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## SERVE WISCONSIN

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### **Madison claims the #6 Spot in the Nation for Recruiting AmeriCorps Members!**

As part of its annual recruitment effort, the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the federal agency that administers the AmeriCorps program, today released its annual rankings of the states and cities that generate the most AmeriCorps members (the complete list is below).

“We are incredibly proud that Madison is one to the top large cities nationwide for recruiting AmeriCorps members. Madison has a legacy of civic engagement and we are proud to continue the tradition,” said, Jeanne Duffy, Executive Director of Serve Wisconsin, the state commission charged with managing AmeriCorps programs in the State of Wisconsin.

“AmeriCorps members from Madison will tackle some of our toughest community problems—helping people recover from opioid addiction, building homes for low-income families, helping people access healthcare, serving in summer camps for disabled children, tutoring at-risk youth, or helping homeless teens find safe housing—here in Madison and across the country,” stated Jeanne Duffy.

“AmeriCorps is America at its best – people putting compassion into action,” said Barbara Stewart, CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service. “Whether they come from big cities or small towns, all AmeriCorps members take the same pledge: to get things done for America. In thousands of communities across the country, organizations are looking for dedicated Americans to make the same commitment. With their service, we will continue to create a safer, stronger, more united nation.”

Every year, 75,000 AmeriCorps members serve through 21,600 schools, nonprofits, and community and faith-based organizations across the country. These citizens have played a critical role in the recovery of communities affected by Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria. They also tutor and mentor young people, connect veterans to jobs, care for seniors, reduce crime and revive cities, fight the opioid epidemic, and meet other critical needs.



Since 1994, more than 1 million AmeriCorps members have provided more than 1.4 billion hours of service and earned more than \$3.6 billion in education scholarships, more than \$1 billion of which has been used to pay back student debt. Individuals interested in joining AmeriCorps should go to <https://servewisconsin.wi.gov/Pages/AmeriCorps/Apply.aspx> to learn more.

A growing body of research shows that service has an effect on more than just the communities served, but also on the members themselves. AmeriCorps alumni credit their year of service for developing leadership skills that bridges divides, solves problems, and opens doors to opportunities that advance their careers and education. In addition, research shows that AmeriCorps alumni gain skills and are exposed to experiences that communities and employers find valuable.

The rankings were determined by associating the permanent address of AmeriCorps members' to a U.S. designated place and state, including the District of Columbia. The analysis looked exclusively at members who served in program year 2016. For this analysis, a small city was defined as any place with a population greater than or equal to 100,000 people and less than 250,000 people. A large-sized city was defined as any place with a population greater than or equal to 250,000. States and cities listed produce the highest number of AmeriCorps members per capita.

Below are the nation's top 10 AmeriCorps member-producing states and cities for 2018:

#### **States**

1. West Virginia
2. Washington, D.C.
3. Minnesota
4. Utah
5. Vermont
6. Montana
7. Hawaii
8. New Mexico
9. Massachusetts
10. Maryland

#### **Large Cities**

1. Baltimore
2. Minneapolis/St. Paul
3. New Orleans
4. Boston
5. Denver
6. **Madison, Wisc.**
7. Buffalo, N.Y.
8. Newark, N.J.
9. Philadelphia
10. Detroit

#### **Small Cities**

1. Provo, Utah
2. Lowell, Mass.
3. Providence, R.I.
4. Miami Gardens, Fla.
5. Davenport, Iowa
6. Ann Arbor, Mich.
7. Hartford, Conn.
8. Salt Lake City
9. New Haven, Conn.
10. Dayton, Ohio

**Serve Wisconsin** works with AmeriCorps programs throughout the state of Wisconsin to address human, educational, environmental, public safety and homeland security needs. AmeriCorps members are given the opportunity to enrich the lives of the people and communities they serve and their own lives through professional and personal development. Serve Wisconsin is governed by 21-member citizen body appointed by Governor Walker

AmeriCorps is administered by the Corporation for National and Community Service, a federal agency that engages millions of Americans in service through AmeriCorps, Senior Corps, and the Volunteer Generation Fund, and leads volunteer initiatives for the nation. For more information, visit [www.NationalService.gov](http://www.NationalService.gov).

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