



American Red Cross in New York State AmeriCorps*State Cooperative Share Agreement

QUICK FACTS

Background

The American Red Cross in New York State is currently in the process of entering into a cooperative share agreement with the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) which would afford AmeriCorps members in the State an opportunity to receive training and respond to large-scale, in-state emergencies as American Red Cross disaster volunteers.

Per this agreement, when a Mission Assignment is requested by the affected state, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will work with CNCS to identify agencies that maintain this agreement and are able to deploy resources that will meet the local need for volunteers. By signing the Cooperative Share Agreement, local American Red Cross Chapters will work in coordination with AmeriCorps sponsor agencies to deploy existing AmeriCorps members. AmeriCorps members will be provided the required Red Cross Disaster training at no cost. This training must be completed and each member must receive approval from their AmeriCorps Project Director prior to accepting a deployment opportunity.

Implementation

Throughout the fall, American Red Cross Chapters will contact AmeriCorps members in their local jurisdiction to identify interest and coordinate training. AmeriCorps Project Directors are encouraged to discuss this opportunity with their members and explain the critical role they could play in response to a disaster in New York State. AmeriCorps members who are interested in serving in this role and who have the approval of their Project Director, will sign an agreement with their local Red Cross Chapter to allow for deployment in the event of a large-scale disaster.

Interested AmeriCorps members will be asked to submit a volunteer application and complete the requisite disaster services training at their local Red Cross Chapter. This training is provided at no cost and includes, but is not limited to, *Fulfilling our Mission*, *Shelter Operations* and *Shelter Simulation*. Once an AmeriCorps member completes the enrollment process they will receive an American Red Cross ID and will be affiliated with their local Chapter.

Deployment Process

In the event of a large-scale emergency, when a FEMA Mission Assignment is issued, the local American Red Cross Chapter will contact all available volunteers including AmeriCorps members who have completed the enrollment process. At this time, availability for the standard 2-3 week deployment will be requested. Deployment is voluntary and contingent upon the approval of the AmeriCorps Project Director.

During deployment AmeriCorps members would represent the American Red Cross and receive the same accommodations, would be held to the same standards including codes of conduct, and receive the same liability coverage as all American Red Cross volunteers. All travel, lodging, and other deployment expenses would be covered by the American Red Cross.

For more information please contact:
Clayton Kolb, clayton.kolb@semo.state.ny.us or
Diane Eschbacher, diane.Eschbacher@semo.state.ny.us.