



Jobs for Montana's Graduates Foundation

Connecting Students to Their Futures



To: High School Administrators, Principals, Teachers, Counselors, Executive Directors and Program Coordinators

From: Sarah R. Sadowski, Young Adult Service Corps (YASC) Program Director

Re: Student Education Award Opportunity!

Warm Greetings,

This letter announces the opportunity for high school students and recent graduates in Montana to earn a \$1,000 Education Award through local volunteer service with AmeriCorps! The Young Adult Service Corps (YASC) serves both as an incentive for students engaged in programs with service components, and as a venue to facilitate and recognize civic engagement within Montana's students.

JMFGF is a non-profit organization established to develop and support programs to help young people stay in school and become productive members of our communities. One method for achieving our mission is to provide this opportunity for young adults to engage in service learning activities that meet community needs, develop leadership confidence and earn them a \$1,000 Education Award to pursue higher education.

To receive the Education Award, students apply, become enrolled and then complete a 300-hour term of service consisting of direct service and member development activities. Direct Service activities include hours served as school aides, helping out at local food shares, libraries, shelters and other efforts that inspire volunteer service to strengthen communities. Students can earn 60 of the 300 hours on Member Development activities such as attending workshops, trainings and working towards stated goals. Participants earn a \$1,000 Education Award that is valid for seven years for redemption at qualified higher education institutions and can be applied towards qualified student loans or used in combination. Participants have from Sept 1- Aug 31, to complete the 300 hours and program requirements.

Eligible students are:

1. Ages 17-24 years old; enrolled in a school education program or are recent high school graduates
2. *Either* currently engaged in volunteer service *or* dedicated to addressing a local community need through school or community based service.
3. Committed to completing a 300 hour term of service, recruiting one volunteer to serve 8 hours with them and completing program requirements.

Through a partnership with YASC, you can request and receive positions for students engaged or willing to engage in volunteer service. Service activities meet school and community needs throughout Montana and optimally align with the students' career and future goals. YASC continues to grow our statewide partnership network to accept requests for Education Award positions. If you missed us last year, we would be delighted to partner with you to offer students the YASC opportunity and benefit!

To partner and make position request (s), please complete and submit the following as soon as possible:

1. Memorandum of Understanding
2. Position Description- *Briefly describes service activity and community need being addressed, or send us a volunteer position that you may already have that describes the same thing!*

Please send your completed materials to YASC; 931 North Last Chance Gulch, Suite 2, Helena, MT 59601.

Please contact us with questions by calling 406.443.2413 or by emailing: ssadowski@jmgf-mt.org