



For Immediate Release

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CaliforniaVolunteers Now Accepting 2016 AmeriCorps Grant Applications for State Priorities, Including Drought Efforts

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – CaliforniaVolunteers announced today that it is now accepting applications for 2016-17 AmeriCorps state grant funding in support of community partnerships that will engage AmeriCorps members to meet state and local challenges through service and volunteer action. This year's grant program will add drought relief efforts as a funding preference priority.

"CaliforniaVolunteers is committed to supporting partnerships that effectively engage AmeriCorps members to address community problems," said Chief Service Officer Karen Baker. "With California entering its fourth year of extreme drought conditions, we felt it necessary to add drought efforts as an additional priority for funding, as this is one of the biggest challenges California is currently facing."

Today's Request for Applications comes about six months earlier than normal to give applicants additional time to prepare a well-thought-out and complete application. The extended timeline also allows CaliforniaVolunteers extra time to work with applicants to strengthen their proposals, if funded, for successful implementation and to be more competitive in securing federal grants.

Informational sessions will be held in the month of May, where interested applicants can learn more about the application process, as well as more about the specific priorities for funding, including drought relief. For more information, please visit www.californiavolunteers.org.

For more than two years, California has been dealing with the effects of drought. To learn about all the actions the state has taken to manage our water system and cope with the impacts of the drought, visit Drought.CA.gov.

Every Californian should take steps to conserve water. Find out how at SaveOurWater.com.

About CaliforniaVolunteers

CaliforniaVolunteers is the state office that manages programs and initiatives to increase the number of Californians involved with service and volunteering, including the state AmeriCorps program and the management of volunteers and monetary donations during times of disasters. For more information, please visit www.CaliforniaVolunteers.org.

About AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps is a national service program that engages Americans of all ages and background in service to meet critical needs in education, the environment, economic opportunity, health, and other areas. Its members serve in thousands of nonprofit and faith-based organizations in rural and urban communities throughout the nation. Among other activities, AmeriCorps members tutor and mentor youth, build affordable housing, teach computer skills, clean parks and streams, run after school programs, help communities respond to disasters, and recruit and train volunteers. Interested individuals can learn about available opportunities and apply online by visiting AmeriCorps.gov.

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