

# **Working Lands Climate Corps**

## ***Request for Proposals – Informational Webinar***

**February 20, 2024**



# Agenda

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## 1. Welcome/ Introductions

## 2. American Climate Corps + Working Lands Climate Corps

## 3. Working Lands Climate Corps

- *Host Site Eligibility/ Responsibilities*
- *Service Member Benefits*
- *Eligible Activities*
- *Training*

## 4. Request for Proposals

- *Timeline*
- *Information needed for Application*
- *Review Criteria*

## 5. Q & A



## **AMERICAN CLIMATE CORPS**

- A new initiative to train young people in high-demand skills for jobs to address climate change
- Will put a new generation of Americans to work conserving our lands and waters, bolstering community resilience, advancing environmental justice, deploying clean energy, implementing energy efficient technologies, and tackling climate change.
- ACC members will gain the skills necessary to access good-paying jobs that are aligned with high-quality employment opportunities after they complete their paid training or service program

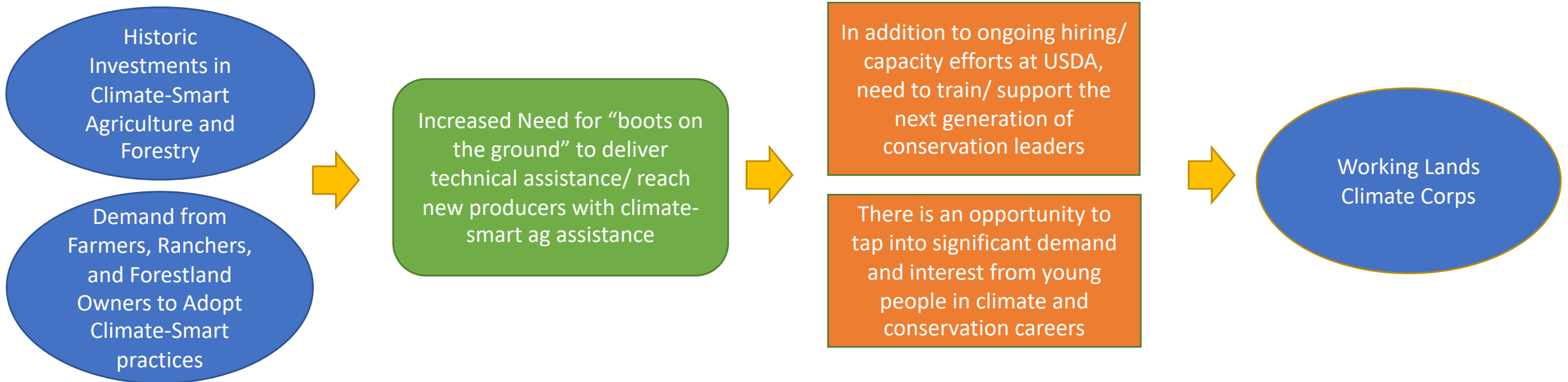
***Wanted: 20,000 Young Americans to  
Fight Climate Change***

The White House plans to create an “American Climate Corps” that would train thousands of young people for green jobs.



# Working Lands Climate Corps

- A new effort to train the next generation of conservation and climate leaders
- Technical training and career pathway opportunities for young people, helping them deliver climate-smart agriculture solutions for farmers and ranchers across the country
- 100+ young people will have the opportunity to serve in this first cohort



# Working Lands Climate Corps – *Host Sites*

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## Eligibility

- Nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) US organizations
- Tribal governments
- Units of state, territory, or local government
- Special district governments



**All applicants must have an active SAM.gov registration.**

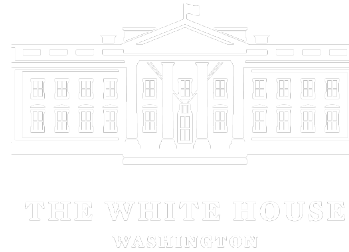
# Working Lands Climate Corps – *Host Sites*

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## Responsibilities

### *AmeriCorps Member Management*

- Recruitment
- Enrollment
- Service Hour Tracking
- Living Allowance/Stipend
- Training and Support



### *Project Planning and Identification*

- Allowable Activities (NRCS and AmeriCorps)
- Collaboration with State and/or County-level NRCS Staff

# Working Lands Climate Corps – *Host Sites*

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## Responsibilities (cont'd)



### ***Performance Management and Reporting***

- Data Collection – Project and Member Outcomes
- Progress Reporting

### ***Administrative and Financial Management***

- Allowable and Allocable Costs
- Project Accounting and Reimbursements

# Segal AmeriCorps Education Award

- **Current Value:** \$6,895 for full-time (1,700 hours) prorated for shorter terms. Value tied to Pell Grant.
- **Uses:**
  - **Pay current educational expenses** such as tuition, books, transportation, room and board at most college, universities, trade & technical schools (all Title IV schools)
  - **Repay qualified student loans:** Stafford, Perkins, Ford Direct Loans, Federal Consolidated Loans, Guaranteed Student Loans, HEAL, HPSA, and loans made by state agencies.
- **Duration:** Must use w/in 7 years
- **Related Benefits:**
  - Loan forbearance and interest repayment
  - Members 55 and older can transfer award to child, stepchild, grandchild, or foster child.
  - AmeriCorps service counts towards Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program (PSLF)
  - Schools of National Service: 300+ institutions that match or offer other incentives to AmeriCorps alums.



# Current AmeriCorps Education Award Amounts by Term Length

## Fiscal Year 2023

Segal AmeriCorps Education Award amounts for national service positions approved in Fiscal Year 2023 (October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023)

Participation types	Minimum # of hours	Amounts
Full-time (FT)	1,700 (365 days for AmeriCorps VISTA)	\$6,895.00
Three-quarters-time (TQT)	1,200	\$4,826.50
Half-time (HT)	900	\$3,447.50
Reduced half-time (RHT)	675	\$2,626.27
Quarter-time (QT)	450	\$1,824.07
Minimal-time and Summer Associate (MT and SA)	300	\$1,459.26
Abbreviated Time (AT)	100	\$388.03



# Working Lands Climate Corps – *Eligible Activities*

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Funding will support Working Lands Climate Corps members at host organizations who will:

- Conduct outreach and education on climate-smart agriculture assistance
- Support conservation technical assistance
- Participate in workforce development and training activities



## Examples:

- Hosting public meetings and field days around climate-smart agriculture opportunities
- Developing outreach materials
- Developing training resources
- Supporting trainings on climate-smart practices
- Outreach to underserved producers with climate-smart agriculture resources
- Coordinating/ attending field visits
- Trainings around climate-smart ag and forestry practices
- And more...



# **NACD Training & Development Support**

- **Conservation Orientation**
- **Training & Mentorship Opportunities\***
  - **Professional & Career Development**
  - **Leadership & Organizational Skills**

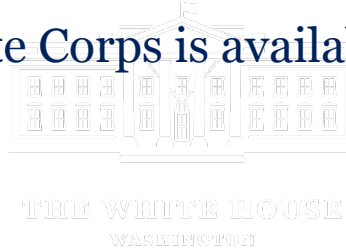
*\*Option for host-sites and organizations that do not have the resources or capacity to offer these opportunities themselves*



# Request for Proposals – *Timeline*

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All information for the Working Lands Climate Corps is available at [www.corpsnetwork.org/wlcc](http://www.corpsnetwork.org/wlcc).



- Complete RFP
- Link to Application
- Frequently Asked Questions

**Informational Webinar(s):**  
**Applications Due:**  
**Award Notification:**

February 15<sup>th</sup> at 2pm EST | February 20<sup>th</sup> at 11am EST  
March 8, 2024 by 5pm EST  
By March 31, 2024

**Project Start Date:**

By September 30, 2024

# Request for Proposals – *Materials Required & Resources*

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## A complete application includes:

- Application Narratives (3)
  - Project Description
  - Member Recruitment and Training Plan
  - Environmental Justice Impact
- Complete Budget and Budget Narrative
- Letter(s) of Support
- NICRA, if applicable



## Resources

- Partner Profiles
- AmeriCorps State and National Primer
- Budget Guidance
- Budget Template
- Application Preview

# Request for Proposals – *Review Criteria*

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Applications will be reviewed based on the following rubric:

<b>Evaluation Criteria</b>	<b>Maximum Points</b>
The applicant’s proposed plan for recruiting and enrolling eligible participants. (See Appendix B)	15
The applicant’s proposal adequately defines specific projects within the scope of eligible activities.	30
The proposed project’s ability to meet a defined climate, community, and/or organizational capacity-building need.	30
The proposed budget’s efficiency and leveraging of resources to support WLCC member stipends, training, development and/or project implementation.	15
The proposal’s objectives include benefits to historically underserved/socially disadvantaged communities.	10
<b>Total Points Available</b>	<b>100</b>



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON



# Questions?

