Disaster Direct Services Coordinator, California AmeriCorps Disaster Team

**Recent graduate? Veteran? Or looking for an opportunity to explore a new career path?**

Our AmeriCorps program is looking for passionate individuals who want to make a significant impact on others through public service while gaining professional experience in a meaningful way.

AmeriCorps is a short-term, national service opportunity that involves working with non-profit agencies to meet the critical needs of communities. The American Red Cross hosts state-wide AmeriCorps programs in California that focus on educating communities on emergency readiness and assisting those who have been affected by disasters. Our AmeriCorps members dedicate 1,700 hours of service in exchange for leadership and professional development, a modest stipend, and a $10,000 education award.

Department: Disaster Cycle Services

The Disaster Cycle Services department provides preparedness services and information before a disaster strikes and assists those who have experienced a disaster with their recovery. The AmeriCorps members placed in this department will support in the department’s efforts to fulfill the mission of the Red Cross.

Location: Orange, Riverside and San Diego/Imperial Counties, CA (3 positions)

Main duties:

* Support the preparedness of community members, particularly under-served populations, through the facilitation and delivery of emergency preparedness trainings.
* Respond to local emergencies as an active member of the Disaster Action Team (DAT) to support the recovery of individuals impacted by disasters such as home fires and other emergencies. Members may be expected to be on-call for multiple 12-hour shifts each week and various weekends throughout the term.
  + Members will also have the opportunity to deploy with the Red Cross in response to disasters on both a local and a national scale.
* Support individuals/families by providing short-term casework services, including identifying and connecting them with community resources and assistance programs.
* Support the region’s smoke alarm installation events (e.g. our youth volunteers’ Prepare Your Home initiative) through logistics coordination and communication with event contacts and volunteers to ensure the event runs smoothly.
* Oversee existing volunteers who are engaged in disaster preparedness and response activities in addition to recruiting and on-boarding new volunteers
* Support the implementation of the DAT and Recovery Casework program across the region, working with our territories to onboard, engage, and create/present training for volunteers to better serve our clients
* Members of the Disaster Team are required to deploy at the behest of the California Service Commission for as many as three weeks and within 48 hours' notice. Duties may include distributing emergency supplies, staffing shelters, managing volunteers, conducting damage assessments, etc. All expenses for deployments are covered by the program.

Qualifications

**Minimum Eligibility Requirements**

* Must be able to serve approximately 40 hours per week, from 9/13/2021 to 7/22/2022
* Minimum of 18 years old
* Able to pass a criminal background check
* Holds a High School Diploma or GED
* Must be a U.S. citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident
* Possess a valid driver’s license
* Applicants who currently reside outside of California should be prepared to relocate, if selected for the position
* Able to deploy with only a 48-hour notice and for up to 3-week increments to assist with disaster response

**Desirable Qualities**

* Willingness to serve outside of normal business hours, including evenings and weekends
* Self-motivated and capable of managing multiple, competing priorities and deadlines
* Team-oriented and willing to help others without being directed to do so
* Strong leadership and communication skills, capable of collaborating with diverse groups of people both digitally and in-person
* Comfortable with public speaking
* Passionate about community outreach and education to build resiliency
* Excellent ability to navigate problems with energy and a positive attitude, flexible when priorities change
* Previous experience as a Red Cross or youth volunteer is a plus
* Bilingual language skills in Spanish are not required, but highly desired

Benefits

* Invaluable experience with a **nationally and internationally respected organization**.
* The opportunity to **build your network** and accrue **professional development** skills including communication, project management, community organizing, interpersonal effectiveness and presentation delivery.
* Extensive opportunities for Red Cross and **Emergency Management training**.
* Bi-weekly **stipend** of $782.61 (before taxes), **health, dental and vision coverage**, and **childcare assistance** for those who qualify. Member may also be eligible for CalFresh benefits.
* **Federal student loan forbearance** during the period of service. Accrued interest of those loans will also be paid with the successful completion of the program.
* AmeriCorps members who successfully complete a full-time, 1700-hour service term are eligible to receive a combined **$10,000 Education Award** to use for educational expenses at an eligible institution, to repay qualified student loans, or both.

To apply, please visit: [link to be created]

For more information on service through AmeriCorps, visit: <https://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/americorps/what-americorps>

NON-DISCRIMINATION PUBLIC NOTICE: This program’s recruitment is conducted without regard to race, color, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, age, gender, religion or political affiliation.