

Corporation for National and Community Service

§ 2556.5

- 2556.720 May VISTAs participate in political organizations?
- 2556.725 May VISTAs participate in political campaigns?
- 2556.730 May VISTAs participate in elections?
- 2556.735 May a VISTA be a candidate for public office?
- 2556.740 May VISTAs participate in political fundraising activities?
- 2556.745 Are VISTAs prohibited from soliciting or discouraging the political participation of certain individuals?
- 2556.750 What restrictions and prohibitions are VISTAs who campaign for a spouse or family member subject to?
- 2556.755 May VISTAs participate in lawful demonstrations?
- 2556.760 May a sponsor or subrecipient approve the participation of a VISTA in a demonstration or other political meeting?
- 2556.765 What disciplinary actions are VISTAs subject to for violating restrictions or prohibitions on political activities?
- 2556.770 What are the requirements of VISTA sponsors and subrecipients regarding political activities?
- 2556.775 What prohibitions and restrictions on political activity apply to employees of VISTA sponsors and subrecipients?
- 2556.780 What prohibitions on lobbying activities apply to VISTA sponsors and subrecipients?

AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 4951–4953; 5 CFR part 734, 42 U.S.C. 4953(a), (f), 4954(b), (e), 4955(b), 4956, 5043(a)–(c), 5044(a)–(c), (e), 5046, 5052, 5056, and 5057; 42 U.S.C. 12651b (g)(10); 42 U.S.C. 12651c(c); E.O. 13279, 67 FR 77141, 3 CFR, 2002 Comp., p. 2156, 42 U.S.C. 4954(a), (b), (d), 4955, 5044(e), 5055, and 5059; 42 U.S.C. 12602(c), 42 U.S.C. 4953(b), (c), (f), and 5044(e).

SOURCE: 88 FR 31180, May 16, 2023, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General Information

§ 2556.1 What is the purpose of the VISTA program?

(a) The purpose of the VISTA program is to strengthen and supplement efforts to eliminate and alleviate poverty and poverty-related problems throughout the United States and certain U.S. territories. To effect this purpose, the VISTA program encourages and enables individuals from all walks of life to join VISTA to perform, on a full-time basis, meaningful and constructive service to assist in the solution of poverty and poverty-related problems and secure opportunities for

self-advancement of persons afflicted by such problems.

(b) The VISTA program objectives are to:

- (1) Generate private sector resources;
- (2) Encourage volunteer service at the local level;
- (3) Support efforts by local agencies and community organizations to achieve long-term sustainability of projects; and
- (4) Strengthen local agencies and community organizations to carry out the purpose of the VISTA program.

§ 2556.3 Who should read this part?

This part may be of interest to:

(a) Private nonprofit organizations, public nonprofit organizations, State government agencies, local government agencies, Federal agencies, and Tribal government agencies who are participating in the VISTA program as sponsors, or who are interested in participating in the VISTA program as sponsors.

(b) Individuals 18 and older who are serving as a VISTA, or who are interested in serving as a VISTA.

§ 2556.5 What definitions apply in this part?

Act or *DVSA* means the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973, as amended, Public Law 93–113 (42 U.S.C. 4951 *et seq.*).

Alternative oath or *affirmation* means a pledge of VISTA service taken by an individual who legally resides within a State, but who is not a citizen or national of the United States, upon that individual's enrollment into the VISTA program.

AmeriCorps means the Corporation for National and Community Service, established pursuant to section 191 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 12651, which operates as AmeriCorps.

Applicant for VISTA service means an individual who is in the process of completing, or has completed, an application for VISTA service as prescribed by AmeriCorps, but who has been not been approved by AmeriCorps to be a candidate.

Application for VISTA service means the materials prescribed by