What happens if an individual for whom AmeriCorps has disbursed education award funds withdraws or fails to complete the period of enrollment in a G.I. Bill-approved program?  
2525.290 What happens to an education award upon divorce or death?

**Subpart E—Payment of Accrued Interest**

- 2525.310 Under what circumstances will AmeriCorps pay interest that accrues on qualified student loans during an individual's term of service in an approved position?  
2525.320 What steps are necessary to obtain forbearance in the repayment of a qualified student loan during an individual's term of service in an approved AmeriCorps position?  
2525.330 What steps are necessary for AmeriCorps to pay interest that has accrued on a qualified student loan in forbearance?