

Volunteer Outreach for Community Action in Literacy - VOCAL*AmeriCorps



OUT REACH for
COMMUNITY
ACTION in
LITERACY

VOCAL is an AmeriCorps program, sponsored by the Literacy Volunteers of Illinois (LVI) that is funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) through the Serve Illinois Commission. In the VOCAL program, AmeriCorps members are placed in community, school and faith-based agencies where they provide support to the adult literacy programs offered. This can include tutoring, teaching, volunteer recruitment, tutor training, employment-related counseling and assistance, community outreach, marketing, PR and fundraising.

The program offers two service options: Full-time - 1,700 hours and Part-time - 900 hours

Full-time members generally serve 35 hours a week for a one-year period. They receive a bi-weekly living allowance (\$13,992 per annum), health insurance, and worker's comp coverage from LVI. Child care assistance and student loan deferrals are available through the CNCS. Full-time members are also eligible at the end of their service for an educational award of \$6,095.

Part-time members generally serve 20 hours a week for one-year, during which time they receive a bi-weekly living allowance that is based on \$7,000 per annum and worker's comp coverage. Student loan deferrals are available through the CNCS. Part-time members are eligible at the end of their service year for an educational award of \$3,047.50.

All individuals applying for the VOCAL program must apply through the Literacy Volunteers of Illinois. Individuals recruited through and interviewed by host site staff are not considered as having applied for the VOCAL AmeriCorps program until they have applied to and have been interviewed by the Literacy Volunteers of Illinois.

How to apply for the VOCAL AmeriCorps program –

- 1.) Complete an online application through AmeriCorps.org and designate the VOCAL program as the program to which you are applying. Note: Contact information for two references is required for the application to be completed. (Preferred method)
- 2.) Download a paper copy of the AmeriCorps application from the LVI website, complete it and return it with two references to the address below.

Within three days of receiving a completed application with references, LVI will contact each applicant to discuss openings and schedule an interview. All applicants are interviewed by both LVI and host site staff prior to being offered a position in the VOCAL program. Note: Being recommended by a host site or LVI does not necessarily guarantee acceptance in the program as approval from both is required.

For further information on the VOCAL program visit lvillinois.org or call 312/857-1582, or write to lvivocal@aol.com.

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