

(1) For an individual serving in an approved AmeriCorps position, one of the terms of service specified in § 2522.220 of this chapter

(2) For an individual serving in an approved Silver Scholar position, not less than 350 hours during a one-year period

(3) For an individual serving in an approved Summer of Service position, not less than 100 hours during the summer months of a single year.

Subpart B—Eligibility for an Education Award

§ 2525.10 When can an Eligible Individual receive an education award from the National Service Trust?

(a) *General.* An Eligible Individual is entitled to receive an education award from the National Service Trust if that person:

(1) Is a citizen or national of the United States or a lawful permanent resident alien of the United States; and,

(2) Met the applicable eligibility requirements for the approved national service program as appropriate; and,

(3) Either:

(i) Is certified by their supervising entity to have successfully completed a term of service—whether a full-time 1,700-hour term corresponding to a full education award or a less than full-time term of service with a corresponding partial award amount described in § 2525.100(b)—as certified under § 2525.15; or

(ii) For a pro-rated education award amount described in § 2525.100(c), is certified by their supervising entity to have completed at least 15 percent of the originally-approved term of service and performed satisfactorily prior to being granted a release for compelling personal circumstances, consistent with § 2522.230(a) of this chapter.

(b) *Prohibition on duplicate benefits.* An Eligible Individual who receives a post-service benefit in lieu of an education award may not receive an education award for the same term of service.

(c) *Penalties for false information.* Any individual who makes a materially false statement or representation in connection with the approval or disbursement of an education award or

other payment from the National Service Trust may be liable for the recovery of funds and subject to civil and criminal sanctions.

§ 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?

(a) An Eligible Individual's supervising entity must certify that the individual has successfully completed a term of service. The individual successfully completed a term of service if the individual has:

(1) Completed the number of service hours required;

(2) Satisfactorily performed on assignments, tasks, or projects;

(3) Met any performance criteria as determined by the program and communicated to the member; and

(4) Fulfilled any other enrollment and program requirements to earn an education award.

(b) A certification by the supervising entity that an individual did or did not successfully complete a term of service will be deemed to incorporate an end-of-term evaluation.

§ 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?

(a) *Release for compelling personal circumstances.* An Eligible Individual who is released before they complete an approved term of service is eligible for a pro-rated education award if their supervising entity:

(1) Released the Eligible Individual for compelling personal circumstances in accordance with the requirements of § 2522.230(a) of this chapter, including requirements for maintaining documentation of the basis for the entity's decision;

(2) Certifies that the Eligible Individual:

(i) Performed satisfactorily before they were granted a release for compelling personal circumstances; and

(ii) Completed at least 15 percent of the originally approved term of service.

(b) *Release for cause.* An individual who is released for cause before they

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completed an originally approved term of service is not eligible for any portion of an education award.

§ 2525.25 If a participant in an approved Summer of Service or Silver Scholar position does not complete their term of service, are they eligible to receive a pro-rated education award?

No. An individual released for any reason before they complete an approved term of service in a Silver Scholar or Summer of Service position is not eligible to receive a pro-rated award.

§ 2525.30 How do convictions for the possession or sale of controlled substances affect an Eligible Individual's ability to use their award?

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, an Eligible Individual who is convicted under Federal or State law of the possession or sale of a controlled substance is not eligible to use his or her education award from the date of the conviction until the end of a specified time period, which is determined based on the type of conviction as follows:

(1) For conviction of the possession of a controlled substance, the individual is ineligible from the date of conviction for—

- (i) One year for a first conviction;
- (ii) Two years for a second conviction; and
- (iii) For a third or subsequent conviction, indefinitely, as determined by AmeriCorps according to the following factors:

(A) Type and amount of controlled substance;

(B) Whether firearms or other dangerous weapons were involved in the offense;

(C) Employment history;

(D) Service to the community;

(E) Recommendations from community members and local officials, including experts in substance abuse and treatment; and

(F) Any other relevant aggravating or ameliorating circumstances.

(2) For conviction of the sale of a controlled substance, the individual is ineligible from the date of conviction for—

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(i) Two years for a first conviction; and

(ii) Two years plus any additional time AmeriCorps determines is appropriate for second and subsequent convictions, based on the factors set forth in paragraphs (a)(1)(iii)(A) through (F) of this section.

(b) AmeriCorps will restore the Eligible Individual's access to use the education award if AmeriCorps determines that the individual has successfully completed a legitimate drug rehabilitation program, or in the case of a first conviction that the individual has enrolled in a legitimate drug rehabilitation program and:

(1) The drug rehabilitation program is recognized as legitimate by appropriate Federal, State, or local authorities; and

(2) The Eligible Individual's enrollment in or successful completion of the legitimate drug rehabilitation program has been certified by an appropriate official of that program.

§ 2525.40 How long is an education award available for use?

Unless AmeriCorps approves an extension under § 2525.42, the use period for an education award is as follows:

(a) An education award is available for an Eligible Individual to use until seven years from the date when they successfully completed the term of service for which the award was earned;

(b) An education award that is transferred to a Designated Recipient under subpart F of this part may be used until 10 years from the date when the Eligible Individual who transferred the award successfully completed their term of national service.

§ 2525.41 When must an application for an extension be submitted?

An application for an extension must be submitted to AmeriCorps before the award use period ends, or the individual must have been unavoidably prevented from timely submitting the extension application.