

SUBCHAPTER II—NATIONAL SENIOR
SERVICE CORPS

PART A—RETIRED AND SENIOR VOLUNTEER
PROGRAM

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 111-13, title II, §2141, Apr. 21, 2009, 123 Stat. 1584, substituted "SERVICE" for "VOLUNTEER" in heading.

§ 5000. Statement of purpose

It is the purpose of this subchapter to provide—

(1) opportunities for senior service to meet unmet local, State, and national needs in the areas of education, public safety, emergency and disaster preparedness, relief, and recovery, health and human needs, and the environment;

(2) for the National Senior Service Corps, comprised of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, the Foster Grandparent Program, and the Senior Companion Program, and demonstration and other programs, to empower people 55 years of age or older to contribute to their communities through service, enhance the lives of those who serve and those whom they serve, and provide communities with valuable services;

(3) opportunities for people 55 years of age or older, through the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, to share their knowledge, experiences, abilities, and skills for the betterment of their communities and themselves;

(4) opportunities for low-income people 55 years of age or older, through the Foster Grandparents Program, to have a positive impact on the lives of children in need; and

(5) opportunities for low-income people 55 years of age or older, through the Senior Companion Program, to provide support services and companionship to other older individuals through volunteer service.

(Pub. L. 93-113, title II, §200, as added Pub. L. 101-204, title V, §501, Dec. 7, 1989, 103 Stat. 1815; amended Pub. L. 103-82, title III, §§341(b)(1), 342(b), Sept. 21, 1993, 107 Stat. 904; Pub. L. 111-13, title II, §2142, Apr. 21, 2009, 123 Stat. 1584.)

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AMENDMENTS

2009—Pub. L. 111-13 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section set forth a statement of purposes regarding the National Senior Volunteer Corps.

1993—Par. (1). Pub. L. 103-82, §§341(b)(1), 342(b), substituted "National Senior Volunteer Corps" for "Older American Volunteer Programs" and "Retired and Senior Volunteer Program" for "retired senior volunteer program".

Par. (2). Pub. L. 103-82, §342(b), substituted "Retired and Senior Volunteer Program" for "retired senior volunteer program".

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2009 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-13 effective Oct. 1, 2009, see section 6101(a) of Pub. L. 111-13, set out as a note under section 4950 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1993 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-82 effective Oct. 1, 1993, see section 392 of Pub. L. 103-82, set out as a note under section 4951 of this title.

§ 5001. Grants and contracts for volunteer service projects

(a) Approval of projects; rules and regulations

In order to help retired individuals and working older individuals to share their experiences, abilities, and skills to improve their communities and themselves through service in their communities, the Director is authorized to make grants to State agencies (established or designated pursuant to section 3025(a)(1) of this title) or grants to or contracts with other public and nonprofit private agencies and organizations to pay part or all of the costs for the development or operation, or both, of volunteer service projects under this section, if the Director determines, in accordance with regulations the Director shall prescribe, that—

(1) volunteers will not be reimbursed for other than transportation, meals, and other out-of-pocket expenses incident to the provision of services under this part;

(2) only individuals 55 years of age or older will be enrolled as volunteers to provide services under this part (except for administrative purposes), and such services will be performed in the community where such individuals reside or in nearby communities either (A) on publicly owned and operated facilities or projects, or (B) on local projects sponsored by private nonprofit organizations (other than political parties), other than projects involving the construction, operation, or maintenance of so much of any facility used or to be used for sectarian instruction or as a place for religious worship;

(3) the project includes such short-term training as may be necessary to make the most effective use of the skills and talents of participating volunteers and individuals, and provide for the payment of the reasonable expenses of such volunteers while undergoing such training; and

(4) the project is being designed and implemented with the advice of persons competent in the field of service to be provided, as well as persons who have expertise in the management of volunteers and the needs of older individuals.

(b) Proportion of required local contribution; exceptions

In no event shall the required proportion of the local contribution (including in-kind contributions) for a grant or contract made under this section be more than 10 per centum in the first year of assistance under this section, 20 per centum in the second such year, and 30 per centum in any subsequent such years: *Provided, however,* That the Director may make exceptions in cases of demonstrated need, determined (in accordance with regulations which the Director shall prescribe) on the basis of the financial capability of a particular recipient of assistance under this section, to permit a lesser local contribution proportion than any required contribution proportion established by the Director in generally applicable regulations.