Investing in the Development of your CorpsMembers
AmeriCorps Alums Membership through ADMIN

Value Proposition: Save time for your Program Directors and help instill ethic of lifetime service in members early in their term of service – *AmeriCorps Alums can help you do both!* By providing your corps members access to the rich resources that AmeriCorps Alums has to offer, they can get career development, Ed award help and connection to local alums as well as larger AmeriCorps family. This connection may help ensure that they complete their year and that they stay engaged when they transition to official alumni! State Commissions can give the gift of AmeriCorps Alums Membership to each member at $25 per member. This is an investment not only in your members' development but also in the financial sustainability of Americorps Alums to help ensure we stay around to strengthen AmeriCorps!

Step One: **Review the Memo from Kristin McSwain** which explains that as long as your Admin grant specifies the goal of Member Development, funding to AmeriCorps Alums is an allowable cost. Also, review the Membership Benefit chart below and www.AmeriCorpsAlums.org to become familiar with our services.

Step Two: **Estimate the cost** of the investment – the number of AmeriCorps members you plan to have in the coming year x $25 Enrollment Fee for AmeriCorps Alums Membership. Consider budgeting a Lifetime Membership ($250) for one member in each program who excels throughout their year. It is an award prize that keeps on giving and shows that you care about their development for years to come! In addition, consider inviting Commission staff or Program Directors to join at the Premium "Friends" level. Although they did not serve, they are in the AmeriCorps family and can have the opportunity to stay connected.

Basic Membership (no cost)	Premium Membership ($25) Lifetime Membership ($250)	Friends Premium ($25)
➢ Join a local chapter, view Community Calendar ➢ Search extensive Job Board ➢ Post résumé, organize job portfolio ➢ Access to Segal Education Award Center and matching list ➢ Eligible for $5000 Eli J. Segal Leadership Award ➢ Create permanent e-mail alias @americorpsalums.org ➢ Make person virtual connections, maintain Personal Blog, join Interactive Discussion Forums ➢ Invitations to Regional and National Leadership Trainings ➢ Receive quarterly e-newsletter chock full of info!	➢ Year Subscription to GOOD Magazine ($20 value) ➢ Search alumni member directory ➢ Access to Online Career Library, with downloadable materials and live chats with employers. ➢ Scholarship to Capitol Hill Advocacy Day ➢ Eligible for "Alum of the Month" award or "Trailblazer" award ➢ Eligible for Alums Facilitation and Training Corps ➢ Access to Discount Center - Target, AnnTaylor, Blockbuster! - Barnesandnoble.com - Avis Rental Car - Penske Truck Rental ---------- Guaranteed Value: $3,000 Potential Value: $8,500+	➢ Year Subscription to GOOD Magazine ($20 value) ➢ Join a local chapter, view Community Calendar ➢ Post open positions on Job Board, search for potential alumni to hire ➢ Access to Segal Education Award Center and matching list ➢ Make person virtual connections ➢ Maintain Personal Blog, join Interactive Discussion Forums ➢ Invitation to Regional and National Leadership Trainings ➢ Receive quarterly e-newsletter chock full of info!

Step Three: Include the Enrollment Fee in your **ADMIN plan** or **Program Funds**. If you have any questions, send an e-mail to: *Amity Tripp, Executive Director AmeriCorps Alums* at atripp@handsonnetwork.org

www.AmeriCorpsAlums.org

Memorandum

To: State Commission Executive Directors

From: Kristin McSwain, Director AmeriCorps*S/N

Date: February 1, 2007

Subject: Using Corporation Resources to fund AmeriCorps Alum activities

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Recently we have received a large number of questions regarding the use of PDAT, Admin and AmeriCorps program funds for activities provided by AmeriCorps Alums. I hope that the following will provide the needed clarification.

PDAT
PDAT funds are available to state commissions for enhancing and sustaining high quality AmeriCorps State and National Programs. To the extent that AmeriCorps Alums provides training and technical assistance that meets the state commission's goals and is consistent with the financial requirements of PDAT, using AmeriCorps Alums staff as training providers is an allowable expense. Likewise, to the extent that the state commission has chosen to provide scholarships for program staff and members to attend conferences that it deems appropriate, providing scholarships for program staff and members to attend the annual AmeriCorps Alums conference would also be an allowable expense. PDAT funds may not be used to cover membership costs for members or recent alums to join AmeriCorps Alums.

Admin
Administrative funds are available to state commissions to support their operation. In general, these funds may not be used to cover individual memberships in associations. However, the OMB cost principles generally assume individuals are employees of the organization. AmeriCorps members are not employees. Therefore, a member's individual membership in an organization can be an allowable expense if the benefits derived from that membership are consistent with the program's and the individual member's development objectives. If a state commission decides that memberships are consistent with their overall objectives, then using Admin funds to pay for membership in AmeriCorps Alums would be an allowable expense.

Program Funds
Likewise, state commissions may choose to allow subgrantees to pay AmeriCorps Alums costs for their current members. If you choose to allow your subgrantees to include such costs in their grant budgets, you will need to ensure that membership in the Alumni Association meets specific objectives under the grant and the fees paid to AmeriCorps Alums are not used to support lobbying. If you choose to allow the costs, instruct your subgrantees to include them in Section I, Part G-2 of the budget, Member Training.

If you have any questions about this issue, please feel free to contact your program officer.

Kristin McSwain
Director
AmeriCorps State/National
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