



AmeriCorps VISTA

August 25th, 2008- August 29th, 2009

The purpose of VISTA is to develop long-term, sustainable programs and build the capacity of the site to maintain the same level of service after VISTA leaves. Direct service (tutoring students) is not the primary focus of VISTA. VISTA is the only full-time anti-poverty program administered through our federal government.

School site expectations:

1. Recruit community volunteers to tutor struggling readers in local elementary schools.
2. Organize community volunteer tutor activities before, during, and after school to increase the time students spend on reading and literacy skill development.
3. Provide and/or support school efforts to deliver volunteer tutor training.
4. Promote and encourage peer and cross-age tutoring opportunities for struggling readers.
5. Oversee WRC volunteer activities and communicate regularly with Program Supervisor and school partners.
6. Develop and organize events that invite families to participate in literacy activities with their children.
7. Coordinate activities to increase English proficiency for children with limited English skills.
8. Facilitate coordination and collaboration within and between schools being served and the community.
9. Strengthen community-based literacy resources that can be shared within and between schools.
10. Support and implement evaluation methods for on-going assessment of the WRC program.
11. Organize volunteer recognition ceremonies and special events.
12. While not a major responsibility, VISTA's may tutor struggling readers either one-on-one or in small groups (group size not to exceed four students) no more than 10 hours per week.
13. Serve full-time at school site (8 hrs/Day).
14. Serve 12 full months

WRC Team Expectations:

1. Participate in team Fridays 1-4 times a month. Team Fridays may be focused on Civic Engagement, service Projects, or development trainings.
2. Take part in the planning and administering of Civic Engagement curriculum to youth with the regional team.
3. Commit to team activities and development
4. Participate in a minimal amount of Saturday or evening service projects as dictated by site or ESD 112.
5. Participate in Pre-Service Orientation overnight training (approx. 4 days, 3 nights).
6. Attend SERVES Institute overnight trainings (approx. 4 days, 3 nights) twice a year.
7. Participate in National Days of Service (Ex. Martin Luther King Day)
8. Help create and maintain positive relationships with site, sponsoring agency (ESD 112), and team members.
9. This is a federally funded program. There is lots of paperwork that needs to be kept up-to-date.
10. Be flexible and have fun!



4/16/2008

ESD112



AmeriCorps VISTA

Benefits

- Basic health coverage
- Monthly living stipend of \$8.33-\$865.00 before taxes
- Child care benefits for those who qualify
- Loan forbearance for qualified education loans
- Choice between post service stipend (\$1200), or education award (\$4,725)
- Ongoing training and personal development

Personal and Sick Leave

Service continues during school holidays
ESD holidays are vacation days for WRC members
No personal days during first or last month of service

- 10 sick days
- 10 personal days

Jobs and School

VISTA members are considered to be serving 24 hours/day, 7 days/week. Therefore, they may not hold a second job or attend school during their service commitment.

Prohibited AmeriCorps and VISTA member activities:

- Lunchroom duty
- Recess or bus duty
- Clerical work or grading papers



ESD112