



## **Frequently Asked Questions for Civic Corps members**

### **What is the stipend for Civic Corps members?**

NYC Civic Corps members receive a monthly living stipend of \$1,270 monthly pre-tax. In addition, Corps members receive health benefits, and an end-of-service education award of \$5,350.

### **Am I eligible to apply?**

To be eligible to join the NYC Civic Corps, you must be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident with a Bachelor's degree (by August, 2011). You must also be willing to commit to full-time service (42-44 plus hours per week) for one year, beginning in late August.

### **Will NYC Service provide housing for the duration of my term of service?**

Housing is not provided. Civic Corps members are provided a monthly stipend to cover basic living expenses such as housing. It is the responsibility of each Corps member to secure their own housing.

### **Where will I serve?**

Corps members are placed in a wide array of non-profit organizations and City agencies throughout the five boroughs of New York City. When placing Corps members with host organizations, a number of factors are taken into account, including geographic preferences, interest areas, skills and experience.

### **What will my schedule be?**

Corps members are expected to work the schedule of an average employee at their host organization. At times Civic Corps members are asked to work nontraditional hours, depending on the needs of their host organization.

### **Will I be able to choose the organization where I serve?**

Corps members do not choose their host organizations. Placements will be determined by NYC Service staff based on the skills, experience, borough preference and interests of each candidate.

### **What will I be doing once I'm placed at my host organization?**

Although host organizations vary, most Civic Corps members will begin by assessing the needs of their organization and the potential to create volunteer programs. Corps members will then build the organization's volunteer management systems by creating job descriptions, developing databases, designing volunteer recruitment material, and executing promotion strategies. Corps members will perform a combination of direct community service and administrative tasks.

Successful Corps members are creative, flexible self-starters with a strong interest in volunteer service.

**What are my employment prospects after Civic Corps?**

Many Corps members wish to stay within the New York City nonprofit sector after the end of their service year. Host organizations find that NYC Civic Corps members make valuable employees given their experience in project management and volunteer coordination. It is no surprise that many Corps members have received offers at nonprofits, educational organizations, government agencies, and more!

**Do I need to have nonprofit or public sector experience before joining the Civic Corps?**

No! All you need is a willingness to serve New York City. While some Civic Corps members have worked in nonprofits before their term of service, others have worked in the private sector or are recent college graduates.

**Do I need to have volunteer experience?**

While we value past volunteer experience when reviewing candidate applications, this is not a requirement.

**Will I be an AmeriCorps member or a NYC Civic Corps member?**

Both! NYC Civic Corps members are also members of AmeriCorps. The NYC Civic Corps is an AmeriCorps-affiliated program administered by NYC Service and the Office of the Mayor of the City of New York. All Civic Corps activities and host placements are coordinated by NYC Service.

**How long does the Civic Corps last?**

The Civic Corps term of service will last from August 2011 to June 2012.

**How many Corps members will be accepted?**

Approximately 150 Corps members will be accepted for the 2011-2012 class.

**How many organizations will serve as host sites for Corps members?**

Between 50 and 60 nonprofits and City agencies will host NYC Civic Corps members.

**Will I be working with other Civic Corps members?**

Corps members will be placed in small teams. Teams typically range from two up to eight Corps members.

**Can I have another job while working in the NYC Civic Corps?**

Corps members are allowed to have outside employment. However, any outside employment may not interfere with the Corps member's ability to fulfill all responsibilities and time commitments to the NYC Civic Corps.

**What is the average age of Civic Corps members?**

The average age of a Corps member is 26. Last year, Corps member's ages ranged from 22 to 60.

**Do I have to have a certain college major?**

Successful Civic Corps members can come from all academic backgrounds. The only educational requirement is that Corps members complete a Bachelor's degree before the beginning of the program in August.

**Will I be trained?**

Corps members will be provided training on volunteer management before the beginning of the term of service.

**I won't have a Bachelor's degree by the deadline. Is there rolling admission?**

There is no rolling application. All Corps members must apply during the open application in the summer. After the application closes, no additional candidates will be considered.

**Who do I contact if I have any questions?**

Contact the NYC Civic Corps staff at [corps@cityhall.nyc.gov](mailto:corps@cityhall.nyc.gov) or (212) 788-3209.