

(1) *Recognition.* RSVP volunteers shall be provided recognition for their service.

(2) *Insurance.* An RSVP volunteer is provided with the AmeriCorps-specified minimum levels of insurance as follows:

(i) *Accident insurance.* Accident insurance covers RSVP volunteers for personal injury during travel between their homes and places of assignment, during volunteer service, during meal periods while serving as a volunteer, and while attending project sponsored activities. Protection shall be provided against claims in excess of any benefits or services for medical care or treatment available to the volunteer from other sources.

(ii) *Personal liability insurance.* Protection is provided against claims in excess of protection provided by other insurance. It does not include professional liability coverage.

(iii) *Excess automobile insurance.* (A) RSVP drivers who drive in connection with their service shall be provided protection against claims in excess of the greater of either:

(1) Liability insurance the volunteers carry on their own automobiles; or

(2) The limits of applicable state financial responsibility law, or in its absence, levels of protection to be determined by AmeriCorps for each person, each accident, and for property damage.

(B) RSVP volunteers who drive their personal vehicles to or on assignments or project-related activities shall maintain personal automobile liability insurance equal to or exceeding the levels established by AmeriCorps.

[83 FR 64655, Dec. 17, 2018, as amended at 89 FR 70544, Aug. 30, 2024]

§ 2553.44 May cost reimbursements received by RSVP volunteers be subject to any tax or charge, treated as wages or compensation, or affect eligibility to receive assistance from other programs?

No. An RSVP volunteer's cost reimbursements are not subject to any tax or charge, and are not treated as wages or compensation for the purposes of unemployment insurance, workers' compensation, temporary disability, retirement, public assistance or similar ben-

efit payments or minimum wage laws. Cost reimbursements are not subject to garnishment, and do not reduce or eliminate the level of, or eligibility for, assistance or services that a volunteer may be receiving under any governmental program.

[83 FR 64656, Dec. 17, 2018]

Subpart E—Volunteer Terms of Service

§ 2553.51 What are the terms of service of an RSVP volunteer?

An RSVP volunteer shall serve on a regular basis, or intensively on short-term assignments, consistent with the assignment description.

[83 FR 64656, Dec. 17, 2018]

§ 2553.52 Under what circumstances may a sponsor remove an RSVP volunteer from service?

(a) A sponsor may remove an RSVP volunteer from service for cause. Grounds for removal include, but are not limited to: Extensive and unauthorized absences; misconduct; failure to perform assignments and or failure to accept supervision.

(b) The sponsor shall establish appropriate policies on removal from service as well as procedures for appeal.

[83 FR 64656, Dec. 17, 2018]

Subpart F—Responsibilities of a Volunteer Station

§ 2553.61 When may a sponsor serve as a volunteer station?

The sponsor and RSVP project itself may function as a volunteer station or may initiate special volunteer activities provided that AmeriCorps agrees these activities are in accord with program objectives and will not hinder overall project operations.

[83 FR 64656, Dec. 17, 2018]

§ 2553.62 What are the responsibilities of a volunteer station?

A volunteer station shall undertake the following responsibilities in support of RSVP volunteers:

(a) Develop volunteer assignments that impact critical human and social

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needs, and regularly assess those assignments for continued appropriateness;

(b) Assign staff member responsible for day to day oversight of RSVP volunteers within the volunteer station and for assessing the impact of volunteers in addressing community needs;

(c) Keep a Letter of Agreement for each client who receives in-home service;

(d) Keep records and prepare reports as required;

(e) Comply with all applicable civil rights requirements including providing RSVP volunteers with disabilities reasonable accommodation to perform the essential functions of their service;

(f) Provide assigned RSVP volunteers the following support:

(1) Orientation to station and appropriate in-service training to enhance performance of assignments;

(2) Resources required for performance of assignments including reasonable accommodation to RSVP volunteers with disabilities to perform the essential functions of their service; and

(3) Supervision.

(g) Undertake such other responsibilities as may be necessary to the successful performance of RSVP volunteers in their assignments or as agreed to in the Memorandum of Understanding.

[64 FR 14135, Mar. 24, 1999, as amended at 83 FR 64656, Dec. 17, 2018]

Subpart G—Application and Fiscal Requirements

§ 2553.71 What is the process for application and award of a grant?

As funds become available, AmeriCorps solicits application for RSVP grants from eligible organizations through a competitive process.

(a) *What are the application requirements for an RSVP grant?* An applicant must:

(1) Submit required information determined by AmeriCorps.

(2) Demonstrate compliance with any applicable requirements specified in the Notice of Funding Availability or Notice of Funding Opportunity.

(b) *What process does AmeriCorps use to select new RSVP grantees?* (1)

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AmeriCorps reviews and determines the merits of an application by its responsiveness to published guidelines and to the overall purpose and objectives of the program. In conducting its review during the competitive process, AmeriCorps considers the input and opinions of those serving on a peer review panel, including members with expertise in senior service and aging, and may conduct site inspections, as appropriate.

(2) The selection process includes:

(i) Determining whether an application complies with the application requirements, such as deadlines, eligibility, and programmatic requirements, including performance measurement requirements;

(ii) Applying published selection criteria, as stated in the applicable Notice of Funding Availability or Notice of Funding Opportunity, to assess the quality of the application;

(iii) Applying any applicable priorities or preferences, as stated in the applicable Notice of Funding Availability or Notice of Funding Opportunity;

(iv) Ensuring innovation and geographic, demographic, and programmatic diversity across AmeriCorps RSVP grantee portfolio; and

(v) Identifying the applications that most completely respond to the published guidelines and offer the highest probability of successfully carrying out the overall purpose and objectives of the program.

(c) *How is a grant awarded?* (1) Subject to the availability of funds, the award will be documented by a Notice of Grant Award (NGA).

(2) AmeriCorps and the sponsoring organization are parties to the NGA. The NGA will document the sponsor's commitment to fulfill specific programmatic objectives and financial obligations. It will document the extent of AmeriCorps' obligation to provide assistance to the sponsor.

(d) *What happens if AmeriCorps rejects an application?* AmeriCorps will inform an applicant when an application is not approved for funding.

(e) *For what period of time does AmeriCorps award a grant?* AmeriCorps awards an RSVP grant for a specified period that is usually three years in