



The State Service Caucus (SSC): Service programs like AmeriCorps provide unique opportunities for states to address their most pressing challenges in partnership with Americans of all ages who gain hands-on work experience, credentials, and often an AmeriCorps Education Award to put towards student loan debt or future tuition costs. State Legislatures and state service commissions play a critical role in identifying priorities for AmeriCorps funds, local programs, and associated policy.

The State Service Caucus was created to provide a forum for State Legislators to share their ideas with other legislators who support national service and volunteerism and discuss their state's priorities, legislative proposals, and funding models. The caucus enables legislators to collaborate with each other and the nationwide state service commission network to strengthen national service and volunteerism programs and efforts around the country.

State Service Caucus Purpose

- Raise awareness of AmeriCorps, state service commissions, and volunteerism.
- Advocate for service funding and policies.
- Expand national service and volunteerism opportunities in America.
- Find innovative solutions to meet state and community challenges.
- Support volunteers and service members.
- Build new partnerships with state-focused leadership and policy organizations.

State Service Caucus Management: SSC is organized by the States for Service Coalition (SSC) of America's Service Commissions (ASC). ASC is a nonpartisan, nonprofit 501(c)(3) representing the network of 52 governor-appointed state service commissions across the United States and territories. The SSC is chaired by Rep. Morgan Rielly of Maine, who collaborates with ASC on caucus management.

State Service Caucus Activities

- Convene quarterly to learn about service-related policy and funding initiatives in the states and develop policy, funding, and advocacy priorities.
- Provide support for service-related state policy and funding.
- Advocate for needed action to federal agencies and elected officials.
- Support, recognize, and elevate service members and local AmeriCorps programs.
- Help identify and recruit state legislator national service champions and alumni.
- Distribute monthly newsletter with information relevant to state-based national service and volunteerism policy and funding.

State Service Policy Examples: Caucus members have advanced proposals linking service programs with the workforce needs of states; expanding the use of service programs in state disaster relief; state tax relief for end-of-service education awards and living allowances; increasing living allowances to a livable wage; and sustainable funding models for state service programs.

National Service State Program Examples

- Veteran Corps (WA)
- Resilience & Energy Corps (ME)
- One Utah Service Fellowship (UT)
- Urban Safety Corps (MI)
- Math Corps & Reading Corps (MN, NC)
- Colorado Public Health Works (CO)
- Maryland Corps & Service Year (MD)
- College Corps (CA)

To learn more and join the State Service Caucus email the America's Service Commissions policy team at Policy@statecommissions.org.