



# Why State and Territorial Health Agencies Should Consider Public Health AmeriCorps

**“Boost capacity for today. Build a pipeline for tomorrow.”**

Public Health AmeriCorps (PHA) exists to support the recruitment, training, and development of the next generation of public health leaders who will respond to the nation’s public health issues. The program focuses on advancing equitable health outcomes and on recruiting AmeriCorps members who reflect the communities they serve.

PHA is a ready-made pipeline of new talent for state and territorial health agencies. PHA members must be at least age 17, may already have a degree or experience, and may be part- or full-time. Members serve in state and local public health settings for a one-year term, with the option of renewing for a second year.

For more information, visit the Public Health AmeriCorps website (<https://americorps.gov/about/what-we-do/public-health-ameri-corps>). ASTHO’s public health workforce team ([workforce@astho.org](mailto:workforce@astho.org)) is also available to answer questions about how to engage with the Public Health AmeriCorps program.

## BENEFITS TO STATE AND TERRITORIAL HEALTH AGENCIES HOSTING A PHA MEMBER INCLUDE:

- PHA hosts connect with a new generation of talent.
- There is no required funding match. The PHA program provides members with a living allowance, health insurance, educational benefits, student loan deferment, and training.
- The grantee and/or host agency can determine the program focus. PHA members can serve in various roles, such as health and housing, community engagement and outreach, emergency and disaster response, partner violence, chronic disease prevention, and drug abuse prevention.
- Members are part of a cohort of like-minded people who want to make a difference, strengthening the culture and sustainability of public health.
- Host PHA agencies build their organization’s internal capacity to support fellowships, internships, and future AmeriCorps members.
- Host agencies are better able to focus on agency and role-specific orientation for PHA members because members benefit from CDC’s curated public health training plan provided at no cost to the host or members.
- Depending on the location of hosts, hiring PHA members may not count toward state or agency employee roster totals.



Reach AmeriCorps alumni by posting your governmental public health agency’s vacancies on [PublicHealthCareers.org](https://PublicHealthCareers.org)! Contact [workforce@astho.org](mailto:workforce@astho.org) to learn more.

*This publication was made possible by Grant Number 6NU38OT000290-05-01 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the Department of Health and Human Services.*