



Habitat for Humanity of Iowa AmeriCorps Program Fact Sheet 2026-2027

The AmeriCorps program is changing in 2026-2027 to better accommodate programmatic changes and to better support the state of Iowa in disaster response. Many things are staying the same and others are changing. The greatest changes are in position types and host site fees.

Habitat for Humanity of Iowa operates its AmeriCorps state program through Volunteer Iowa and AmeriCorps to develop affordable housing and respond to disaster across the state of Iowa. When members are recruited, placed, and serve with local Habitat for Humanities, *they build capacity, serve more families, and develop life-long housing leaders through service.*

Program Fee Structuring 2026-2027

Slot Types	Program Fee –Tier 1 Disaster Response	Program Fee - Tier 2 Disaster Response
Three Quarter Time – 1200 Hours	\$1,000	\$7,500
Half Time – 900 Hours	\$1,000	\$6,000
Quarter Time – 450 Hours	\$1,000	\$3,800
Minimum Time – 300 Hours	\$1,000	\$3,800
What's Changed? -For Habitats willing to make members available for disaster response through Habitat Iowa or Volunteer Iowa the program fee has been reduced to \$1000 which is a minimum required amount to bring on and exit a member. More on disaster response levels below -No in-kind match asked for		

Disaster Response Tiers

AmeriCorps host sites have the ability to choose between two different response levels as part of the Volunteer Iowa Disaster Cadre Unit through the State of Iowa.

Tier 1 – AmeriCorps Volunteers available and expected to join disaster response

Program Fees reduced thanks to disaster funding grant through Volunteer Iowa

AmeriCorps Volunteer is hired with disaster designation. Host site will pay a reduced fee for having the member, but then in turn **the sites must allow AmeriCorps volunteers to respond and make a good faith effort to make them available to response to local disasters under Habitat Iowa and Volunteer Iowa.**

- Typical disaster response would only be **a few days (1-3)** and anything more than a work week would be case by case basis.
- **Typical activities would be** – debris clean up, mucking and gutting, volunteer reception center help, donations center work.
- Host sites would be given as much notice as possible to plan for AmeriCorps volunteer absence.
- **If AmeriCorps volunteer's disaster response creates undue hardship** on the site or the member, the host site can keep members back. An example would be a festival build or a huge building blitz project or member has a personal obligation already planned during time of deployment.
- Members will be trained by Habitat Iowa staff and Volunteer Iowa staff.

Tier 2 – AmeriCorps Volunteers available but not expected to respond to disaster.

Normal non-reduced program fees will be collected.

AmeriCorps Volunteer and Host Site will not have an expectation to respond to disaster outside of normal disaster requests. AmeriCorps volunteers will still be asked to join disaster activities by Habitat Iowa, Volunteer Iowa and/or state of Iowa on occasion. This is a requirement of all AmeriCorps programs to make the ask of members especially when directed by the governor of Iowa or Iowa Homeland Security.

AmeriCorps Positions Available for 2026-2027

Types of Positions Available	Slot Type	Hours available:
• construction • volunteer engagement • community outreach (Housing and/or Disaster focused) • family service teams	TQT- 1200 hrs.	9 Months – 40 hrs./week
	TQT- 1200 hrs.	12 Months – 24 hrs./week
	HT- 900 hrs.	6 Months – 40 hrs./week
	HT- 900 hrs.	9 Months – 24 hrs./week
	QT- 450 hrs.	13 weeks – 40 hrs./week
	QT- 450 hrs.	18 weeks – 24 hrs./week
	MT- 300 hrs.	9 weeks – 40 hrs./week
	MT-300 hrs.	12 weeks – 24 hrs./week
What's changed? -No more Full Time – 1700-hour positions -Positions are now – 40 or 24 hours per week		

AmeriCorps Volunteer Benefits and Costs- 2026-27

Slot Type	Living Allowance	Fringe Benefits	Education Award	Admin Fee
Three Quarter Time – 1200 Hours	\$14,225/ \$15625* <i>returning</i>	\$2,570.71	\$5,176	\$1,000

Half Time – 900 Hours	\$9,000	\$1,944.14	\$3,697	\$1,000
Quarter Time – 450 Hours	\$4,500	\$995.45	\$1,956	\$1,000
Minimum Time – 300 Hours	\$3,000	\$683.93	\$1,565	\$1,000
Additional benefits: Childcare assistance, training and professional development, National Service Forbearance, and accrued interest payments on federal student loans, Member Assistance Program, Member Emergency Fund through Volunteer Iowa, and more				
What's Changed? - Program is no longer offering health insurance <i>*members are eligible to sign up for Medicaid</i> - Program is no longer doing housing reimbursement previously available for those in 6 months or longer slots				

Basic Program Info

Program Goals or Performance Measures:

Each year our program is responsible for recording information about housing units built, repairs, or rehabilitated at Habitat for Humanities. Additionally we gather information on number of volunteers and their house working on those homes.

Host Site Selection Process

1. Interested organizations must complete the Host Site Interest Form, during the application window. Host site applications are available at www.iowahabitat.org/host-ameri-corps
2. Host site will be reviewed for suitability, capacity, and alignment with Habitat for Humanity of Iowa priority areas.

The following factors will be considered:

ability to provide adequate supervision; member activities are allowable; community partnership; ability to share client data with Habitat for Humanity of Iowa for grant reporting, and other factors to further the sustainability of the program.

3. Host sites will be notified of selection and number of members awarded by Habitat Iowa staff. Recruitment should begin immediately for potential members.
4. Host site fees or cost share will be due the first month a member starts and are spread out over the year.

Program Requirements

Cost Share or Host Site Fee: The AmeriCorps program will have cost share associated with it. The host site fee is required to help the **program operate, cover administration costs, and meet the minimum 50% federal match requirements of the grant.** Many of these expenses are fixed regardless of the recruited number of members. As an ASO, we do not fundraise to

ensure we're not competing with affiliates for grant applications to the same donors. Price per member for next year are listed below. If Habitat Iowa can secure different funding sources or additional federal funding is provided as in the past year, we will work to reduce or reimburse host site fees as we are able.

Sufficient resources and tools needed for member to perform their job effectively. This may include a desk, phone, computer, and other office supplies.

Provide adequate supervision: Either work with the member in the same office space or meet with the member(s) in person for a minimum of one hour per week as outlined in the Host Site Agreement or MOU, which can include personal and group meetings, making sure members turn in Habitat for Humanity of Iowa assignments on time, monitoring activities to ensure they meet the AmeriCorps requirements. Approve member timesheets by the 15th and 30th of each month.

Communication with program staff and Volunteer Iowa: Including absences, members, challenges and successes and participating in program monitoring including site supervisor focus groups with Volunteer Iowa.

Attend Training for required supervisor trainings and conference calls.

Quarterly reporting: turn in a quarterly report on performance measure goals with AmeriCorps members. These are due Jan.1, April 1, July 1, and Oct.1, Nov. 31. Goals listed above. The reporting is located on the website. www.iowahabitat.org/supervisor-resource

Member Recruitment

Recruitment: Responsibility for recruitment will be shared between Habitat for Humanity of Iowa and the affiliates. Habitat for Humanity of Iowa program director will provide information and sample recruitment materials to assist in the recruitment process for affiliates. Habitat also has a staff member dedicated to the recruiting through online platforms.

Steps:

1. **Advertise:** Habitat Iowa posts positions on online platforms and Affiliates recruit through staff, volunteers, and local school chapters.
2. **Apply:** Members apply through the Habitat Iowa application portal
3. **Screen:** Habitat Iowa staff screen those candidates and pass candidates to affiliates
4. **Screen/Select:** Affiliates interview and select members
5. **Enroll:** Habitat Iowa staff enroll those members