



## AmeriCorps Alums Chapter Benchmarks

	<b>Emerging Chapter</b>	<b>Signature Chapter</b>
<b>Leadership</b>	Contact person/Chapter Leader volunteers to establish a local AmeriCorps Alums chapter.	Chapter leadership expands to include <b>committee chairs</b> linked to all three <b>action areas</b> (listed below left).
<b>Webpage</b>	Creates a <b>chapter homepage</b> on <a href="http://www.americorpsalums.org">www.americorpsalums.org</a> , with a welcome or introduction message from the Chapter Leader.	Chapter homepage is maintained by a consistent <b>webpage manager</b> (can be the same as Chapter Leader), and all chapter events are included in the <b>online calendar</b>
<b>Chapter Members</b>	No minimum; Chapter Leader must be registered on <a href="http://www.americorpsalums.org">www.americorpsalums.org</a>	A minimum of 30 chapter members registered on <a href="http://www.americorpsalums.org">www.americorpsalums.org</a>
<b>Partnerships &amp; Networking</b>	Chapter Leader builds relationships with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>State Service Commission</b></li> <li>• <b>Local Hands On Network Affiliate</b> (if applicable)</li> <li>• <b>Local AmeriCorps Programs</b></li> <li>• <b>Local CNCS State VISTA Office</b></li> <li>• <b>Other Chapter Leaders</b> nation-wide</li> </ul>	<b>Partnership agreements</b> developed with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>State Service Commission</b></li> <li>• <b>Local Hands On Network Affiliate</b></li> <li>• <b>Local AmeriCorps Programs</b></li> <li>• <b>Local CNCS State VISTA Office</b></li> <li>• Participates in <b>state-wide chapter development strategic planning process</b> in partnership with State Service Commission (if applicable).</li> </ul>
<b>Fiscal Structure</b>	None required, but chapter should begin exploring potential <b>fiscal agents</b> (local HandsOn Network affiliates, or other non-profit partners).	Chapter has a signed <b>fiscal sponsor agreement</b> with a 501(c)3 non-profit agency to receive chapter funds, <u>OR</u> the chapter has incorporated as an <b>independent 501(c)3 organization</b> .
<b>Support from National AmeriCorps Alums Organization</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dynamic <b>chapter homepage</b> to communicate and organize Alums events on-line.</li> <li>• <b>Website training</b>, to make the most of <a href="http://www.americorpsalums.org">www.americorpsalums.org</a></li> <li>• <b>Chapter Start-up Toolkit</b>, loaded with sample documents, creative event ideas and best practices.</li> <li>• Support from the online <b>Chapter Working Group</b>, and <b>Chapter Leader Conference Calls</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>↩ <i>Same as Emerging Chapter, plus:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Formal certification</b> as an AmeriCorps Alums Signature Chapter</li> <li>• Opportunities to apply for <b>grant funding</b> to support local service projects</li> <li>• Opportunities to share best practices and success stories as <b>regional/national conference</b> presenters.</li> </ul>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chapter Action Areas:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Environment</i></li> <li>• <i>Economy</i></li> <li>• <i>Education</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host <b>informational meetings</b> with potential partners, stakeholders and chapter members.</li> <li>• Host <u>at least 1</u> <b>networking</b> or <b>service event</b> to keep up momentum.</li> <li>• Facilitate a <b>planning process</b> that results in the establishment of <b>chapter goals</b>.</li> <li>• Host semi-annual events that include <u>at least 1</u> of the 3 <b>action areas</b> (listed at left).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create and carry out an annual <b>fundraising strategy</b> that leads to chapter sustainability.</li> <li>• Host quarterly events that include <u>all 3</u> of the <b>action areas</b> (listed at left).</li> <li>• Host a local service project on <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service</b>, the signature service day of AmeriCorps Alums and Hands On Network.</li> <li>• In conjunction with local AmeriCorps program(s), host a local service project during <b>National AmeriCorps Week</b>.</li> <li>• Recruit new AmeriCorps Alums members by presenting <b>“Life After AmeriCorps”</b> sessions with local corpsmembers <u>at least twice</u> per year.</li> <li>• Visit <u>at least two</u> colleges/universities per year to encourage them to <b>match the AmeriCorps Education Award, provide scholarships or credit to AmeriCorps members</b>.</li> <li>• Submit at least two <b>chapter success stories</b> to the national AmeriCorps Alums organization per year.</li> </ul>
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