

AgCorps AmeriCorps Member Position Description



AgCorps Mission:

To serve Montana communities by providing Ag literacy and environmental stewardship education to create resilient, healthy, and engaged communities under the Big Sky.



Service Location	302 North Roberts St. Helena, MT 59601
Supervisor Information	Andy Fjeseth, Ag Finance, Trade & Development Bureau Chief
Term of Service	This is a full-time 1700hr position. Term dates are January- November 2025. Members are expected to serve 40 hours/week. Typical working times are Monday-Friday 8:00AM-4:30PM.

About AmeriCorps:

AmeriCorps is the federal agency for national service and volunteerism. AmeriCorps provides opportunities for Americans of all backgrounds to serve their country, address the nation's most pressing challenges, and improve lives and communities. The AmeriCorps mission is to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic engagement through service and volunteering.

Purpose:

AgCorps is a state AmeriCorps program administered by the Montana Department of Agriculture. AgCorps aims to improve the capacity of partner organizations to meet their mission, grow collaborations, provide effective programming, and create resilient, healthy, safe, and engaged communities in Montana. This program is also designed to serve rural and underfunded school districts in Montana that require more accessibility to Ag literacy materials.

Location:

The Montana Department of Agriculture is a state department that operates more than 30 programs across the state. Some of those programs and topics include Adopt-A-Trailhead, Farmer's Market, Beekeeping, Noxious Weeds and Pest Management. The three main divisions of the department are the Agricultural Development Division, the Agricultural Sciences Division, and the Central Services Division. For more information on the department, visit www.agr.mt.gov.

With a population of a little over 33,000, Helena is a beautiful capital city with a small-town feel. Montana has something to offer everyone, whether you are into biking, boating, skiing or just exploring the outdoors. There are countless activities to enjoy right outside your door including the state's oldest farmer's market, tours of the famous mansion district and multiple festivals throughout the year. Helena is surrounded by several mountain ranges including the Big Belts, Elkhorns the Boulders, and numerous rivers and streams including the Blue-Ribbon section of the Missouri River.

Service Position Summary:

The Northwest and Rocky Mountain Regional Food Business Center (<https://nwrockymountainregionalfoodbusiness.com/>) is one of 12 newly created centers around the United States. The main goals of the Northwest and Rocky Mountain center are to cultivate and coordinate partnerships, provide localized technical assistance, and build the capacity of historically underserved communities. This position will primarily focus on the center's mission to reach underserved communities including BIPOC, Tribal Nations, Veterans, New Entry and Urban Farmers, Farmers with Disabilities and Persistent poverty Regions.

This position will be in the field and on the road about 40% of the time. The remaining 60% will be conducted in a typical office environment. Transportation or mileage reimbursement for program activities will be provided.

Essential Functions and responsibilities:

- Identify underserved communities and groups within the state
- Identify organizations that may be serving those groups
- Connect with evaluation staff at CSU to identify strategies to determine if Department resources are reaching underserved communities
- Connect with partners to determine strategies to ensure resources are getting to underserved communities
- If barriers are identified, develop strategies to minimize those barriers
- Outreach to underserved communities and promotion of RFBC services
- Attendance to mandatory trainings (Orientation, Symposium, mid-service training and end of service training)
- Participation in evaluation and reporting (monthly reporting, bi-weekly timesheet submission and monthly check-in calls)

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities Required:

- Valid driver's license
- Public speaking and basic writing skills
- Knowledge of design and editing software (i.e., Canva, Adobe, etc.)
- Ability to interact with community members of all demographics
- Understanding or willingness to learn how agriculture plays an important role in Montana

AmeriCorps Program Benefits:

- Members receive \$21,000 over the 10 months to cover basic expenses while serving.
- Upon successful completion of service, members receive a \$7,395 education award
- While serving, members may qualify for student loan forbearance
- A \$300/month housing stipend if eligible
- Healthcare and Childcare assistance is available
- Other benefits include being part of an incredible community, being surrounded by professionals in multiple fields, and job shadowing opportunities

The Montana AgCorps Program, under the Montana Department of Agriculture, does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or any other discrimination not based on merit or qualifications.

- AmeriCorps alumni benefits include access to nationwide alumni network, many career resources, access to AmeriCorps alumni emails and updates

AmeriCorps Service minimum Requirements:

- Must be 18+ at the beginning of service (17+ requires parental consent)
- High school graduate, GED recipient, working towards obtaining a high school diploma/ GED
- Be a citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident alien
- Satisfy the National Service Criminal History Check eligibility criteria

For more information, please Contact:

Amanda Coyle: AgCorps Program Coordinator
(406) 444-7819
Amanda.Coyle@mt.gov

To Apply

Visit <https://my.americorps.gov>

* All positions are contingent upon a successful background check and continued CNCS grant funding