

Memorandum of Agreement. Such suspension in an emergency situation will be pursuant to notice and opportunity to show cause why assistance should not be suspended.

(c) To initiate suspension proceedings, AmeriCorps will notify the sponsor in writing that AmeriCorps is suspending assistance in whole or in part. The written notice will contain the following:

(1) The grounds for the suspension and the effective date of the suspension;

(2) The sponsor's right to submit written material in response to the suspension to show why the VISTA assistance should not be suspended, or should be reinstated, as appropriate; and

(3) The opportunity to adequately correct the deficiency, or deficiencies, which led to AmeriCorps' notice of suspension.

(d) In deciding whether to continue or lift the suspension, as appropriate, AmeriCorps will consider any timely material presented in writing, any material presented during the course of any informal meeting, as well as any showing that the sponsor has adequately corrected the deficiency which led to the initiation of suspension.

(e) During the period of suspension of a sponsor, no new expenditures, if applicable, may be made by the sponsor's VISTA project at issue and no new obligations may be incurred in connection with the VISTA project at issue except as specifically authorized in writing by AmeriCorps.

(f) AmeriCorps may, at its discretion, modify the terms, conditions, and nature of the suspension or rescind the suspension action at any time, on its own initiative or upon a showing that the sponsor has adequately corrected the deficiency or deficiencies which led to the suspension and that repetition is not foreseeable.

**§ 2556.140 What is termination and when may AmeriCorps terminate a VISTA project?**

(a) Termination means any action by AmeriCorps that permanently terminates or curtails assistance to all or any part of a sponsor's VISTA project

prior to the time that the project term is concluded.

(b) AmeriCorps may terminate assistance to a sponsor in whole or in part for the sponsor's material failure to comply with an applicable term(s) or condition(s) of the DVSA, the regulations in this part, VISTA program policy, or an applicable Memorandum of Agreement.

(c) To initiate termination proceedings, AmeriCorps will notify the sponsor in writing that AmeriCorps is proposing to terminate assistance in whole or in part. The written notice will contain the following:

(1) A description of the VISTA assistance proposed for termination, the grounds that warrant such proposed termination, and the proposed date of effective termination;

(2) Instructions regarding the sponsor's opportunity, within 21 calendar days from the date the notice is issued, to respond in writing to the merits of the proposed termination and their right to request a full and fair hearing before a mutually agreed-upon impartial hearing officer; and

(3) Invitation of voluntary action by the sponsor to adequately correct the deficiency or deficiencies which led to AmeriCorps' notice of proposed termination.

(d) In deciding whether to effect termination of VISTA assistance, AmeriCorps will consider any relevant, timely material presented in writing; any relevant material presented during the course of any full and fair hearing; and any showing that the sponsor has adequately corrected the deficiency which led to the initiation of termination proceedings.

(e) Regardless of whether or not a full and fair hearing takes place, AmeriCorps retains all authority to make the final determination as to whether termination of VISTA assistance is appropriate.

(f) The sponsor will be informed of AmeriCorps' final determination on the proposed termination of VISTA assistance, and the basis or bases for the determination.

(g) AmeriCorps may, at its discretion, modify the terms, conditions, and nature of a termination action or rescind a termination action at any time

on its own initiative, or upon a showing that the sponsor has adequately corrected the deficiency which led to the termination or the initiation of termination proceedings, and that repetition is not threatened.

**§ 2556.145 May AmeriCorps pursue other remedies against a VISTA project for a sponsor's material failure to comply with any other requirement not set forth in this subpart?**

The procedures established by this subpart do not preclude AmeriCorps from pursuing any other remedies authorized by law.

**§ 2556.150 What activities are VISTA members not permitted to perform as part of service?**

(a) A VISTA may not perform any activities in the project application that do not correspond with the purpose of the VISTA program, as described in § 2556.1, or that the Director has otherwise prohibited.

(b) A VISTA may not perform services or duties as a VISTA member that would otherwise be performed by employed workers or other volunteers (not including participants under the DVSA and the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended).

(c) A VISTA may not perform any services or duties, or engage in activities as a VISTA member, that supplant the hiring of or result in the displacement of employed workers or other volunteers (not including participants under the DVSA or the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended).

(d) A VISTA may not perform any services or duties, or engage in activities as a VISTA member, which impair existing contracts for service.

(e) The requirements of paragraphs (b) through (d) of this section do not apply when the sponsor requires the service in order to avoid or relieve suffering threatened by, or resulting from, a disaster, civil disturbance, terrorism, or war.

(f) A sponsor or subrecipient may not request or receive any compensation from a VISTA, from a beneficiary of VISTA project services, or any other source for services of a VISTA.

**§ 2556.155 May a sponsor manage a VISTA project through a subrecipient?**

(a) A sponsor may carry out a VISTA project through one or more subrecipients that meet the eligibility criteria of § 2556.100.

(b) The sponsor must enter into a subrecipient agreement with each subrecipient. A subrecipient agreement must have at least the following elements:

(1) A project plan to be implemented by the subrecipient;

(2) Records to be kept and reports to be submitted;

(3) Responsibilities of the parties and other program requirements; and

(4) Suspension and termination policies and procedures.

(c) The sponsor retains the responsibility for compliance with a Memorandum of Agreement; the applicable regulations in this Part; and all applicable policies, procedures, and guidance issued by AmeriCorps regarding the VISTA program.

(d) A sponsor may not request or receive any compensation from a subrecipient for services performed by a VISTA.

(e) A sponsor may not receive payment from, or on behalf of, the subrecipient for costs of the VISTA assistance, except in two limited circumstances:

(1) For reasonable and actual costs incurred by the sponsor directly related to the subrecipient's participation in a VISTA project; and

(2) For any cost share related to a VISTA placed with the subrecipient in the VISTA project.

**§ 2556.160 What are the sponsor's requirements for cost share projects?**

(a) A sponsor must enter into a written agreement for cost share as prescribed by AmeriCorps.

(b) A sponsor must make timely cost share payments as prescribed by AmeriCorps and applicable Federal law and regulations.

(c) In addition to other sources of funds, a sponsor may use funds from Federal, State, or local Government agencies, provided the requirements of those agencies and their programs are met.