



# Discover

## What The Corps Network Can Offer Your Organization

### *The Corps Network FY18 Member Benefits Guide*

### Why should my organization join?

By joining The Corps Network, you can become actively engaged in a national movement advancing conservation and service programs that improve communities and impact the lives of young people. The Corps Network can help you develop quality, sustainable programs reach more people by:



- Being a powerful advocate on your behalf in Washington DC, promoting legislation and seeking federal funding opportunities that benefit Corps programs.
- Providing you access to project and funding opportunities.
- Helping you develop new relationships and opportunities through our Network.
- Providing you access to information, and expertise on strong Corps programming.
- Helping your Corps attract attention by publicizing your Corps' accomplishments on a national level.
- Offering access to services, including health insurance for Corpsmembers and group purchasing deals.

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### Benefits Overview

- Advocate in DC (Congress & Federal Agencies)
  - Representation on National Coalitions (including the Partnership for the 21CSC, Voices for National Service, Emerald Cities)
  - Information and expertise
  - Corps Center of Excellence Accreditation
  - Sub-grants and pilot/demonstration projects\*
  - Members Only Website (resource library)
  - Newsletters
  - Publicity on a national level
  - Discounted registration to the annual National Conference
  - AmeriCorps Education Awards\*
  - Health Insurance for Corpsmembers\*
  - Relationships, networking
- \* eligibility requirements may apply

# Membership Levels

The Corps Network offers three membership levels:

- **Full Members**

- Service and Conservation Corps
- Individual Placement Program
- Emerging Corps



All three of these types of programs fall all under the Full Member category. [See note at bottom.](#)

- **Affiliate Members**

- **AmeriCorps Basic Members**

## FULL MEMBERS

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### DEFINITION

#### Service and Conservation Corps

Any unit of government or any private or quasi-public, not-for-profit organization operating a crew-based Service or Conservation Corps. The Corps Network defines a Corps as a comprehensive youth development and service program that engages young people in crew-based service to their community.

#### Individual Placement Program

Any unit of government or any private or quasi-public, not-for-profit organization operating an Individual Placement Program with a conservation or environmental focus.

#### Emerging Corps

Any youth program that is in the process of developing a Service and Conservation Corps program but has yet to fulfill all five membership criteria. Programs are only permitted to remain in the Emerging Corps category for two consecutive fiscal years.

### MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA\*

- Engage Corpsmembers between the ages of 16 to 25.
- Organize their Corpsmembers in crews or teams and assign a supervisor to serve as a mentor and role model, OR, organize individual Corpsmembers in a cohort model and promote esprit de corps through intentional efforts to create shared experience among members.
- Have a defined program model that provides growth opportunities to its Corpsmembers through a combination of intentional development activities that include education/training, career readiness, and supportive services.
- Have a defined period of full-time service for their Corpsmembers that is either paid or provides a stipend/living allowance.
- Have have as a central element of their mission the goal to provide service to the community.

\* Emerging Corps do not need to meet all criteria, but must have an action plan to do so

### APPLICATION PROCESS

- Candidate Organization completes Membership Application.
- Corps Network Staff reviews application and provides recommendation to Corps Council based on criteria above.
- Corps Council gives final approval for Membership.

#### A Note on Full Membership:

An organization can be both a Service and Conservation Corps Member and an Individual Placement Program member if they operate both crew-based and individual placement programs.

## AFFILIATE MEMBERS

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### DEFINITION

Any organization that is interested in promoting, assisting and/or operating programs similar to Service and Conservation Corps, or interested in providing satellite or subgrantees access to The Corps Network's AmeriCorps Health Insurance.

### MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

No Membership Criteria - just payment of dues and completed membership application.

Our Affiliate membership includes, but is not limited to:

- National Non-Profits
- State Service Commissions
- Governmental/Related Agencies
- Regional Corps Associations

### APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete and submit [Affiliate Application](#), which is then reviewed by TCN staff.

## AMERICORPS BASIC MEMBERS

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### DEFINITION

Any AmeriCorps program, including satellite offices and subgrantees of TCN Affiliate members, interested in using The Corps Network's AmeriCorps member Health Plan.

### MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

No Membership Criteria - just payment of dues\* and completed AmeriCorps Basic member application.

\*Dues waived for organizations that are subgrantees of an existing Affiliate Member of The Corps Network (e.g. a State Service Commission, national nonprofit, etc.)

More information about The Corps Network Health Plan can be found here:

<https://www.corpsnetwork.org/health-insurance-ameri-corps-members>

### APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete [AmeriCorps Basic Application](#) which is approved once dues are received.



# Benefits Breakdown by Membership Level

- ✓ benefit included
- ✘ benefit provided on a case-by-case basis

*Service & Conservation Corps & Individual Placement Programs*  
*Emerging Corps\**  
*Affiliate Member*  
*AmeriCorps Basic Member*

COMMUNICATIONS   PUBLICITY				
TCN Award Programs (Corpsmember of the Year, Project of the Year, Legacy Achievement Award, etc.)	✓			
Public speaking opportunities for your Corpsmembers and staff	✓	✓		
Publicity on a national level (social media, national publications, website, etc.)	✓	✓		
The Crewleader (members-only newsletter)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Participation in national studies / evaluations	✓			
BENEFITS FOR CORPSMEMBERS				
AmeriCorps Education Awards Program	✓	✘	✘	
Eligible for Cigna health insurance for Corpsmembers	✓	✓	✓	✓
Eligible for training opportunities through national partnerships	✓	✓		
NETWORKING   TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE   RESOURCES				
National Conference (discounted registration)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Opportunity to network with like-minded organizations	✓	✓	✓	✓
The Corps Coop (group purchasing organization) <a href="http://thecorpscoop.org/">http://thecorpscoop.org/</a>	✓	✓	✓	✓
Access to Members Only online resource library	✓	✓	✘	
Specific data requests and technical assistance	✓	✓		
Eligible to sit on / vote for the Corps Council	✓			
ADVOCACY				
Advocate in Washington, DC (access to Public Lands Service Coalition, Education & Workforce Coalition, National Service Coalition)	✓	✓		
Representation on national coalitions related to Corps' interests	✓	✓	✓	
PROGRAMS   GRANTS   FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES				
Grant opportunities search	✓	✓		
Cooperative agreements and contract technical assistance (SF-424s / Task Agreements)	✓	✘		
Capacity building grant opportunities	✓	✘		
Partner program opportunities (HOPE Crew, Gulf Coast Restoration Initiative, USFS Resource Assistant Program)	✓	✘		

\* Emerging Corps are considered Full Members, but, due to their lack of program capacity or experience, are not eligible for the entire array of benefits. For example, Emerging Corps are eligible for Capacity building grants on a case-by-case basis.



## Annual Dues

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL	FY18 ANNUAL DUES
Service and Conservation Corps & Individual Placement Program	Starts at \$1,280 (based on annual operating budget)
Emerging Corps	\$1,000
Affiliate Member	\$790
AmeriCorps Basic Member	\$320

### Optional Add-On: Membership in the Public Lands Service Coalition (PLSC)

Supporting Member	\$1,000
Steering Committee Member (Budget up to \$2 million)	\$2,000
Steering Committee Member (Budget over \$2 million)	\$4,000

## Join Today!

To learn more information about Membership in The Corps Network, or to get started on your application, please contact:

### **Bobby Tillett**

Member Services Coordinator  
The Corps Network  
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### GENERAL CONTACT INFORMATION

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Find us online  
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Follow us on social  
@TheCorpsNetwork



## About The Corps Network

The Corps Network, the national association of Service and Conservation Corps, provides leadership and support to over 130 Corps across the United States. Through advocacy, and providing Corps access to funding opportunities and expert guidance, The Corps Network annually enables more than 25,000 Corpsmembers to strengthen communities, improve the environment and transform their lives through service. To learn more, please visit [www.corpsnetwork.org](http://www.corpsnetwork.org).