

## How many hours can you commit to serving per week without becoming overextended?

Divide the type of position (675, 450, or 300) by the number of weeks between your expected start date and end date. This amount will equal the average number of hours you will need to serve per week to finish on time.

The AmeriCorps program year begins on September 1, 2008 and ends on August 31, 2009. You can set your contract end date at anytime within this range.

You can serve during the academic year: September – May

You can serve during one semester: September – December OR January – May

You can serve during the summer: May – August

You can serve for the entire year: September – August

### Example Scenarios:

675 Hour Position

8 month contract:

Serve from October – May (Approximately 1 academic year).

*8 months = Earn \$565.75 / month*

*33 weeks = Serve 20.5 hours/week*

450 Hour Position:

5 month contract

Serve from Jan. – May (Approximately 1 academic semester)

*5 months = Earn \$603.60/ month*

*19 weeks = Serve 24 hours/ week*

300 Hour Position

3 month contract:

Serve from June – August (Serve during the summer).

*12 weeks = Serve 25 hours / week*

*If you serve 25 hours / week = Earn approx. 655.00 / month*

300 Hour Position:

6 month contract

Serve from Nov. – April (Approximately 1 academic semester)

*25 weeks = Serve 12 hours / week*

*If you serve 12 hours / week = Earn approx. \$314.40/month*

Please note that there are additional ways to accumulate service hours beyond simply serving at your site. You can calculate your training activities as part of your service. There are at least 2 hours of orientation training, and the monthly professional development activities are usually 2 hours long each month. If a conference falls during your term of service, you can accumulate up to 12 hours per day.

## How much money do you need per month to get by? Will there be enough time between service to work a part time job?

The living allowance and compensation provided by your service is modest. However, your contract end date can be flexible. You can arrange your average weekly hours and your average monthly living allowance to fit your needs as long as you are meeting the needs of your non-profit host site.

For example: You can treat your AmeriCorps compensation as a supplemental income, serving fewer hours per week, but still gaining the valuable experience, education award to apply to your tuition and/or student loans, and the opportunity to make a difference at your agency and in the community. Or, if you are committed to the idea of service but concerned about being able to survive financially, complete your hours quickly for increased monthly compensation.

## Are you required to complete an internship for your major? Will AmeriCorps meet this requirement?

Several students have used their AmeriCorps experience to complete their internship requirement. AmeriCorps places members with non-profits all across the Wabash Valley. AmeriCorps offers a wide range of experiences and all positions provide valuable service experience and real-life knowledge. Plus, AmeriCorps offers compensation, attendance at state-wide conferences, and monthly professional development training.

Ask your academic advisor if an AmeriCorps position will satisfy *your* internship requirement.

