

# AmeriCorps and Commonwealth Corps: Shaping Massachusetts' Future Workforce

As Massachusetts faces ongoing workforce shortages, the Massachusetts Service Alliance creates a pipeline of talented young people who **stay** in Massachusetts to live, serve, and work.

**AmeriCorps****Commonwealth  
Corps**

## Talent Retention

Members engage in career exploration and skills development during their service which acts as a pathway to employment opportunities in Massachusetts; keeping young professionals in Massachusetts and a part of our workforce.

## Career Pathways

Our members engage in critical professional development and career exploration through their service. Service programs allow residents of the Commonwealth to gain first-hand experience in the workforce and act as a pathway to employment opportunities within the Commonwealth, keeping motivated young professionals within our economic sector.

## Strategic Investment

Intentionally investing in service programs should be part of our state's overall workforce development strategy. Like many states, Massachusetts is facing a growing retirement-age demographic and a drain of professionals in the health and education sectors - Massachusetts needs to leverage the AmeriCorps and Commonwealth Corps talent pool to fill those industry gaps.

**EXPANDING VOLUNTEERISM  
AND SERVICE TO MAKE  
MASSACHUSETTS  
A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE.**

*As the **state service commission**, we are committed to developing the next generation of social sector leaders. In a time where Massachusetts is facing a skill and brain drain with rampant out-migration among young people, we are creating an opportunity pipeline for individuals to serve and stay in our state as future professionals in education, health care, skilled trades, and countless other fields.*

## SERVICE: A PATHWAY TO ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

Service-to-career pathways can build diverse talent pipelines for public and private sectors facing worker shortages, boost the capacity of nonprofits and public agencies hosting service members, tackle urgent community and state issues, and positively impact the service members themselves.

### Research and surveys of AmeriCorps alumni have found positive effects on future employment:



of AmeriCorps alumni say AmeriCorps benefited their career path.



of alumni report that AmeriCorps was a defining professional experience.



of alumni employed within six months of service found a job through a connection made in AmeriCorps.



of AmeriCorps host organizations hired at least one alumni, and more than half the jobs were newly created.\*

\*Research from Arizona State University.

**Combining the power of national service and workforce development can strengthen the pipeline of skilled workers in Massachusetts.**

AmeriCorps programs are compatible with a wide array of strong workforce development models including registered apprenticeship and quality pre-apprenticeship.

Many AmeriCorps programs offer members and volunteers the opportunities to obtain quality, industry-recognized, and stackable credentials.

### AmeriCorps programs credential highlights:

#### **United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merimack Valley**

50% of members secured full-term roles at their service sites, while the other 50% pursued further education in social service, policy, and education

#### **The Student Conservation, Inc.**

Wilderness First Aid or  
Wilderness First Responder  
Chainsaw Training  
Carpentry Training  
Trail Skills Training

#### **Teacher Residency Programs**

BPE Boston Teacher Residency  
Clark University  
Framingham State University  
Teacher Residency  
Teach For America  
Teach Western Mass Professional Corps