



AmeriCorps Maryland

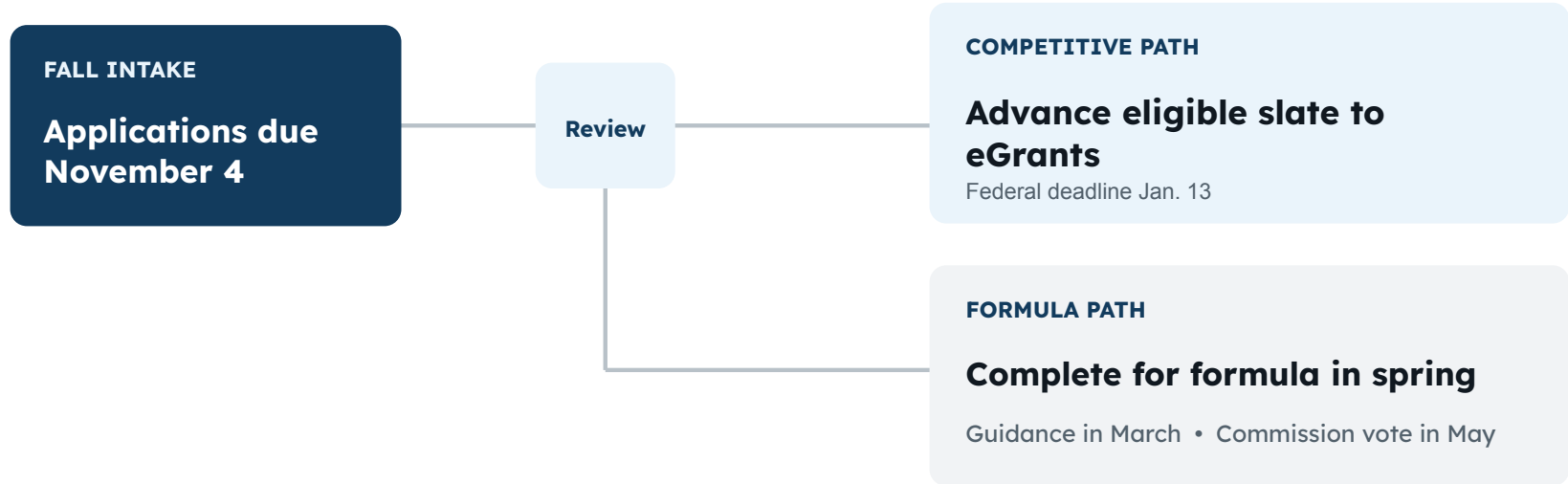
FY27 Notice of Funding Opportunity

Applicant Information Session
Deadline November 4, 2026 11:59pm ET

Together we will:

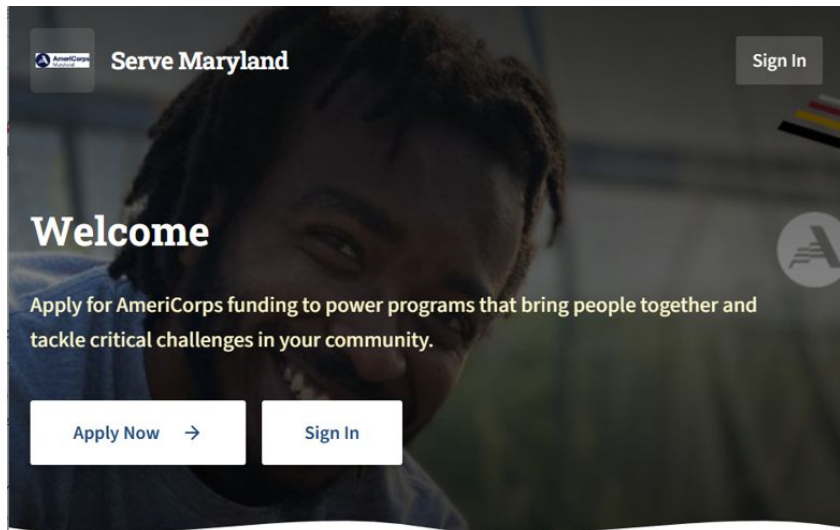
1. Clarify who applies this fall and which application type to use.
2. Review program design, evidence, member supervision, and performance measures.
3. Walk through budget requirements, additional documents, and submission steps.
4. Connect evidence-based research to program design, data collection, and measurable results.

Grantmaking Timeline



Accessing the Application Portal

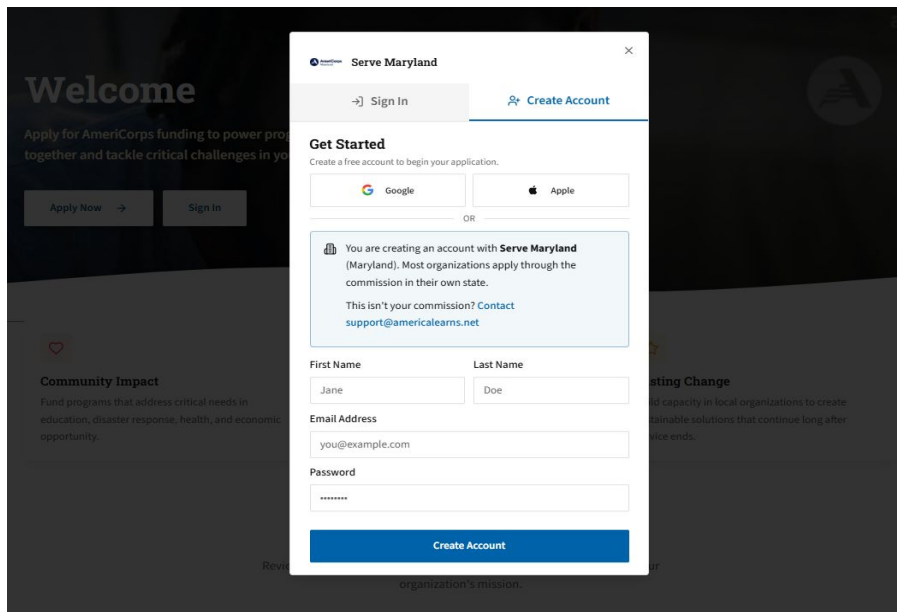
<https://grants.americlearns.net/serve-maryland>



1. Navigate to Grants Gateway

This is the main website where all available grant competitions are listed.

<https://grants.americlearns.net/serve-maryland>



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the 'Serve Maryland' account creation form. The form is titled 'Get Started' and includes a 'Sign In' button and a 'Create Account' button. Below the buttons, there are social login options for Google and Apple. A message states: 'You are creating an account with Serve Maryland (Maryland). Most organizations apply through the commission in their own state. This isn't your commission? [Contact support@americlearns.net](#)'. The form fields include 'First Name' (Jane), 'Last Name' (Doe), 'Email Address' (you@example.com), and 'Password' (masked with asterisks). A blue 'Create Account' button is at the bottom.

2. Create Your Personal Account

After you click “Apply” the system will ask you to sign in.

If this is your first time, you will need to create a new account by verifying your email address.



Set Up Your Organization

Create your applicant account for Serve Maryland

This organization will be added to **Serve Maryland**.

If you work with organizations that apply to a different commission, you can add those from that commission's own page using this same login, and switch between them from the account menu.

Your organization account lets you apply to this and future competitions. You can manage applications for your organization from one account.

Organization Name *

Enter your organization's legal name

This is the legal name of the organization applying for grants.

Where your organization is located *

Is your organization located in Maryland?

☒ Yes ☐ No, another state

This is your organization's own location. Most organizations apply through the commission in the state where they are located.

Organization Logo (optional)



Drag & drop or click to upload
PNG, JPG, WebP, or SVG - Max 2MB

Browse

Your logo will appear alongside your applications. If none is provided, a default will be used.

Create Organization & Continue

3. Set Up Your Organization

- Type your organization's full legal name as it appears in [SAM.GOV](https://sam.gov) in the box labeled "Organization Name."
- Select the location of your organization.
- Upload your logo by clicking "Browse". This step is optional — you can skip it if you do not have one.
- Click the blue "Create Organization & Continue" button.



Add Team Member

Add a new member to your organization. They will receive an email notification with access instructions.

First Name

First name

Last Name

Last name

Email *

user@example.com

Role

Contributor & Submitter — can start, edit, and submit applications

Admin — full administrative access

✓ Contributor & Submitter — can start, edit, and submit applications

Contributor — can start and edit applications

Read Only — can view but not edit

4. Add Team Members

If other people in your organization need to help with the application, you can invite them to join your account.

Only Organization Admins can add new members.

<https://grants.americlearns.net/serve-maryland>

5. Select the competition

Available Competitions

FY27 AmeriCorps Maryland Notice of Funding Opportunity

This is a funding opportunity for Institutions of higher education, local governments, school districts, nonprofit organizations, State Service Commissio...

Narrative

Budget

Attachments

Performance Measures

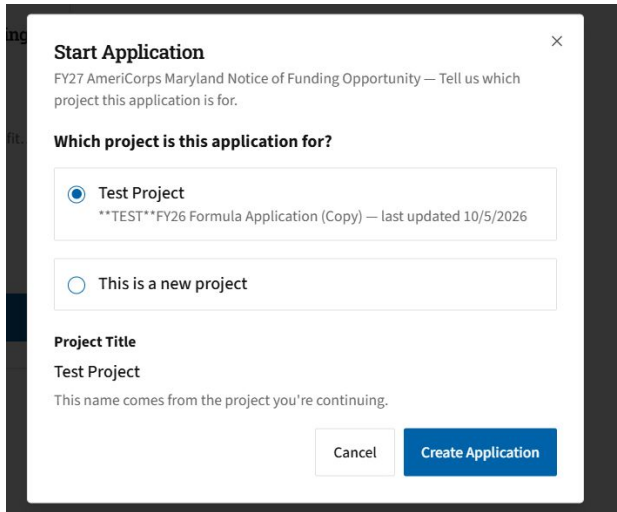
 Closes: Nov 4, 2026 CDT

Apply →



<https://grants.americlearns.net/serve-maryland>

6. Select your Application Type



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Start Application" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. Below the title is a subtitle: "FY27 AmeriCorps Maryland Notice of Funding Opportunity — Tell us which project this application is for." The main heading is "Which project is this application for?". There are two radio button options: "Test Project" (which is selected) and "This is a new project". Under "Test Project", there is a text field containing "**TEST**FY26 Formula Application (Copy) — last updated 10/5/2026". Below the radio buttons, there is a section for "Project Title" with the text "Test Project" and a note: "This name comes from the project you're continuing." At the bottom right of the form are two buttons: "Cancel" and "Create Application".

Application Type	Gateway Selection	What to prepare
New or recompeting program	New	Complete FY27 application
Formula seeking Competitive	New	Complete FY27 application
Competitive entering Year 2 of 3	New	Approved FY26 materials + continuation updates
Current Formula program <i>(ineligible for competitive)</i>	Continuation	Select the FY26 application on this screen + complete instructions for continuation application

<https://grants.americlearns.net/serve-maryland>

Notice and
Supplemental
Materials



Export Delete this draft Pre-Submission Scans Readiness Check Submit 1/4 Feedback joymcginn

Welcome to the application. Please complete all required sections carefully and review your responses before submitting. Some sections may include templates, required uploads, or budget details specific to this competition. Be sure to save your work regularly and return to each section to confirm it is complete before final submission.

Files from the commission

FY27 AmeriCorps Maryland Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).pdf 527 KB	Download
FY27 AmeriCorps Maryland Application Instructions.pdf 1.1 MB	Download
FY27_ASNMandatorySupplementalInformation.508.pdf 194 KB	Download
FY27_ASNPerformanceMeasures_Final.508.pdf 852 KB	Download
FY27_ASNApplicantDeterminedPerformanceMeasures_Final.508.pdf 859 KB	Download

Narratives Performance Measures Budget Attachments History

Application



SECTIONS

- ☐ 1. Cover Sheet REQ
☐ Mark this section as complete
- ☐ 2. Executive Summary REQ
- ☐ 3. Program Design REQ
- ☐ 4. Organizational Capability REQ
- ☐ 5. Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy REQ
- ☐ 6. Continuation Changes REQ

Cover Sheet

Standard Form 424 Face Sheet

Use this section to answer the application questions about your organization, program design, community need, implementation approach, and other required topics. Follow any word, character, or file upload limits shown for each question. Responses should be clear, complete, and specific to the program for which you are applying.

This competition doesn't offer starting from a previous application, or there are no earlier applications that qualify.

INSTRUCTIONS

Complete all required fields. Some fields are conditional.

Saved



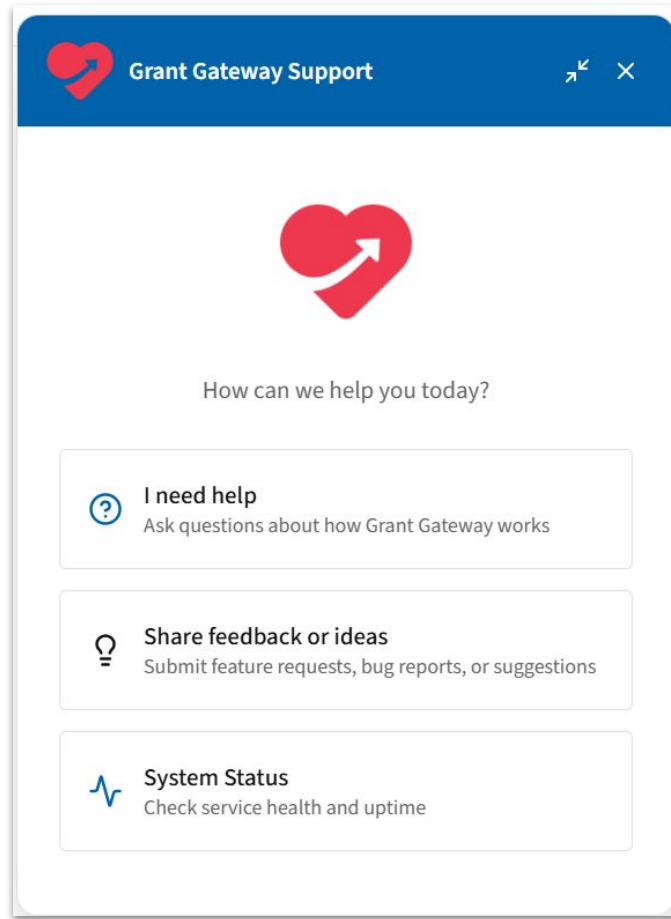
Support

Technical questions

Grants Gateway Support handles access and system issues

Include organization and screenshot(s) in support requests.

<https://grants.americlearns.net/serve-maryland>



FY27 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

FY27 ASN NOFO Changes

Changes increase the importance of **an evidence based program design** and a beneficial member experience.

20-member minimum

Competitive applications below the threshold will not be considered.

Scoring emphasis: Evidence, retention, member supervision and experience, evidence quality, and data capacity carry explicit weight.

Continuation funding: No increase above FY26 funding; Additional members of MSY may be requested.

Increased Maximum Living Allowance/Member Slot

Member enrollment: Now a 10-month limit and service completion within the program year. Waiver only available for formula applicants.

Risk review: Expanded due diligence includes SAM/Do Not Pay, audits, tax records, litigation, past performance, and unexpended funds.

Maximum Cost/MSY

\$26,800 / Competitive | \$27,000 / Formula (non-EAP)

Administrative method: The 10/5 option is removed; applicants use a negotiated rate, 15% de minimis, or direct charging.

Additional documents: OFMS is no longer required; evaluation and evidence documents remain critical.

Terminology: Federal materials replace “AmeriCorps Member” with “AmeriCorps Volunteer.” AmeriCorps Maryland’s has elected to continue to use member.

Parts of a complete application

Applicant Information	A. Cover sheet
Evidence Based Program Design	B. Narrative 1. Program Design & Logic Model 2. Organizational Capability 3. Cost Effective Design & Budget Adequacy
Results and Resources	C. Performance Measures D. Budget
Submission Materials	E. Additional Documents F. Authorization, Assurances, Certifications

Continuation Requirements

Competitive Continuation	Formula Continuation
Create a new system entry and reenter the full approved FY26 application.	Carried-forward content is reviewed for accuracy.
Required updates to coversheet, reflection, changes, and one-year budget	
Explain changes to service, slots, MSY, and budget.	
Replace outdated materials and follow document requirements	

Funding Priorities

Service to career pathways

Connect service with employment, credentials, and career advancement.

Partnerships across sectors

Explain how partners strengthen member development and community impact

Youth mental health

Expand access to resources and build pathways into mental health careers.

Cover Sheet



Applicant Information

Entity information

Legal name, physical address, UEI, and EIN must match [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov)

Contacts

Current authorized representative, program contact, and fiscal contact.

Project Period

August 15, 2027 through August 14, 2028

Service and revenue

Identify Maryland service locations and applicable Other Revenue

AmeriCorps Narrative



New and Recompete Review Criteria

Categories/Subcategories	Percentage
Executive Summary	0
Program Design	50
• Community and Logic Model	20
• Evidence Tier	12
• Evidence Quality	8
• Notice Priority	4
• Member Experience	6
Organizational Capability	25
• Organizational Background and Staffing	15
• Member Supervision	10
Cost-Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy	25
• Member Recruitment	7
• Member Retention	10
• Data Collection	8

**20
points**

Continuation Review Criteria

Criterion	Points
Prior Application Quality	40
Annual Reflection	20
Past Performance	20
Organizational and Fiscal Capacity	10
Current Funding Request and Budget	10

Clear program design

Community need

Who needs support, where, and what data shows the need?

Member service

What will members do, for whom, and how often?

Expected results

What services will you count, and what improvement will you measure?

Application alignment

Use consistent **service definitions** and **numbers** across the application

Evidence based practices

Relevant evidence

Use studies or evaluations that match your intervention and population.

Clear interpretation

Explain findings, limitations, and how they support your program design.

Supported evidence tier

Use the Mandatory Supplemental Information to justify the tier claimed.

Evidence documents

Up to two evidence documents, plus any required evaluation or evaluation summary plan.

Positive member experience

Recruitment and retention

Show how your organization uses evidence based strategies that encourage members can join, stay engaged, and complete service.

Supervision

Describe regular check-ins, training, and support at each service site.

Member Supports

Connect living allowance, benefits, and training to member needs.

Career development

Explain the skills, credentials, and career development during service.

Matching evidence to program design

Intervention

Does the research examine the service you propose?

Population and setting

Are the participants and context relevant to your beneficiaries?

Dosage and duration

Will members deliver a comparable amount and frequency of service?

Outcome

Does the study measure the change you expect to achieve?

Evidence Levels

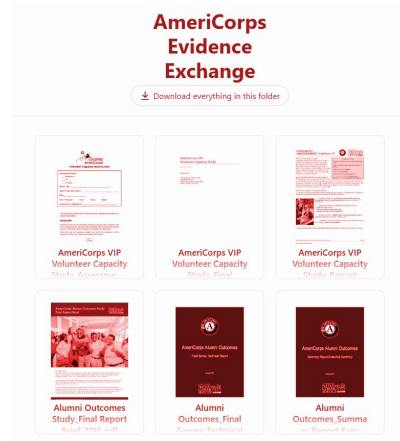
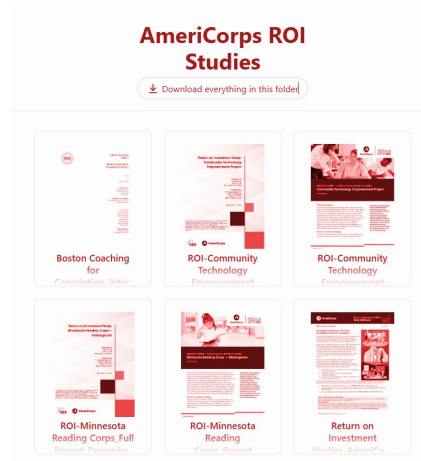
Level	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26
Strong	25%	55%	57%	51%
Moderate	12%	16%	11%	10%
Preliminary	20%	19%	25%	16%
Pre-preliminary	43%	11%	7%	23%

Evidence Resources

AmeriCorps Evidence Exchange: Return on Investment Studies

Evaluation Reports

On3Learn: [Evidence Series](#) (Free with MDSUB23)



Logic Model



Logic Model

Required column	Definition
Problem	The identified community need your program will work to address.
Inputs	Member numbers and skills, service sites, and program resources.
Activities	What members do, how often, and for how long.
Outputs	The service delivered or people served.
Short-term outcomes	Expected changes in knowledge, skills, behaviors, or conditions.
Medium-term outcomes	
Long-term outcomes	

Sample Logic Model



Required column	Tutoring Example
Problem	Students need additional reading support
Inputs	Trained members, school partners, supervisor, assessment tool
Activities	Tutoring twice weekly for 12 weeks
Outputs	Students completing the defined tutoring dosage
Short-term outcomes	Improved reading skills
Medium-term outcomes	Improved classroom performance
Long-term outcomes	Improved educational attainment

Performance Measures



Focus on Your Primary Intervention

Connect your measures to your **primary intervention—the main service members provide to address a community need.**

1. Include **one** aligned output and outcome.
2. Follow the required measure selection and design instructions.
3. Define who counts as “served,” what counts as “improvement,” and how you will measure it.

You do not need a separate measure for every activity members perform.



Problem: Students are struggling with reading.

Intervention: Regular, one-on-one tutoring provided by AmeriCorps members to improve reading skills.

Performance measures and data

Output: the service delivered

Define who counts as served and how you will count them.

Outcome: the change achieved

Define improvement and explain how you will measure it.

Data collection and quality

Identify the tools, timing, responsible staff, and verification process.

Application alignment

Use consistent targets and definitions in the Executive Summary narrative, Logic Model, and budget

Sample Performance measure



Output: Students completing at least 20 tutoring sessions.

Outcome: Students meeting a defined reading-improvement threshold.

Collection Method: Attendance records plus a specified pre- and post-assessment.

Quality Check: Use unique student IDs and verify who qualifies for each count.

Data collection and quality

Tools and timing

Identify what you collect, with which tool, and when

Responsible staff

Assign collection, entry, review, and reporting responsibilities

Verification

Check completeness, eligibility, duplicate counts, and accuracy

Program improvement

Explain how staff use results to improve service delivery

AmeriCorps Budget



Budget requirements by award type

Cost reimbursement	Fixed amount
Itemize and explain each cost	Calculate positions, MSY, and request
Show required cash or in-kind match	Identify other program revenue
Support each calculation and allocation	
Include required member supports and State Support and Oversight fee	

Cost-reimbursement match

AmeriCorps funding years	Minimum grantee share
1-3	24%
4-6	26%
7-9	28%
10+	30%

Match % = grantee share ÷ (AmeriCorps share + grantee share)

Sources of match and other revenue

Fixed-amount resources

Report other funds needed to support the program as directed

Cost-reimbursement match

List each source, amount, and whether it is cash or in-kind

Program Income

Identify expected income from grant-supported activities; follow award rules for use and reporting.

Funding status

Identify secured and proposed resources

Reconciliation

Match sources must equal the grantee share in the budget

Budget explanations and zero-dollar lines

1. Show purpose, unit cost, quantity, and calculation
2. Explain how costs outside the requested budget support the program
3. Use only as the instructions allow and clearly identify the funding source
4. Keep the narrative, resources, and match consistent.

Purpose - Calculation	CNCS Share	Grantee Share	Total Amount
Staff webinars and local training sessions: 5 staff x 2 trainings (topics to include program management, volunteer management, and project-specific skills) x \$100 per training for registration = \$1,000- Daily Rate of 100. Costs covered by outside funding sources.	0	0	0

Indirect and administrative costs

Available methods

Use a current approved rate or eligible 15% de minimis method

Federal limit

AmeriCorps share cannot exceed 5% of total AmeriCorps funds spent

Direct costs

Charge directly when the cost supports the program and meets the rules

Documentation

Explain the rate, base, calculation, and allocation. Avoid double charging

State Support and Oversight Fee

Cost-reimbursement grants

Federal Section I + Section II, before the fee, $\times 98\% \times 2\%$

Budget placement

Federal share of Section I, Other Program Operating Costs

Full-cost fixed grants

Appendix D specifies \$100 per funded MSY and a fee calculator

Separate from indirect costs

Follow the fee calculation and documentation requirements

Additional Documents



Submission Materials

Required:

- Evidence Documents
- Data Collection and Quality Plan
- Certificate of Good Standing
- Financial Documentation
- Federal Debt Delinquency and Federal Debarment Certification

When Applicable:

- Evaluation Summary Plan
- Evaluation
- Form 990 (non profits only)
- Waivers: Match, Training, and Corps size (formula only)
- Federally Approved Indirect Cost Rate
- Labor Union Concurrence.

File Preparation : Use FY27 [legal applicant name] - [document title]

Next Steps & Questions

Next Steps

Check registration and contacts

Confirm legal name, address, and tax/entity identifies match [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov)

Check consistency

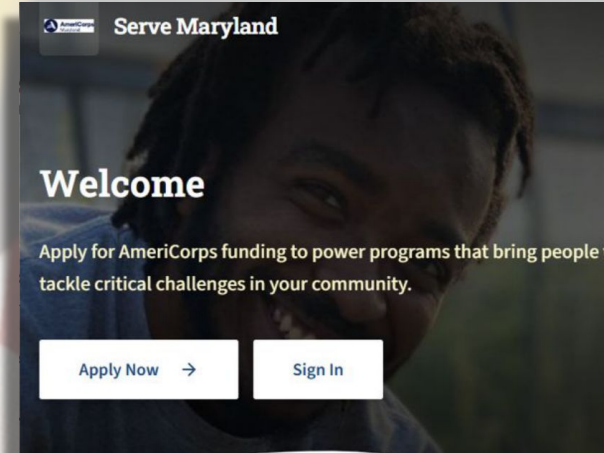
Confirm members, MSY, funding, dates, and metrics agree across every section.

Check uploads and authorization

Upload required current files. Authorized representative signs and submits.

Submit early and verify completion

Allow time for corrections and confirm the application shows the submitted status



<https://grants.americlearns.net/serve-maryland>



Support from ACMD

Ask application questions through
[ACMD Application Support Desk](mailto:govs.md@maryland.gov)

**Submit in Grants Gateway by November
4, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. ET**

Email: govs.md@maryland.gov

Support Request

First Name *

Leticia

Last Name *

Knope

Email *

govs.md@maryland.gov

Program Name *

Tutors for Kids

Phone

Priority *

Medium

Type *

Application Support

Subtype *

Please select...

Request Details *

Upload Supporting Documentation

[Choose File](#) No file chosen

File Upload Title

Upload Supporting Documentation

[Add another response](#)

[Submit](#)



AmeriCorps Maryland

Questions after today? Reach out via the ACMD Support Desk!