



Rebuilding Together SummerCorps Frequently Asked Questions



Rebuilding Together SummerCorps FAQs

Rebuilding Together SummerCorps is a National Direct AmeriCorps program with AmeriCorps members serving over the course of a summer at Rebuilding Together affiliates around the country. Members help improve the lives of low-income homeowners through hands-on home repairs and community outreach while earning an education award to help with educational expenses.

What is Rebuilding Together?

Rebuilding Together is a leading national nonprofit in safe and healthy housing with more than 40 years of experience. Together, with our corporate and community partners, we transform the lives of low-income homeowners by improving the safety and health of their homes and revitalizing their communities. Rebuilding Together's local affiliates and nearly 100,000 volunteers complete about 10,000 rebuild projects nationwide each year.

Why is housing important? Why perform repairs and modifications on existing houses?

On average, our homeowners live at or below the poverty level, and are unable to afford the critical repairs needed to provide their families with a safe and healthy home environment. We provide these repairs at no cost to qualified homeowners. Rebuilding Together is often the last resort to preserving their homeownership – their only personal asset.

Rebuilding Together affiliates serve homeowners in thousands of communities and neighborhoods across the country.

What is SummerCorps?

Rebuilding Together AmeriCorps' new program is called Rebuilding Together SummerCorps. We have AmeriCorps members serving 300 hours over the summer at seven Rebuilding Together affiliates around the country. SummerCorps members will help improve the lives of low-income homeowners in need by providing hands-on repairs and assisting with volunteer and community outreach while earning a \$1,230 education award to use to help with qualified educational expenses (such as qualified student loans and qualified tuition expenses).

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What are the terms of service?

In order to complete your term of service and receive an Education Award, SummerCorps members must serve a minimum of 300 hours over the summer of 2017. There are a variety of start and end dates for the SummerCorps program: March 5 through May 4, April 2 through June 1, May 7 through July 6, June 4 through August 3, and July 9 through September 7. Check our website www.togetherwetransform.org/summercorps to see which start/end dates are offered at each host site.

What do SummerCorps members do?

SummerCorps members gain experience in many different areas at Rebuilding Together. Members may coordinate project logistics, assist homeowners with the application process, complete hands-on repairs, and much more. The exact roles/responsibilities vary depending on the host site. Our website contains links to each host site's application page—each host site application page includes specific details about the opportunities at that host site.

Why serve in AmeriCorps?

Let currently serving members and alumni tell you about why they decided to serve in CapacityCorps and what this experience means to them. [Click here to watch our video!](#)

Benefits of service:

Serving with CapacityCorps offers a host of professional development, networking and leadership opportunities. Here are just some of the benefits of service:

- Nonprofit management experience such as partnership development, community engagement, volunteer management and program development.
- Opportunity to address housing issues hands-on in your community.
- Living allowance of \$1,400 over 9-week term of service, which amounts to \$280 twice per month before taxes.
- Education Award of up to \$1,230 for qualifying education expenses or loans.
- Federal student loan forbearance and interest accrual payment.
- Positions are eligible for Public Service Loan Forgiveness.

Eligibility:

Applicants must meet the following criteria to serve with Rebuilding Together SummerCorps:

- Must be 18 years of age or older;
- Must be a U.S. citizen, national or lawful permanent resident;
- Individuals may serve no more than four terms in AmeriCorps; and
- Must pass Criminal History Reports including: FBI Criminal Background check with fingerprint, any applicable state background check, and a check of the national sex offender registry.



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Criminal history check:

What findings would disqualify me from serving with Rebuilding Together? Anyone listed, or required to be listed, on a sex offender registry is ineligible to serve. Anyone convicted of murder as defined and described in 18 U.S.C. § 1111 is ineligible to serve. Anyone who refuses to undergo the check may not serve. Anyone who makes a false statement in connection with a program's inquiry concerning the individual's criminal history, including your self-report in your AmeriCorps.gov application, is ineligible to serve. If the National Service Criminal History Check returns results that implicate criteria other than those above, Rebuilding Together has the discretion, subject to any federal civil rights law and state law requirements, to decide whether or not the results of a criminal history background check disqualify an individual from service with the grantee.