

(2) Selection criteria

The Corporation shall develop criteria for the selection of recipients of challenge grants under this subsection, so as to make the grants widely available to a variety of programs that—

(A) are high-quality national service programs; and

(B) are carried out by entities with demonstrated experience in establishing and implementing projects that provide benefits to participants and communities.

(3) Amount of assistance

A challenge grant under this subsection may provide, for an initial 3-year grant period, not more than \$1 of assistance under this subsection for each \$1 in cash raised from private sources by the program supported under the national service laws in excess of amounts required to be provided by the program to satisfy matching funds requirements. After an initial 3-year grant period, a grant under this subsection may provide not more than \$1 of assistance under this subsection for each \$2 in cash raised from private sources by the program in excess of amounts required to be provided by the program to satisfy matching funds requirements. The Corporation may permit the use of local or State funds under this paragraph in lieu of cash raised from private sources if the Corporation determines that such use would be equitable due to a lack of available private funds at the local level. The Corporation shall establish a ceiling on the amount of assistance that may be provided to a national service program under this subsection.

(Pub. L. 101-610, title I, §126, as added Pub. L. 103-82, title I, §101(b), Sept. 21, 1993, 107 Stat. 795; amended Pub. L. 111-13, title I, §1305, Apr. 21, 2009, 123 Stat. 1500.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973, referred to in subsec. (b), is Pub. L. 93-113, Oct. 1, 1973, 87 Stat. 394. Part A of title I of the Act is classified generally to part A (§4951 et seq.) of subchapter I of chapter 66 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 4950 of this title and Tables.

The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, referred to in subsec. (b), is Pub. L. 93-288, May 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 143, which is classified principally to chapter 68 (§5121 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5121 of this title and Tables.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Prior sections 12576 to 12580, which related to national and community service, were omitted in the general amendment of subtitle D of title I of Pub. L. 101-610 [former part D of this subchapter] by Pub. L. 103-82, §102(a).

Section 12576, Pub. L. 101-610, title I, §146, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3153; Pub. L. 102-10, §6(b), Mar. 12, 1991, 105 Stat. 31; Pub. L. 102-325, title XV, §1557, July 23, 1992, 106 Stat. 841, related to post-service benefits.

A prior section 126 of Pub. L. 101-610 was renumbered section 199F and is classified to section 12655e of this title.

Section 12577, Pub. L. 101-610, title I, §147, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3154, related to living allowances for participants.

Section 12578, Pub. L. 101-610, title I, §148, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3155, related to training of participants.

Section 12579, Pub. L. 101-610, title I, §149, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3156, related to cooperation between public and private entities.

Section 12580, Pub. L. 101-610, title I, §150, Nov. 16, 1990, 104 Stat. 3156, related to in-service education benefits.

AMENDMENTS

2009—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 111-13, §1305(1)(A), substituted “\$250,000 and \$1,000,000” for “\$125,000 and \$750,000” and “12681(a)(5)” for “12681(a)(4)”.

Subsec. (a)(2), (3). Pub. L. 111-13, §1305(1)(B), added pars. (2) and (3) and struck out former par. (2). Text of former par. (2) read as follows: “Notwithstanding the amounts specified in paragraph (1), the amount of a grant that may be provided to a State Commission under this subsection, together with other Federal funds available to establish or operate the State Commission, may not exceed—

“(A) 85 percent of the total cost to establish or operate the State Commission for the first year for which the State Commission receives assistance under this subsection; and

“(B) such smaller percentage of such cost as the Corporation may establish for the second, third, and fourth years of such assistance in order to ensure that the Federal share does not exceed 50 percent of such costs for the fifth year, and any subsequent year, for which the State Commission receives assistance under this subsection.”

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 111-13, §1305(2), added subsec. (b) and struck out former subsec. (b). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The Corporation may undertake activities, including activities carried out through part A of title I of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4951 et seq.), to involve in disaster relief efforts youth corps programs described in section 12572(a)(2) of this title and other programs that receive assistance under the national service laws.”

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 111-13, §1305(3)(A), substituted “to programs supported under the national service laws” for “to national service programs that receive assistance under section 12571 of this title”.

Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 111-13, §1305(3)(B), added par. (3) and struck out former par. (3). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “A challenge grant under this subsection may provide not more than \$1 of assistance under this subsection for each \$1 in cash raised by the national service program from private sources in excess of amounts required to be provided by the program to satisfy matching funds requirements under section 12571(e) of this title. The Corporation shall establish a ceiling on the amount of assistance that may be provided to a national service program under this subsection.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2009 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-13 effective Oct. 1, 2009, see section 6101(a) of Pub. L. 111-13, set out as a note under section 4950 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 1993, see section 123 of Pub. L. 103-82, set out as an Effective Date of 1993 Amendment note under section 1701 of Title 16, Conservation.

PART II—APPLICATION AND APPROVAL PROCESS

§ 12581. Provision of assistance and approved national service positions**(a) One percent allotment for certain territories**

Of the funds allocated by the Corporation for provision of assistance under section 12571(a) of this title for a fiscal year, the Corporation shall reserve 1 percent for grants to the United States

Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands upon approval by the Corporation of an application submitted under section 12582 of this title. The Corporation shall allot for a grant to each such territory under this subsection for a fiscal year an amount that bears the same ratio to 1 percent of the allocated funds for that fiscal year as the population of the territory bears to the total population of all such territories.

(b) Allotment for Indian tribes

Of the funds allocated by the Corporation for provision of assistance under section 12571(a) of this title for a fiscal year, the Corporation shall reserve at least 1 percent for grants to Indian tribes to be allotted by the Corporation on a competitive basis.

(c) Reservation of approved positions

The Corporation shall ensure that each individual selected during a fiscal year for assignment as a VISTA volunteer under title I of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4951 et seq.) or as a participant in the National Civilian Community Corps Program under division E shall receive the national service educational award described in division D if the individual satisfies the eligibility requirements for the award. Funds for approved national service positions required by this paragraph for a fiscal year shall be deducted from the total funding for approved national service positions to be available for distribution under subsections (d) and (e) for that fiscal year.

(d) Allotment for competitive grants

(1) In general

Of the funds allocated by the Corporation for provision of assistance under section 12571(a) of this title for a fiscal year and subject to section 12585(d)(3) of this title, the Corporation shall reserve not more than 62.7 percent for grants awarded on a competitive basis to States specified in subsection (e)(1) for national service programs, to nonprofit organizations seeking to operate a national service program in 2 or more of those States, and to Indian tribes.

(2) Equitable treatment

In the consideration of applications for such grants, the Corporation shall ensure the equitable treatment of applicants from urban areas, applicants from rural areas, applicants of diverse sizes (as measured by the number of participants served), applicants from States, and applicants from national nonprofit organizations.

(3) Encore service programs

In making grants under this subsection for a fiscal year, the Corporation shall make an effort to allocate not less than 10 percent of the financial assistance and approved national service positions provided through the grants for that fiscal year to eligible entities proposing to carry out encore service programs, unless the Corporation does not receive a sufficient number of applications of adequate quality to justify making that percentage available to those eligible entities.

(4) Corps programs

In making grants under this subsection for a fiscal year, the Corporation—

(A) shall select 2 or more of the national service corps described in section 12572(a) of this title to receive grants under this subsection; and

(B) may select national service programs described in section 12572(b) of this title to receive such grants.

(e) Allotment to certain States on formula basis

(1) Grants

Of the funds allocated by the Corporation for provision of assistance under section 12571(a) of this title for a fiscal year, the Corporation shall make a grant to each of the several States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico that submits an application under section 12582 of this title that is approved by the Corporation.

(2) Allotments

The Corporation shall allot for a grant to each such State under this subsection for a fiscal year an amount that bears the same ratio to 35.3 percent of the allocated funds for that fiscal year as the population of the State bears to the total population of the several States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, in compliance with paragraph (3).

(3) Minimum amount

Notwithstanding paragraph (2), the minimum grant made available to each State approved by the Corporation under paragraph (1) for each fiscal year shall be at least \$600,000, or 0.5 percent of the amount allocated for the State formula under this subsection for the fiscal year, whichever is greater.

(f) Effect of failure to apply

If a State or territory fails to apply for, or fails to give notice to the Corporation of its intent to apply for, an allotment under this section, or the Corporation does not approve the application consistent with section 12585 of this title, the Corporation may use the amount that would have been allotted under this section to the State or territory to—

(1) make grants (and provide approved national service positions in connection with such grants) to other community-based entities under section 12571 of this title that propose to carry out national service programs in such State or territory; and

(2) make reallocations to other States or territories with approved applications submitted under section 12582 of this title, from the allotment funds not used to make grants as described in paragraph (1).

(g) Application required

The Corporation shall make an allotment of assistance (including the provision of approved national service positions) to a recipient under this section only pursuant to an application submitted by a State or other applicant under section 12582 of this title.

(h) Approval of positions subject to available funds

The Corporation may not approve positions as approved national service positions under this

division for a fiscal year in excess of the number of such positions for which the Corporation has sufficient available funds in the National Service Trust for that fiscal year, taking into consideration funding needs for national service educational awards under division D based on completed service. If appropriations are insufficient to provide the maximum allowable national service educational awards under division D for all eligible participants, the Corporation is authorized to make necessary and reasonable adjustments to program rules.

(i) Sponsorship of approved national service positions

(1) Sponsorship authorized

The Corporation may enter into agreements with persons or entities who offer to sponsor national service positions for which the person or entity will be responsible for supplying the funds necessary to provide a national service educational award. The distribution of those approved national service positions shall be made pursuant to the agreement, and the creation of those positions shall not be taken into consideration in determining the number of approved national service positions to be available for distribution under this section.

(2) Deposit of contribution

Funds provided pursuant to an agreement under paragraph (1) shall be deposited in the National Service Trust established in section 12601 of this title until such time as the funds are needed.

(j) Reservation of funds for special assistance

(1) Reservation

From amounts appropriated for a fiscal year pursuant to the authorization of appropriations in section 12681(a)(2) of this title and allocated to carry out this division and subject to the limitation in such section, the Corporation may reserve such amount as the Corporation considers to be appropriate for the purpose of making assistance available under subsections (b) and (c) of section 12576 of this title.

(2) Limitation

The amount reserved under paragraph (1) for a fiscal year may not exceed \$10,000,000.

(3) Timing

The Corporation shall reserve such amount, and any amount reserved under subsection (k) from funds appropriated and allocated to carry out this division, before allocating funds for the provision of assistance under any other provision of this division.

(k) Reservation of funds to increase the participation of individuals with disabilities

(1) Reservation

To make grants to public or private non-profit organizations to increase the participation of individuals with disabilities in national service and for demonstration activities in furtherance of this purpose, and subject to the limitation in paragraph (2), the Chief Executive Officer shall reserve not less than 2 percent from the amounts, appropriated to carry

out this division and divisions D, E, and H for each fiscal year.

(2) Limitation

The amount reserved under paragraph (1) for a fiscal year may not exceed \$20,000,000.

(3) Remainder

The Chief Executive Officer may use the funds reserved under paragraph (1), and not distributed to make grants under this subsection for other activities described in section 12681(a)(2) of this title.

(l) Authority for fixed-amount grants

(1) In general

(A) Authority

From amounts appropriated for a fiscal year to provide financial assistance under the national service laws, the Corporation may provide assistance in the form of fixed-amount grants in an amount determined by the Corporation under paragraph (2) rather than on the basis of actual costs incurred by a program.

(B) Limitation

Other than fixed-amount grants to support programs described in section 12581a of this title, for the 1-year period beginning on the effective date of the Serve America Act, the Corporation may provide assistance in the form of fixed-amount grants to programs that only offer full-time positions.

(2) Determination of amount of fixed-amount grants

A fixed-amount grant authorized by this subsection shall be in an amount determined by the Corporation that is—

(A) significantly less than the reasonable and necessary costs of administering the program supported by the grant; and

(B) based on an amount per individual enrolled in the program receiving the grant, taking into account—

(i) the capacity of the entity carrying out the program to manage funds and achieve programmatic results;

(ii) the number of approved national service positions, approved silver scholar positions, or approved summer of service positions for the program, if applicable;

(iii) the proposed design of the program;

(iv) whether the program provides service to, or involves the participation of, disadvantaged youth or otherwise would reasonably incur a relatively higher level of costs; and

(v) such other factors as the Corporation may consider under section 12585 of this title in considering applications for assistance.

(3) Requirements for grant recipients

In awarding a fixed-amount grant under this subsection, the Corporation—

(A) shall require the grant recipient—

(i) to return a pro rata amount of the grant funds based upon the difference between the number of hours served by a participant and the minimum number of

hours for completion of a term of service (as established by the Corporation);

(ii) to report on the program's performance on standardized measures and performance levels established by the Corporation;

(iii) to cooperate with any evaluation activities undertaken by the Corporation; and

(iv) to provide assurances that additional funds will be raised in support of the program, in addition to those received under the national service laws; and

(B) may adopt other terms and conditions that the Corporation considers necessary or appropriate based on the relative risks (as determined by the Corporation) associated with any application for a fixed-amount grant.

(4) Other requirements not applicable

Limitations on administrative costs and matching fund documentation requirements shall not apply to fixed-amount grants provided in accordance with this subsection.

(5) Rule of construction

Nothing in this subsection shall relieve a grant recipient of the responsibility to comply with the requirements of chapter 75 of title 31 or other requirements of Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133.

(Pub. L. 101-610, title I, §129, as added Pub. L. 103-82, title I, §101(b), Sept. 21, 1993, 107 Stat. 796; amended Pub. L. 111-13, title I, §1306, Apr. 21, 2009, 123 Stat. 1501.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973, referred to in subsec. (c), is Pub. L. 93-113, Oct. 1, 1973, 87 Stat. 394. Title I of the Act is classified generally to subchapter I (§4951 et seq.) of chapter 66 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 4950 of this title and Tables.

For the effective date of the Serve America Act, referred to in subsec. (l)(1)(B), as Oct. 1, 2009, see section 6101(a) of Pub. L. 111-13, set out as an Effective Date of 2009 Amendment note under section 4950 of this title.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 129 of Pub. L. 101-610 was renumbered section 199H and is classified to section 12655h of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2009—Pub. L. 111-13 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section consisted of subsecs. (a) to (g) relating to allotments of assistance and approved national service positions to States and Indian tribes, reservation of the national service educational award for eligible individuals in approved positions, reservation of amounts appropriated as considered appropriate for special assistance, competitive distribution of remaining funds, application requirement, approval of positions subject to available funds, and sponsorship of approved national service positions.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2009 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-13 effective Oct. 1, 2009, see section 6101(a) of Pub. L. 111-13, set out as a note under section 4950 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 1993, see section 123 of Pub. L. 103-82, set out as an Effective Date of 1993 Amendment note under section 1701 of Title 16, Conservation.

§ 12581a. Educational awards only program

(a) In general

From amounts appropriated for a fiscal year to provide financial assistance under this division and consistent with the restriction in subsection (b), the Corporation may, through fixed-amount grants (in accordance with section 12581(l) of this title), provide operational support to programs that receive approved national service positions but do not receive funds under section 12571(a) of this title.

(b) Limit on Corporation grant funds

The Corporation may provide the operational support under this section for a program in an amount that is not more than \$800 per individual enrolled in an approved national service position, or not more than \$1,000 per such individual if at least 50 percent of the persons enrolled in the program are disadvantaged youth.

(c) Inapplicable provisions

The following provisions shall not apply to programs funded under this section:

(1) The limitation on administrative costs under section 12571(d) of this title.

(2) The matching funds requirements under section 12571(e) of this title.

(3) The living allowance and other benefits under sections 12583(e) and 12594 of this title (other than individualized support services for participants with disabilities under section 12594(f) of this title).

(Pub. L. 101-610, title I, §129A, as added Pub. L. 111-13, title I, §1307, Apr. 21, 2009, 123 Stat. 1505.)

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Oct. 1, 2009, see section 6101(a) of Pub. L. 111-13, set out as an Effective Date of 2009 Amendment note under section 4950 of this title.

§ 12582. Application for assistance and approved national service positions

(a) Time, manner, and content of application

To be eligible to receive assistance under section 12571(a) of this title or approved national service positions for participants who serve in the national service programs to be carried out using the assistance, a State, territory, subdivision of a State, Indian tribe, public or private nonprofit organization, or institution of higher education shall prepare and submit to the Corporation an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Corporation may reasonably require.

(b) Types of permissible application information

In order to have adequate information upon which to consider an application under section 12585 of this title, the Corporation may require the following information to be provided in an application submitted under subsection (a):

(1) A description of the national service programs proposed to be carried out directly by the applicant using assistance provided under section 12571 of this title.

(2) A description of the national service programs that are selected by the applicant to receive a grant using assistance requested under section 12571 of this title and a description of