

FoodCorps Service Member Application 2022-2023

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in being a FoodCorps Service Member! You are applying to join a group of passionate leaders who will become the next class of AmeriCorps service members. Before applying, please review all the applicant information on our website at foodcorps.org/apply.

We know that FoodCorps is stronger, more innovative and therefore more impactful when our service members represent a diversity of perspectives and life experiences and feel empowered to raise their voices, offer opinions, and be engaged. We enthusiastically invite people of all ethnic/racial and socioeconomic backgrounds, gender identities, sexual orientations, and ages to apply to serve with us as long as you turn 18 by the start of service (typically early August).

Here are some things you should be aware of in order to complete the application with the least amount of difficulty and confusion:

- We recommend that you read the entire application in full before beginning the form.
- If you have questions regarding the program, service sites, selection timelines, orientation, etc. please e-mail us at serve@foodcorps.org
- Submitting this application is no guarantee or promise of selection for FoodCorps service.
- The application will launch on January 10, 2022. It's always a good idea to apply early because applications are reviewed as soon as they are received. Applications are due on March 31, 2022.
- **Please note: FoodCorps requires COVID-19 vaccination for staff and service members, to the extent permitted by applicable state and local law. We do accept medical or religious exemptions.**
- Submit this application online at <https://foodcorps.tfaforms.net/4942081> (preferred), by email at serve@foodcorps.org, or by mail to the following address:

ATTN: Service Member Application
FoodCorps
1140 SE 7th Ave.
Suite 110
Portland, OR 97214

Best of luck! We're excited to learn more about you,

The FoodCorps Team

Screening Questions

You will not qualify for service with FoodCorps if you do not meet the criteria below.

1. **Have you or will you have earned at least the equivalent of a high school diploma or GED before August 2022? *** (Please note the exact start date of service will be shared at a later date.)

FoodCorps service members are required to have achieved at least a High School Diploma, GED, or equivalent before the start of the term of service.

- Yes
 No

2. **Have you or will you reach the age of 18 by August 2022? ***

(Please note the exact start date of service will be shared at a later date.)

FoodCorps service members have to be 18 years old or older before the start of their service term.

- Yes
 No

3. **Have you served 4 terms (part-time or full-time) with AmeriCorps State or National? ***

If you have already served 4 terms (part-time or full-time) with AmeriCorps State or National, you are ineligible to serve as a FoodCorps Service Member. If you have served as a VISTA or NCCC, you are eligible to serve. If you have served the equivalent of two full-time terms of any AmeriCorps program, you may serve as a FoodCorps member, but you are ineligible to receive another Education Award.

- Yes
 No

4. **Are you a U.S. citizen, U.S. national, or legal permanent resident of the U.S? (This includes individuals born in the U.S.; naturalized U.S. citizens; individuals who have a U.S. citizen parent and qualify under the Child Citizenship Act; and individuals born in Guam, Puerto Rico, American Samoa, U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.) ***

Under AmeriCorps and FoodCorps requirements, FoodCorps service members have to provide proof of U.S. citizenship or legal permanent residency.

- Yes
 No

Under AmeriCorps & FoodCorps requirements, you will not be eligible for FoodCorps service if you have been convicted of a violent felony or a felony charge for the manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of any controlled substance or illegal drug use, are listed on the National Sex Offender Public Registry, refuse to undergo a National Service Criminal History check, or make a false statement concerning your criminal history. Any kind of convictions not mentioned above will not automatically disqualify you from FoodCorps, but will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Screening Questions

Preferred First Name: *

Current City:*

Preferred Last Name: *

Current State: *

If you currently live out of the country, choose the state where you most recently lived.

Pronouns:

Share [your pronouns](#) with us here!

Current Zip code: *

Email: *

This is the email we will use to contact you for scheduling interviews. Make sure it is an email address that will remain valid for at least the next 12 months. If you are a current FoodCorps Service Member, please use your personal email. DO NOT use your FoodCorps email.

Permanent City:

If different from your current address.

Permanent State:

Permanent Zip code:

Primary Phone Number: *

Please include your area code. We will use this phone number if we are unable to reach you via email.

Resume

Attach your resume to this application.*

Transferable Lived Experience

We value lived experience in addition to professional experiences. What experiences have you had that make you passionate about this work? You can share your most relevant experiences here.

Lived experiences can look like (but not limited to):

- Cooking/gardening for yourself or others
- Family childcare (like babysitting a younger sibling)
- Personal food access
- Connecting to your community or community organizing
- Practicing social justice, anti-racism, and/or anti-oppression

If you need more space, please attach a separate sheet of paper.

Experience #1*:

Please share a few sentences detailing your experiences and how you may

bring these experiences to service:

Experience #2:

Please share a few sentences detailing your experiences and how you may

bring these experiences to service:

Education / Training

FoodCorps welcomes applicants from a wide variety of education and training backgrounds. Your level of education is not the primary determinant in your readiness to serve. Nonetheless, sharing your traditional or nontraditional educational background allows us to evaluate your knowledge and/or training in the fields of agriculture, culinary arts, food systems, education, public health, nutrition, and community organizing.

We recommend that you share up to three of your most relevant and substantive educational experiences, which can include an apprenticeship, leadership training, certification, or study abroad program as well as your undergraduate, graduate, or high school studies. Please begin with your most recent training/education.

Highest level of education completed prior to August 2022:

(Institution, Program of Study, Year of Completion)

Would you like to add other educational experience?

If so, include the Institutions, City/State, Programs of Study, Years of Completion below (you may attach additional sheets if necessary):

References

Please use this space to add up to three references. Ideally we would like for at least two of the references to be people you have worked with in some capacity (Ex. work, volunteering). One of them should be in a supervisory capacity (Ex. manager or professor).

Reference #1 Full Name:*

Relationship to Applicant: *

Phone Number: *

Reference #1 Email: *

Reference #2 Full Name:*

Relationship to Applicant: *

Phone Number: *

Reference #2 Email: *

Reference #3 Full Name:

Relationship to Applicant:

Phone Number:

Reference #3 Email:

Additional Considerations

Have you previously served as an AmeriCorps member? *

If yes, please list the program and service term.

Yes

No

What is your first language?

Do you speak additional languages?

If so, please indicate which language and your level of proficiency.

Examples of Language Proficiency Levels	
<i>Beginner</i>	<i>I know a few words and greetings here and there.</i>
<i>Emerging</i>	<i>I'm comfortable ordering from a restaurant in another language.</i>
<i>Intermediate</i>	<i>I'm comfortable having a conversation with a stranger in another language.</i>
<i>Advanced</i>	<i>I'm comfortable with teaching a full lesson in another language.</i>
<i>Native</i>	<i>I've spoken the language from early childhood and am comfortable at all levels.</i>

Do you prefer urban, suburban, or rural placement?

FoodCorps has a high need for people interested in serving rural communities. Selecting “rural” to this question will not preclude you from being considered for positions in urban or suburban sites, but will allow us to more easily share your application with potential service sites.

- Urban
- Suburban
- Rural
- No Preference

Will you own or have access to a vehicle?

FoodCorps does not require you to have access to a vehicle but some sites do (especially rural sites where public transportation is unavailable!). If you will not have access to a car during your service term, we'll ensure that you will be considered for service sites where a car is optional or unnecessary.

Are you potentially interested in serving two terms with FoodCorps?*

Serving with FoodCorps is an 11.5 month commitment, but our service members are allowed to serve up to two years as long as they are still eligible as per AmeriCorps regulations.

How did you hear about FoodCorps? (Please be as detailed as possible)*

- Instagram
- Facebook
- LinkedIn
- A Current Service Member/Alumni
- Career Fair, College/University Professor, Career Services, etc.
- Reference (Please list who.)
- Email / Listserv
- Job search website
- Podcast
- Other

Other Information

We embrace the fact that this is a new relationship and thus, there are questions that we could ask that would give us a better picture of who you are. So tell us, is there anything we didn't ask that would be great for us to know about you?

State Selection

You may choose up to 3 states in which you'd prefer to serve.

We highly encourage candidates to apply to their local communities or communities to which they have a connection. For example, you or a relative may live in the area, you attended college/university in the area, or have a cultural connection or identify with the local community. Applications that list relocation without connections listed above are typically not considered for that state preference.

Your application materials could be sent to any of your state preferences, based on need. If you are not selected for service in your first state preference, your application may be sent to your second or third state preference.

FoodCorps currently serves in the following states:

Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Georgia, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Michigan, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Washington DC Metro Area, Oregon.

Please visit <https://foodcorps.org/apply/where-youll-serve/> for more information on our service sites. For the most up to date information on current and open service sites, please contact serve@foodcorps.org.

Selecting the option, "Open to Anywhere" will allow you to be considered in states with the most need for applicants, so you will not need to make any other elections in this case.

Service Members are expected to be ready to serve full time at the start of service. **By selecting "Open to Anywhere," your application will be shared with states with the highest need and may require relocation.** Note: FoodCorps has transition assistance funds that selected service members can apply for to support relocation expenses.

Open to Anywhere

Why does FoodCorps' mission inspire you so much that you would be willing to serve anywhere?

State Selection #1:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arkansas | <input type="checkbox"/> Maine | <input type="checkbox"/> New York |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California | <input type="checkbox"/> Massachusetts | <input type="checkbox"/> New Mexico |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Connecticut | <input type="checkbox"/> Mississippi | <input type="checkbox"/> D.C. Metro Area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Georgia | <input type="checkbox"/> Michigan | <input type="checkbox"/> Oregon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Iowa | <input type="checkbox"/> New Jersey | |

Why do you want to serve this community? What is your relationship to them? What do you know about the culture, history, foodways, and current food ecosystem?

State Selection #2:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arkansas | <input type="checkbox"/> Maine | <input type="checkbox"/> New York |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California | <input type="checkbox"/> Massachusetts | <input type="checkbox"/> New Mexico |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Connecticut | <input type="checkbox"/> Mississippi | <input type="checkbox"/> D.C. Metro Area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Georgia | <input type="checkbox"/> Michigan | <input type="checkbox"/> Oregon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Iowa | <input type="checkbox"/> New Jersey | |

Why do you want to serve this community? What is your relationship to them? What do you know about the culture, history, foodways, and current food ecosystem?

State Selection #3:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arkansas | <input type="checkbox"/> Maine | <input type="checkbox"/> New York |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California | <input type="checkbox"/> Massachusetts | <input type="checkbox"/> New Mexico |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Connecticut | <input type="checkbox"/> Mississippi | <input type="checkbox"/> D.C. Metro Area |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Georgia | <input type="checkbox"/> Michigan | <input type="checkbox"/> Oregon |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Iowa | <input type="checkbox"/> New Jersey | |

Why do you want to serve this community? What is your relationship to them? What do you know about the culture, history, foodways, and current food ecosystem?

Short Answers

This section provides you with a space to tell us in your own words about your motivations and interest in serving with [FoodCorps](#). Use this opportunity to share your experience, accomplishments, skills, knowledge and anything else that makes you a unique and well qualified candidate. Before you craft your response, we encourage you to learn more about FoodCorps. Read about our mission, vision, and the approach we are using to build healthy school environments, and what experiences, knowledge, and skills best prepare people to serve with us. You may attach additional sheets if necessary.

We know that writing isn't everyone's strong suit or preferred form of expression, so you have the option to attach a multimedia response to any of the questions below instead of writing. (For example: online video or audio file, PowerPoint, Keynote, or Prezi presentation, photographs, blogs, excerpts from papers or lesson plans, etc.)

Note:

We have found that service members tend to thrive in communities where they are personally connected or with which they share real, lived experience. While we aim to place service members according to these findings, it is not always possible. The main intent of this question is to address those instances where we place service members in unfamiliar communities.

The following request for Black/Indigenous/Multiracial/Person of Color (BIMPOC) identity is for the purposes of directing applicants to the most appropriate question for their identified group. Candidate self selection will not be shared with managers nor will it be used as a determination of applicant qualification. If you are uncomfortable self identifying, please select the appropriate choice (Prefer not to answer).

1. Do you identify as BIMPOC?

- Yes (if yes, please answer question 2 only)
- No (if no, please answer question 3 only)
- Prefer not to answer (if you prefer not to answer, please respond to either question 2 or 3 that you most identify with)

2. Leadership Lens - As someone who potentially shares the lived experience involving racial inequities of our community members, how can you see yourself applying that experience in your service?

3. Leadership Lens - Please share your reflection on why you chose this call to leadership within a community without having the lived experience involving racial inequities of those you hope to lead.

Knowledge

Are you a returning FoodCorps Service Member? *

- Yes (if yes, please answer question 1 only)
- No (if no, please answer question 2 only)

1. If yes, Describe your experience with your service community. What has been the biggest challenge? The biggest lesson?

*Required

2. If yes, How have you been successful in engaging with communities around a common goal during your time at FoodCorps?

3. If no, tell us what excites you about working with children.

4. If no, tell us about you in one sentence. If you were a vegetable, which vegetable would you be and why? Or, what food has sustained your community?*

School Nutrition Service Members

The majority of FoodCorps service members serve 1-2 schools in-depth, with a focus on hands-on food education that changes the way students experience food in school. FoodCorps also has a small cohort of service members who will focus on school nutrition projects that will work to change what shows up on the lunch tray. Under the supervision of district-level school nutrition leaders, and with ongoing support and training from FoodCorps, these members will help to advance the goals and vision for school meal quality in the districts where they serve.

This position is available in California, Georgia, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey.

These service members support district initiatives to increase scratch cooking, incorporate locally sourced ingredients, and/or expand culturally relevant meals, including activities such as: incorporating opportunities for student voice and choice, providing resources to support inviting cafeteria environments, and supporting local procurement efforts. Please view the complete position description of School Nutrition Service Members [here](#).

The selection process to fill the district level positions will take place at the same time as filling other service member positions. FoodCorps staff members will review your responses on a rolling basis and selectively invite qualified applicants to interview for the position from February - May. Offers will be extended in early June to the most qualified candidates. If you are not interviewed or selected to participate in district-level school nutrition projects, you will still be considered for service member positions in your preferred location(s).

1. Are you interested in applying as a School Nutrition Service Member? *

- Yes
- No

If yes, what is your motivation? What aspects of the role most excite you?

Optional Demographic Information

All of the questions on this page are optional and will not be visible to application reviewers or considered in the selection process. FoodCorps collects this information to better understand who is applying to our program and to meet reporting requirements of funders.

FoodCorps respects diversity, and extends service opportunities without regard to age, sex, race, color, creed, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, disability, marital status, military or veteran status, or any other legally recognized protected basis under federal, state, or local laws, regulations or ordinances.

Are you a first generation high school graduate?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

Are you a first generation college graduate?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

What is your race or ethnic background? (select all that apply)

- Indigenous
- Arab-American / Middle Eastern
- Asian
- Black or African American
- LatinX
- Hawaiian / Pacific Islander
- Two or More Races
- White
- Other
- Prefer not to stay

What kind of community did you grow up in?

- Urban
- Rural
- Suburban

FoodCorps does not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. In order to ensure we consider the needs of the whole community, please consider the following optional questions:

Do you consider yourself to be a member of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender, or queer (LGBTQ+) community?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say
- Prefer to self describe

What is your gender identity?

*Required

What is your age?

Have you ever been the recipient of a Pell Grant?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

Fast forward and imagine yourself working in 5 years. What area below excites you the most to see yourself working in? (Check up to three.)

- Food Service
- Nutrition / School Nutrition
- Supply Chain Engagement
- Gardening/Farming
- Education
- Health
- Youth Development/Childcare
- Community Organizing
- Social Justice
- Environment
- Other (please describe)

Certification

Please review the following statements and certify their accuracy by checking each box and then initial.

Section 1*

I have read the FoodCorps application instructions and I certify that I am eligible to serve as a FoodCorps Service Member for the 2022-2023 term. Eligibility requirements include:

- You must be 18 years of age by the start date of service (typically early August).
- You are a U.S. Citizen, U.S. national, or lawful permanent resident.
- You have achieved your high school diploma or GED.
- You have not previously served four AmeriCorps State or National terms.

Initials

Section 2*

If I am selected as a finalist for a FoodCorps service position, I give FoodCorps permission to conduct criminal history background checks in accordance with the Corporation for National and Community Service guidelines. I understand that in accordance with AmeriCorps policy, I will not be eligible for service membership if I am listed on the National Sex Offender Public Registry, if I have been previously convicted of a violent felony, if I have been previously convicted of a felony involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of any controlled substance or illegal drug, or if I refuse to undergo a National Service Criminal History check. I understand that other prior criminal history does not necessarily prohibit me from serving with FoodCorps, but that each case will be reviewed by FoodCorps before my membership can be approved.

Initials

Section 3*

I give FoodCorps permission to use any Non-Identifiable information that I provide in this application for programming purposes, including promotional or communications purposes.

Initials

Section 4*

I certify that the information provided in this application is accurate. I understand that the withholding of any information sought by this application, or the giving of false information on this application, will result in a refusal of selection, or, if discovered after I am selected, in disciplinary action up to and including termination. I hereby grant permission to any person, firm, or corporation to release to FoodCorps or its representatives any and all information regarding my past service, work, or employment and my background. I waive any and all claims I might have with respect to the providing of such information. I further understand and agree that if I am offered and accept a service position with FoodCorps, my service would be on an at-will basis. This means that either I, or FoodCorps, may terminate the service relationship at any time with or without cause. It also means that FoodCorps reserves the right to determine and change at any time my service duties and responsibilities, reporting relationships, compensation and benefits, as well as its personnel policies and procedures for any reason or for no particular reason or cause. Finally, I understand and agree that this constitutes the entire agreement between me and FoodCorps with regard to my application for service.

Initials

*Required