Become a Service Year NC Community

What is Service Year NC?
The Institute for Emerging Issues at NC State, in partnership with the Service Year Alliance, a national bipartisan organization, is launching the Service Year NC initiative to make a year of full-time service - a service year - a common opportunity and cultural expectation for young North Carolinians of all backgrounds. We believe the force of service years at scale can prepare leaders, engage citizens, solve problems, and unite North Carolinians. Over the next year, Service Year NC will help up to 5 communities elevate and expand service locally.

What is a Service Year?
A service year is a paid, full-time position for Americans looking to improve people's lives and make a lasting impact in communities across the country. Examples of existing service year programs include: AmeriCorps, Teach For America, Peace Corps, and many others. Each year, 65,000 young people engage in service years nationally. The goal of Service Year Alliance is for 100,000 young people to serve annually by 2019, growing to one million within a generation.

What’s North Carolina’s share of the task?
Our state is responsible for 2,800 of those 100,000 service jobs, proportional to the Electoral College. According to the Corporation for National and Community Service, we’re already halfway there, with more than 1,400 AmeriCorps members serving in North Carolina today.

Service Year NC Communities
Service Year NC is committed to supporting local communities in their efforts to build and/or scale service year positions. To double the number of service years in the state by 2019, Service Year NC will help up to 5 communities elevate and expand service locally. We will identify a diverse cohort of communities who commit to taking concrete steps to develop and implement plans to grow the number of service year opportunities. Service Year NC will work with local leaders to help them build the infrastructure necessary to host and support service years at unprecedented levels.

What is expected of a Service Year NC Community?
• Commitment to measurably expanding and scaling service locally and developing a comprehensive plan to increase the quality and quantity of service year positions.
• Document best practices and lessons learned so other communities may replicate your efforts. Must agree that your community’s ideas can be shared openly.
• Bring together a leadership team of local leaders to lead the effort in your community.
What benefits will a Service Year NC Community receive?

- Recognition and statewide visibility
- Access to a statewide learning network with other communities in this initiative. The learning network will meet both virtually and in person several times over the next year.
- Eligible for $500 of funding to help cover meeting and event costs as you develop your service plan.
- Guidance and support from the Service Year NC team
- Positioned to apply and become a national Service Year Alliance Impact Community

Applicant Eligibility

Due to the nature of the initiative, activities are likely to be carried out by a variety of organizations and organization types. Eligible applicants are: units of local government, nonprofit organizations, universities, or a community foundation.

How to Apply

To apply, please submit a completed, online application (available in early 2017) and email a letter of support to Maggie Woods at mjwoods2@ncsu.edu. **Application deadline: March 20, 2017.** For questions, contact Maggie Woods at mjwoods2@ncsu.edu or visit our website at www.emergingissues.org/serviceyear.