

## 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](https://www.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). **Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.**

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

- The online application will launch on February 8, 2021.
- If you have questions regarding the program, service sites, selection timelines, orientation, etc. please e-mail us at [serve@foodcorps.org](mailto:serve@foodcorps.org)
- Submitting this application is no guarantee or promise of selection for FoodCorps service
- It's always a good idea to apply early. The application will remain open until all positions are filled so if you are coming into the process a little late in the game, fear not, you may make it into the pool after all!
- Submit this application by email at [serve@foodcorps.org](mailto: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 2021? \*** (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 2021? \***  
(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 membership 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: \***

**Preferred Last Name: \***

**Pronouns:**

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

**Email: \***

Make sure it is an e-mail address that will remain valid for at least the next 12 months.

**Primary Phone Number: \***

Please include your area code.

**Current Street Address: \***

**Current City:\***

**Current State: \***

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

**Current Zip code: \***

**Permanent Address:**

*If different from your current address.*

**Permanent City:**

**Permanent State:**

**Permanent Zip code:**

## Resume

Attach your resume to this application.\*

## Transferable Experience

We value non-traditional experience. Please share your most relevant volunteer positions (including but not limited to), internships, club, or personal affiliations you've held in the arenas of food/nutrition, gardening/farming, education, health, youth development/childcare, community organizing, social justice, and/or the environment in the spaces below.

Non-traditional experience can look like babysitting a younger sibling, summer camp experiences, participating in clubs, etc.

*If you need more space to include additional positions, please attach a separate sheet of paper.*

**Experience #1\*:**

Organization or Company Name:

If not performed with a formal organization, list "Self"

Location (City/State):

Start and End Dates:

\*Required

One sentence describing your responsibilities or accomplishments:

Approximately how many hours per week did you dedicate to this position?

**Experience #2:**

Organization or Company Name:

If not performed with a formal organization, list “Self”

Location (City/State):

Start and End Dates:

One sentence describing your responsibilities or accomplishments:

Approximately how many hours per week did you dedicate to this position?

**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 2021:**

*(Institution, Program of Study, Year of Completion)*

**Would you like to add additional 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: \***

**Email: \***

**Reference #2 Full Name:\***

**Relationship to Applicant: \***

**Phone Number: \***

**Email: \***

**Reference #3 Full Name:**

**Relationship to Applicant:**

**Phone Number:**

**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 any other languages besides English?**

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

**Which of the choices below do you consider to be your primary area of interest?\***

*(Check all that apply.)*

\*Required

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

**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)

**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 or reliable transportation?**

*You are not required to have access to a vehicle but your answer will ensure that we place you in the most suitable service position. If you will not have access to a car during your service term, please consult our website for a list of service sites where a car is optional or unnecessary.*

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

- Instagram**
- Facebook**
- LinkedIn**
- A Current Service Member**
- Career Fair**

\*Required

- Reference (Please list who.)**
- 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.**

If you are to advance to the next round in the selection process, your application materials could be sent to any of your state preferences, based on need. If you are not selected for service in that state, your application may be sent to your second or third choice state for further review.

**If you only select one state preference and are not accepted in that state, your application will not be reconsidered in other states.** Therefore, we strongly recommend you select up to three states if feasible.

FoodCorps currently serves in the following states:

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

Although applicants provide state selections, service members are placed in states based on need. FoodCorps cannot guarantee that you will be placed in a state in which you have selected.

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

Open to Anywhere

Selecting that you are open to anywhere indicates that you can be placed in a state with the most need for applicants and may require relocation. **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"/> Georgia | <input type="checkbox"/> Massachusetts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California  | <input type="checkbox"/> Iowa    | <input type="checkbox"/> Mississippi   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Connecticut | <input type="checkbox"/> Maine   | <input type="checkbox"/> Michigan      |

\*Required



- New Jersey
- New York

- New Mexico
- D.C. Metro Area

- Oregon

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:

- Arkansas
- California
- Connecticut
- Georgia
- Iowa

- Maine
- Massachusetts
- Mississippi
- Michigan
- New Jersey

- New York
- New Mexico
- D.C. Metro Area
- Oregon

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.

*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? How have you been successful in engaging with communities around a common goal during your time at FoodCorps?

- 2. If no, Tell us about the relationship between food, health, education, and inequality as you understand it.\***

**You in one sentence.**

**If you were a vegetable, which vegetable would you be and why? Or, what food has sustained your community?\***

## District-Level School Nutrition Projects

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. This year, FoodCorps is excited to launch 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.

Some examples of project categories may include procurement, menu management, school nutrition operations, and partnership building. This type of service might be a good fit for those interested in gaining experience with and learning about school nutrition leadership, public health nutrition, and marketing & communications.

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 in April and 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).

**Please note that this school nutrition-focused service placement is new and will continue to evolve as we learn with and from the service members who participate and the communities we serve.**

**1. Are you interested in applying for district level projects? \***

- Yes
- No

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

**Service members who participate in this type of service placement will have the opportunity to help shape something new for FoodCorps. Taking part in an evolving program will require flexibility and resourcefulness. Please describe a time when you navigated unexpected challenges or had to adapt to changing circumstances.**

## 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?**

**What is your age?**

**Have you ever been the recipient of a Pell Grant?**

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

## 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 2021-2022 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.

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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.

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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.

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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.

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Initials