Volunteer VM Maryland!

What is Volunteer Maryland?

Volunteer Maryland (VM) creates volunteer programs with nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and schools. Through an 11-month partnership, VM places individuals to serve as AmeriCorps members, called Volunteer Maryland Coordinators (VMCs). With training and support, the Volunteer Maryland Coordinator's role is to create a volunteer program that fits the needs of the organization and the community.

Who are Volunteer Maryland Coordinators?

Volunteer Maryland Coordinators are people like you who dedicate 11 months to full-time service as members of AmeriCorps. They have ranged in age from 17 to 79, in educational levels from GED to PhD, and in gender, race, religion, and geographic background. They share a willingness to take on a challenge and a desire to create a lasting change in their communities.

What do they do?

Volunteer Maryland Coordinators promote active citizen participation in their communities. They:

- Develop program materials and policies.
- Recruit, train, supervise, and recognize volunteers.
- Develop partnerships with local organizations and businesses to support their volunteer programs.
- Train key staff and/or volunteer leaders in the best practices of volunteer management.
- Spend ten percent of their time in direct service volunteer activities.

"My year with Volunteer Maryland not only taught me practical skills that I can use in future professional positions and graduate school, it gave me the confidence and leadership necessary to apply these skills. I am much more comfortable in interviews and can always draw on experiences I had during my AmeriCorps year to address issues I have in my current position."
Caitlin Alcorn, Class 23

What about training?

Along with 11 days of training at the beginning of the partnership year, VMCs receive seven - ten additional training days during the year from VM and ongoing technical support from VM staff. Training covers topics such as:

- Program development and evaluation
- Volunteer management
- Marketing

What about benefits?

As AmeriCorps members, VMCs receive a living allowance of $13,250, a post-service education award of $5,730, and health insurance if they are not already covered. They may also qualify for a child care allowance and student loan forbearance.

Other benefits include networking and leadership development opportunities, working with a dedicated team of AmeriCorps members and staff, and making a real difference.

"I would not have achieved as much as I have if I had not joined VM. It completely changed how I view service and community and put me on a path to having a voice in a national volunteer support organization. I'm a stronger leader and a better person because of my experience."
Michael Nealis, Classes 21 and 22

Volunteer Maryland's next service year begins September 21, 2016.
www.volunteermaryland.org

SOUNDS INTERESTING! AM I QUALIFIED?

You must be at least 17 years of age and have a high school diploma or GED. In addition, VM looks for applicants who:

- Have good interpersonal and writing skills.
- Have leadership potential and would be comfortable as a manager.
- Are dedicated to service and are motivated to make a difference.
- Have a positive attitude and a spirit of adventure.

"I really enjoyed my time at VM both personally and professionally. I think the program does a great job of creating a support network that is instrumental in its success. This support system was instrumental in both my personal development and the development of my career."
Fernando Guerra, VM23

"I consider my AmeriCorps year to be a key experience in my life."
Nicky Rothman, Class 22

HOW DO I APPLY?

To apply, just complete an application, available on VM's web site, and send it to the VM office. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis.

Applicants are encouraged to submit their applications as early as possible; the greatest number and variety of opportunities are available in late spring.

HOW WOULD I BE SELECTED AND MATCHED WITH AN AGENCY?

All applications are reviewed by VM staff. Qualified candidates are then interviewed at VM's office in Baltimore. If you appear to be a good match for one of our Service Sites, you will be asked to interview with that site. You, the Service Site, and VM must agree to the match before the selection is final.

WHAT IS AMERICORPS?

AmeriCorps is a national service program that engages 85,000 people in intensive service each year through more than 15,000 nonprofits, schools, public agencies, and community and faith-based groups across the country. Since 1992, Volunteer Maryland has worked with 688 AmeriCorps members to mobilize 126,323 volunteers, contributing 1.67 million hours of service to Maryland communities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Volunteer.maryland.gov

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We consider applicants without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, marital or veteran status, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected status. Reasonable accommodations are available upon request.