

Job Searching After Service Terms

1. Develop an Elevator Pitch

It's important to effectively explain your service experience as you network with potential employers. Craft a brief description of what you accomplished during your term of service. Focus on the results of your service.

Example: As an AmeriCorps member, I was part of an eight-person team that spent 10 months traveling the country, living in communities, and addressing their most pressing needs. We engaged in various projects, including providing crucial support to towns devastated by natural disasters and helping rebuild communities throughout the South and the Midwest. I am proud to say that we assisted more than 150 people impacted by flooding and distributed more than 1,000 pounds of food and other supplies.

Example: My role at Volunteer Houston was to recruit volunteers and agencies to use our Volunteer Connection Platform to stay engaged. I analyzed how we could improve the Platform's performance, and over the course of my AmeriCorps VISTA term, we revamped our website, launched a Google AdWords campaign and became the first Volunteer Center in the country to develop a mobile app for finding volunteer opportunities. I'm proud to say we increased our registrations by over 50%.

2. Build Your Resume

Lead with AmeriCorps	Then, provide specific information about the program. <i>As an AmeriCorps member, I served with the...</i>
I Served with AmeriCorps...	AmeriCorps State and National matches individuals with organizations that see service as solution to local, regional, and national challenges. There are thousands of opportunities in locations across the country to serve nonprofits, schools, public agencies, tribes, and community.
I Served with AmeriCorps...	AmeriCorps VISTA places individuals with organizations that fight poverty, to build capacity and make sustainable change. Through fundraising, grant writing, volunteer recruitment, and so much more, AmeriCorps VISTA members gain experience and leadership skills that put them on track for a life of service in the public, private, or nonprofit sector.
I Served with AmeriCorps...	AmeriCorps NCCC is a full-time, team-based, residential program for 18-24-year-olds. Whether clearing trails for a national park or building home for families in need, AmeriCorps NCCC members engage in a variety of projects in multiple communities while developing leadership and teamwork skills.
I Served with AmeriCorps...	AmeriCorps NCCC FEMA Corps serves communities, in coordination with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), through disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.

Example Elevator Pitches:

1. **AmeriCorps Team Leader, AmeriCorps NCCC February 2018 - November 2018, Baltimore, MD**

- Led team of nine, age 18-24 through several disaster response projects for 10 months
- Supported member development through team building exercises and service-learning reflections to help identify skills gained from service projects
- Enforced behavioral standards and supported in conflict resolution amongst team members in order to maintain a cohesive team dynamic
- Managed travel logistics, project completion reports, and weekly budget of team finances
- Served as a liaison between project supervisor and team members, and program supervisors and team members

2. **AmeriCorps Outreach Coordinator June 2016 - June 2017
AmeriCorps VISTA
New Hampshire Council on Developmental Disabilities, Concord, NH**

Spent one year working full-time toward improving the lives of low-income New Hampshire citizens with developmental disabilities through AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America)

- Created and edited over 15 flyers/brochures used for educational and promotional purposes
- Managed email marketing, website updates, and social media channels
- Trained three staff on how to generate and schedule social media content
- Revitalized the volunteer program by creating instruction manuals and orientation materials, increasing the number of active volunteers for the organization by 50%
- Established five new local business partnership

3. Prepare for an Interview

When asked, “Why should I hire you?” explain how you gained any of the following attributes through serving with AmeriCorps. These are qualities that an employer values.

- Initiative
- Interpersonal and Intercultural Communication
- Adaptability
- Accountability

Example response: *Having served as an AmeriCorps member, I developed the ability to adapt easily, collaborate with others, and take initiative to get the job done. I believe I would be a good fit for your organization because of the skills and experiences I gained through national service*

4. Update Your LinkedIn Profile

Include AmeriCorps in the “Experience” section of your profile.

- Add three to five bullet points that describe your accomplishments; these can be the same as those on your resume.
- Quantify whenever possible.
- Lead with AmeriCorps and include a brief description of the specific AmeriCorps program you served with.

Employers of National Service

There are over 600 organizations in the network [search them by name, type, or location.](#)