

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
FY 2023 AmeriCorps
Volunteer Generation Fund ARP Competition

- 1) **Question-** *Our organization has hired and trained thousands of volunteers to be tutors and mentors for the past 18 years, but we do pay our tutors a part-time wage, can the funding from VGF be used to pay tutors?*

Answer- No. The Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) is not a national service program. Established under the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended (see Section 198(p) of the NCSA, 42 U.S.C. §12653p), VGF funding can be used to develop and/or support community-based entities to recruit, manage, and support volunteers.

- 2) **Question-** *Will the volunteers be provided by AmeriCorps?*

Answer- No, the Volunteer Generation Fund is not a national service program, the funding can be used to develop and/or support community-based entities to recruit, manage, and support volunteers. Please see Section A1 and A2 of the [NOFO](#) for more information.

- 3) **Question-** *Can the VGF grant be used to bring an existing AmeriCorps program (e.g., City Year) to a city where it is not currently in place?*

Answer- No. The Volunteer Generation Fund is not a national service program, the funding can be used to develop and/or support community-based entities to recruit, manage, and support volunteers.

- 4) **Question-** *Is the VGF grant focused on identification of new volunteer recruitment and management processes in regard to volunteer generation efficiency or is the focus on programmatic student outcomes of the program?*

Answer- VGF grants will be used to develop and/or support community-based entities to recruit, manage, and support volunteers. AmeriCorps seeks to fund effective approaches that expand volunteering, strengthen the capacity of the grantee to recruit and retain skill-based volunteers, and develop strategies to use volunteers effectively to solve problems. Please see section A2 of the [NOFO](#) for information about the funding priorities. To receive priority consideration, applicants must show that the priority area is a significant part of the program focus and intended outcomes and must include a high-quality program design. Proposing programs that receive priority consideration does not guarantee funding.

- 5) **Question-** *Is AmeriCorps providing the volunteers or if the school district was awarded the money, would we find the volunteers by process of RFP to organizations that provide qualified tutors?*

Answer-AmeriCorps is providing resources for the Volunteer Generation Fund (VGF) Grant Program – the purpose of VGF program is provide resources to volunteer connector organizations to recruit, manage, support and retain individuals in high quality volunteer assignments. It is the responsibility of those organizations to recruit and manage those volunteers (Please note VGF resources are distinctly different than operating grants for AmeriCorps State and National and AmeriCorps Seniors programs, which may include stipends for members and volunteers as an allowable.

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6) **Question-** *What format is the \$20 million, in dollars or in-kind?*

Answer- AmeriCorps is providing federal grant dollars. AmeriCorps expects to make awards of a minimum of \$100,000. See section B of the [NOFO](#).

7) **Question-** *What are your specific performance measures?*

Answer- All applicants are required to use the following National Performance Measures (Found on Page 5 of the [NOFO](#)):

- G3-3.4 (output): Number of organizations that received capacity building services AND
- G3-3.10A (outcome): Number of organizations that increased their effectiveness, efficiency, and/or program scale/reach.

Applicants may also define other measures for their programs in the applications.

8) **Question-** *How did the NOFO change when it was amended on August 4, 2022?*

Answer- The Notice of Funding for the Volunteer Generation Fund has been amended to:

- Remove templated language for clarity.
- Added link for information about performance measures.
- Clarified selection criteria.
- Removed compliance factor for additional documents.
- Updated the date for the Training and Technical Assistance call to August 10th. This call will be recorded.
- The date that successful applicants will be notified was adjusted.

All modifications to the Volunteer Generation Grant Fund grant competition are highlighted in yellow within the amended Notice of Federal Funding Availability (Notice). Please review the Notice carefully and take note of the changes.