



Highland Street AmeriCorps Ambassadors of Mentoring FAQs

What is AmeriCorps?

AmeriCorps is a federally funded national service program, similar to the Peace Corps, where Americans are offered the opportunity to serve their community. Over 80,000 Americans serve in AmeriCorps each year. 1,200 served in Massachusetts this year. 25 of which served in the AmeriCorps Ambassadors of Mentoring program. Learn more at www.americorps.gov.

Who is Mass Mentoring Partnership?

Mass Mentoring Partnership (MMP) is fueling the movement to expand empowering youth-adult relationships to meet the needs of communities across Massachusetts. We work with mentoring programs and youth development organizations to assess programmatic needs and organizational capacity to provide customized strategies that strengthen youth, families, and communities.



Why Mentoring?

Mentoring is a proven youth development strategy. Quality Mentoring can help a young person realize his/her potential and stay on the right path. Mentoring is also an intervention strategy for youth who have already been involved with violence, drugs, alcohol or other risky behaviors.

What are the program benefits; why should I commit to a year of service?

- AmeriCorps service can help you explore work in the nonprofit sector and build your resume.
- As an AmeriCorps member you can take on leadership opportunities that are unparalleled to regular, paid entry level positions.
- Corps members receive a \$1,250 living stipend once a month and an Education Award of \$5,775 upon the completion of service to help supplement your 11 month commitment.
- Free health care coverage
- You'll also gain professional development related to youth development and nonprofit leadership is also provided.
- Corps members can also defer their student loans while serving.

What does a Highland Street AmeriCorps Ambassadors of Mentoring do?

Highland Street AmeriCorps Ambassadors of Mentoring are placed, full-time, at mentoring programs and youth-serving organizations statewide to help build their capacity in the following program areas:

- mentoring program development and support
- mentor/mentee training
- match support
- mentor recruitment/marketing

AmeriCorps members are not teachers or mentors and **do not** always provide direct mentoring service, though some positions do have this as a position responsibility. As an AmeriCorps member you can develop a new mentoring program, develop and lead a regional marketing campaign to recruit diverse mentors; strengthen a girls' self esteem mentoring program; improve a mentoring program's overall support to volunteers; create and lead volunteer and youth trainings and program curriculum; create fun activities for mentors and mentees, and more!

What kind of work experience do I need?

Ideally, AmeriCorps members have some previous volunteer and leadership experience either during or post college. Previous office experience, customer service or service project or event planning experience is helpful as well. Candidates should have a demonstrated commitment to service and a connection to mentoring is usually a plus. If selected you would receive 40 hours of training on the A-Z's of developing and operating a quality youth mentoring program, along with technical assistance around your project as needed, which is why this is a great professional development opportunity! You will also have a direct onsite supervisor to support you and your work.



How can I learn more about the AmeriCorps Ambassador service experience?

Visit our website: massmentors.org/ambassadors

How many positions are available?

We will have up to 25 positions across the state available for 2016-2017. Two positions are located at the Mass Mentoring Partnership office in downtown Boston. The actual projects have been selected and will be posted on the [MMP website](#) on a rolling basis. Positions will be available in areas such as Boston, Cambridge, Springfield, Worcester, Cape Cod, Amherst, and Roxbury.

How do I apply?

You can apply by visiting www.massmentors.org/ambassadors. Click the application link and apply to the positions that most interest you.

Is being a mentor a part of my service requirement?

No, if you would like to become a mentor it must be done apart from your service work.

Can I apply for multiple positions at the same time?

You may apply to multiple host-sites if you are qualified for the positions.

What does an AmeriCorps member service-year timeline look like?

The 2016-2017 service year will run from August 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. You will commute to Boston monthly to participate in collaborative learning, service project generation, and professional development.



What does a typical AmeriCorps member schedule look like?

The schedule is determined by each host-site; therefore, the schedule may vary. Each AmeriCorps member serves full-time and is required to complete 1,700 service hours in order to have a successful service year. Most members serve from 9AM-5PM, M-F. Some host-sites may require some weekends, however, the member can choose to supplement weekend service with a day off during the regular service week.

Can I still serve as an AmeriCorps member if I am not a resident of MA?

Yes, as long as you are prepared to relocate for the position.

Does Mass Mentoring Partnership (MMP) provide any aide for relocating?

MMP does not provide a moving stipend, however, we try to provide leads on rental opportunities when available and connect you to other AmeriCorps members looking for housing.

Is a bachelor's degree required to be an AmeriCorps member?

No, however, a bachelor's degree is preferred. Candidates with a GED/High School Diploma and relevant experience will be considered.

I've decided to take delay my bachelor's degree / attend school part-time, will this affect my service year?

Your decision to delay or attend school part-time should not affect your service year as long as it does not interfere with your ability to complete your service requirements.

Is there a minimum age requirement to become an AmeriCorps member?

Yes, the minimum age is 18 at the start of your service year. There is no age limit for this program.

Do I need to be a US citizen to serve?

Yes. You must either be a US citizen or Permanent Resident in order to serve.

