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CaliforniaVolunteers.CA.GOV

2021 CaliforniansForAll Youth Workforce Development Program



REQUEST FOR APPLICATION

SOLICITATION NO. RFA #JP21-002

Applications due February 15, 2022

CONTACT INFORMATION

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OVERVIEW

State Entity Name: CaliforniaVolunteers
Funding Opportunity Title: CaliforniansForAll Youth Workforce Development Program
ALN Number: 21.027
State Funds:

Disclosure: Funds requested under this opportunity are subject to applicable federal laws, rules, and regulations. References to specific regulations will be linked to e-CFR at www.ecfr.gov.

Important Dates:

- Proposals are due to California Volunteers at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time on Tuesday, February 15, 2022. All submissions must be submitted to Funding@cv.ca.gov and have the RFA #, JP21-002 in the subject heading.

Our Purpose:

Authorized through the federal Serve America Act (2009) and Executive Order S-24-06, California Volunteers is the State Service Commission for California. California Volunteers is responsible for engaging Californians in service, volunteering, and civic action to tackle our State's most pressing challenges and lift up all communities.

The CaliforniansForAll Youth Workforce Program is a Governor's initiative administered by California Volunteers in partnership with cities across California. The purpose of this initiative is to increase youth employment, develop youth interest in and experience towards a career, and to strengthen city capacity to address key areas of climate, food insecurity, and local COVID-19 recovery.

Authority:

State funds are available through Item 0650-163-8506 (California Volunteers - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds) of the 2021 Budget Act. These funds were made available to California Volunteers through an investment by the Governor and the Legislature. Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, though administered through the State of California and California Volunteers, are federal stimulus funds associated with recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information on these funds, please visit:

- Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, US Department of Treasury: [\[Link\]](#)
- U.S. Department of the Treasury – Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds Interim Final Rule [\[Link\]](#)
- U.S. Department of the Treasury – Compliance and Reporting Guidance for State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds [\[Link\]](#)
- U.S. Department of the Treasury – Compliance and Reporting User Guide [\[Link\]](#)
- Frequently Asked Questions: [\[Link\]](#)

Applicants awarded grants through this program will be required to submit quarterly and annual reports on expenditures and various performance measures identified. Under federal law associated with the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, grantees are unable to leverage federal funds to support potential participants deemed ineligible from using these federal funds, including AB 540 Dreamers. Cities should be aware that there are separate requirements, including eligibility requirements, associated with federal funding and the implementation of these programs. Please visit the above links for additional information.

APPLICATION TIMELINE

| Milestone | Date |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Released | December 21, 2021 |
| Application Deadline | February 15, 2022 |
| Application Approval | February 22, 2022 |
| Earliest Program Start | March 1, 2022 |
| All funds must be obligated | June 30, 2024 |

**This timeline is subject to change*

I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

A. Program Description

Within the Office of the Governor, **CaliforniaVolunteers** (CV) serves as the State Service Commission responsible for promoting service and volunteerism. CaliforniaVolunteers' mission is to empower and mobilize Californians to actively help tackle state and local challenges through volunteer and service action. Since 1993, the office has successfully addressed many state and local challenges by investing in service solutions, while leveraging public, private, and nonprofit resources.

The **CaliforniansForAll Youth Workforce Development Program** is a Governor's initiative administered by CaliforniaVolunteers in partnership with California counties and cities with populations of less than 300,000. This program will bring together youth across the state to help address urgent challenges in their communities, while simultaneously learning key skills and earning money to help create career pathways.

Beginning in early 2022, award recipients will recruit, train, and place high need youth at jobs in a new or existing youth workforce development program. Each municipality is responsible for selecting or creating these job positions and recruiting, hiring, and managing youth. Municipalities are encouraged to sub-grant to existing community-based organizations (CBOs) with the capacity to manage these programs in areas where feasible. Programs may run continuously or be structured as intermittent summer programs. Regardless of length of program, all youth positions must be 50-100% full-time equivalents (FTE).

B. Program Goals

The program has three primary goals:

- a. **GOAL 1:** Increase youth employment
- b. **GOAL 2:** Develop career pathways
- c. **GOAL 3:** Strengthen local capacity to address key areas of food insecurity, climate, and COVID-19 recovery

C. Municipal Eligibility – Who May Apply

- Any county
- Cities with a population of less than 300,000
- Coterminous or geographically adjacent municipalities may choose to apply and administer program as a cohort.

II. PROGRAM DESIGN

A. Structure

CaliforniaVolunteers will grant funds directly to municipalities on a monthly reimbursement basis. Municipalities can choose to subgrant all or parts of the funding to existing CBOs providing youth workforce development programming. Municipalities (or subgrantees under supervision of a municipality) are responsible for selecting or creating job opportunities and recruiting, hiring, and managing participants. Funding can be used to create new programming or expand existing youth workforce programs within the requirements of this grant. Programming can be run year-round or as an intermittent summer program. Regardless of program length, all positions must be 50-100% FTE and all funds must be encumbered by June 30, 2024 and expended by October 30, 2026.

B. Allowable Grant Activities and Expenses

Indirect administrative costs incurred by the municipality and/or subgrantee should not exceed 10% of modified total direct costs, pursuant to federal guidance. Municipalities may spend up to 40% of funding on wrap-around services for participants. This can include services like transportation stipends/awards, job readiness training, and case management, or other services likely to help participants succeed in the program and/or gain employment after completion of program. All participants must receive a wage of at least \$15.00/hr.

C. Disallowable Activities and Expenses

Participants may not partake in activities that require high levels of safety precautions. Participants may not partake in activities that require specialized training unless that training is provided by municipality or subgrantee. Participants may not be placed at for profit organizations. All expenditures and activities must be in compliance with Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds requirements.

D. Focus Areas

Municipalities are highly encouraged to place participants in job opportunities in the areas of climate, food insecurity, and local COVID-19 recovery. Programs focusing on these areas will receive preferential scoring.

E. Youth Eligibility Requirements

All participants must be between 16-30 years of age. Priority should be given to youth who:

- Have not participated in an AmeriCorps program
- May have difficulty finding employment
- Are low-income
- Are unemployed and/or out of school
- Are or were justice-involved
- Are in or transitioning from foster care
- Are engaged with the mental health or substance abuse system

Priority applicants (meeting two of above criteria) should make up no fewer than 75% of selected participants. Municipalities may create their own priority criteria for approval by CaliforniaVolunteers if the above criteria do not meet local goals.

F. Metrics/Reporting

Municipalities will be required to report the following metrics on a quarterly and annual basis to CaliforniaVolunteers in a format and method to be specified by CaliforniaVolunteers.

- Number of youth participating in program
- Number of youth employed in each focus area
- Number of youth enrolled in job training/readiness programs
- Number of youth completing job training/readiness programs
- Number of youth participating in summer program (if applicable)
- Average wage and hours worked of participants across program
- Information/data/member stories as requested by CaliforniaVolunteers for annual report

Additionally, CaliforniaVolunteers requires municipalities to report the following data, where feasible, on a quarterly and annual basis to CaliforniaVolunteers in a format and method to be specified by CaliforniaVolunteers.

- Number of youth employed in program who were previously unemployed
- Number of youth who complete full program (1 year or summer program)
- Percentage of youth employed in program who remain in college or stable employment
- Percentage of youth employed after completion of program
- Percentage of youth who report job satisfaction after one year of employment, as reported by a survey
- Percentage of youth who report an interest in a career in public service after one year of employment, as measured by a survey

- Percentage of youth employed in public service after one year of employment
- Job training evaluations

III. Branding

Municipalities will be required to take part in CaliforniansForAll events/training/and job development programs as requested by CaliforniaVolunteers and be expected to use CaliforniaVolunteers developed-branding for the Youth Workforce Development Program. CaliforniaVolunteers will provide support to municipalities who wish to engage in a media campaign to show the collective impact of the program. Program coordination among municipalities is encouraged and will be supported by CaliforniaVolunteers.

IV. APPLICATION PROCESS AND REQUIREMENTS

A. Application Requirements

All applicants are asked to respond to the following questions in a 5-page maximum narrative submission organized into sections outlined below. At the start of your narrative, please include the name, title, email, and phone number for the best point of contact in your municipality. Shorter submissions are welcome.

Section 1: Program Goal (10 points)

- What does your municipality hope to gain from this program/are there strategic goals this program can help your city meet?

Section 2: Program Design (50 points)

- Which focus area(s) will youth be working on (food insecurity, climate change, etc)? If other focus areas are addressed, please describe.
- Do you plan on subgranting with CBOs? If so, please name each organization and any prior experience they have running similar programs or the process by which you will select CBO partners. Preference will be given to municipalities selecting CBO partners with experience running youth workforce development programs in one or more of the recommended focus areas.
- What activities will youth be working on? Please offer a brief, several sentence description of each job activity youth will be undertaking and any partners that will be involved in running that opportunity.
- What is the proposed start date for programming?

Section 3: Youth Recruitment/Development (20 points)

- How will the municipality recruit youth?
- If you would like to propose your own priority criteria for participants in this program for CaliforniaVolunteers approval, please do so in this section.
- What wrap around services, if any, is the municipality or subgrantee planning on offering to youth?
- What wage will youth be paid, if known? What length of time do you anticipate the youth serving?

Section 4: Metrics/Outcomes (10 points)

- Can the municipality provide the required metrics listed above to CaliforniaVolunteers?
- If not, please indicate which metrics the city is unable to provide.
- Are there other metrics you will be collecting to determine success of program? If so, please indicate which metrics.

Section 5: Budget/Staffing/Communications (10 points)

- What is your proposed staffing plan for the program for the municipality and/or any subgrantees?
- Do you commit to using CaliforniaVolunteers developed branding for this program and participating in CaliforniaVolunteers-organized trainings/curriculum, if asked?
- Are you interested in participating in a program launch media event with CaliforniaVolunteers?