

(B) successfully fulfilled the requirements of the internship program; and

(C) subsequently earned an undergraduate or graduate degree from an accredited institution of higher education.

(3) The direct hire authority under this section may not be exercised with respect to a specific qualified candidate after the end of the two-year period beginning on the date on which the candidate completed the undergraduate or graduate degree, as the case may be.

(Pub. L. 112-74, div. E, title I, §121(a), Dec. 23, 2011, 125 Stat. 1012; Pub. L. 116-9, title IX, §9003(d)(2), Mar. 12, 2019, 133 Stat. 834.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2012, and also as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012, and not as part of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 which comprises this subchapter.

AMENDMENTS

2019—Par. (1). Pub. L. 116-9, §9003(d)(2)(A), substituted “Secretary (as defined in section 1722 of this title)” for “Secretary of the Interior” and “paragraph (2)” for “paragraph (1)” and struck out “with a land managing agency of the Department of the Interior” after “position”.

Par. (2)(A). Pub. L. 116-9, §9003(d)(2)(B), substituted “with the Secretary (as so defined)” for “with a land managing agency”.

§ 1725b. Forest Service hire authority

(a) In general

The Secretary of Agriculture may appoint, without regard to the provisions of subchapter I of chapter 33 of title 5, other than sections 3303 and 3328 of such title, a qualified candidate described in subsection (b) directly to a position with the Department of Agriculture, Forest Service for which the candidate meets Office of Personnel Management qualification standards.

(b) Qualifications

Subsection (a) applies to a former resource assistant (as defined in section 203 of the Public Land Corps Act¹ (16 U.S.C. 1722)) who—

(1) completed a rigorous internship with a land managing agency, such as the Forest Service Resource Assistant Program;

(2) successfully fulfilled the requirements of the internship program; and

(3) earned an undergraduate or graduate degree from an accredited institution of higher education (as defined in section 1001 of title 20).

(c) Limitation

The direct hire authority under this section may not be exercised with respect to a specific qualified candidate after the end of the 2-year period beginning on the date on which the candidate completed the undergraduate or graduate degree, as the case may be, or has successfully fulfilled the requirements of the internship program, whichever is later.

¹ See References in Text note below.

(Pub. L. 115-334, title XII, §12518, Dec. 20, 2018, 132 Stat. 5001.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 203 of the Public Land Corps Act, referred to in subsec. (b), probably means section 203 of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993, title II of Pub. L. 91-378, which is classified to section 1722 of this title.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 and not as part of the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 which comprises this subchapter.

§ 1726. Compensation and terms of service

(a) Living allowances

The Secretary shall provide each participant in the Public Lands Corps and each resource assistant with a living allowance in an amount established by the Secretary.

(b) Educational credit

The Secretary may provide a Corps participant with an educational credit that may be applied toward a program of postsecondary education at an institution of higher education that agrees to award the credit for participation in the Corps.

(c) Terms of service

(1) In general

Each participant in the Corps and each resource assistant shall agree to participate in the Corps or serve as a resource assistant, as the case may be, for such term of service as may be established by the Secretary enrolling or selecting the individual.

(2) Indian Youth Service Corps

With respect to the Indian Youth Service Corps established under section 1727b of this title, the Secretary shall establish the term of service of participants in consultation with the affected Indian tribe.

(d) Hiring

(1) In general

The Secretary may—

(A) grant to a member of the Public Lands Corps credit for time served with the Public Lands Corps, which may be used toward future Federal hiring; and

(B) provide to a former member of the Public Lands Corps noncompetitive hiring status for a period of not more than 2 years after the date on which the member's service with the Public Lands Corps is complete.

(2) Time-limited appointment

For purposes of section 9602 of title 5, a former member of the Corps hired by the Secretary under paragraph (1)(B) for a time-limited appointment shall be considered to be appointed initially under open, competitive examination.

(e) Applicability to qualified youth or conservation corps

The hiring and compensation standards described in this section shall apply to any indi-