



Overview: State Service Commissions

State service commissions are governor-appointed agencies led by commissioners — private citizens helping drive the nation's philanthropic movement. State service commissions then determine the needs in their state, set policy and program priorities, competitively award grants to local nonprofits and agencies, provide training and technical assistance, monitor grantees to ensure quality and compliance with federal and state law, and promote service and volunteering in their states.



America's Service Commissions (ASC) was founded in 1997 as the Association of State Service Commissions, a national nonpartisan, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization representing and promoting state service commissions across the United States and territories. State service **commissions are a vital resource that help governors tap the power of citizens** to solve problems and strengthen communities through the following principles:

- **The best solutions come from the local level.** The nation's 52 governor-appointed commissions administer more than \$325 million in federal grants annually. State service commissions provide governors with service-based solutions to help meet each state's unique needs. The federal investment in state service commissions provides governors with authority to ensure state oversight and buy-in for the AmeriCorps program to invest in local community needs.
- **Return on investment.** State service commissions provide the most **efficient, low-cost delivery system** for national and community service. State service commissions leverage the federal investment in national and community service by matching most investments dollar-for-dollar. State service commissions provide the critical infrastructure needed to make sure that national and community service reaches across the nation to small faith and community-based nonprofits that are meeting critical local needs.

- **Meeting local needs while expanding educational opportunities.** AmeriCorps provides individuals the ability to earn money for college and gain skills while serving in their local communities. AmeriCorps provides short-term employment and prepares members for long-term employment opportunities in the public and private sector. This service empowers members to solve society's problems and places them on a lifelong path to civic engagement and career success.

FAST FACTS — STATE SERVICE COMMISSIONS

- Created by the National and Community Service Trust Act as amended in 1993 in order to provide **state/local oversight** of federal AmeriCorps dollars.
- Administer more than **75% of AmeriCorps State/National** funding across the country.
- Are **governor-appointed** public agencies or nonprofit organizations made up of more than **1,000+ commissioners** — private citizens leading the nation's philanthropic and service movement.
- Provide more than **\$325 million** in pass-through grant funds while matching these federal dollars from state and local sources to support citizen service and volunteerism in America. Commissions fund and support more than **40,000** AmeriCorps members.



Overview: States for Service Coalition

An initiative of America's Service Commissions, the States for Service (S4S) coalition is made up of state service commissions; AmeriCorps, AmeriCorps Seniors, and Volunteer Generation Fund programs; volunteer engagement professionals; and individual alumni and champions committed to **protecting and expanding** service at the federal, state, and local levels in new and innovative ways.

S4S members are passionate about national service and volunteerism as cost-effective strategies to get things done for America. They are involved in continuous learning of the ins and outs of public policy as part of their personal and professional growth. They believe that the primary point of entry for national and community service is at the local and state level. And they hope to advance new policies that will improve their day-to-day work in the national and community service sector. S4S is funded by non-federal funds in compliance with federal regulations.