



ESP Full-Time AmeriCorps Members

Overview

ESP creates opportunities for people with disabilities and their families to engage, connect, and thrive. Each year, we serve more than 300 participants and their families throughout Northeast Georgia through 8 weeks of summer camp, 19 after school enrichment programs, and ongoing family support. **ESP is looking for 5 leaders who are passionate, motivated, and dedicated to empowering the lives of individuals with disabilities to serve as full-time AmeriCorps members.**

ESP is an official AmeriCorps State Program site for the state of Georgia. AmeriCorps is like the domestic version of the Peace Corps - *a year-long program in which people commit to a year of service to improve their communities*. Full-time members commit to serve 1,700 hours at their placement site over the course of 12 months and in return receive an education award and professional experience at the completion of service.

AmeriCorps members will gain experience:

- In working with the disability population and a wide range of individuals of all abilities
- In communicating with family members and service recipients
- In planning and implementing effective community outreach and communication
- In public speaking and planning effective community outreach
- In developing job skills training for adults with disabilities
- In lesson planning, facilitation and teaching individuals of all abilities
- In program evaluation and recreational therapy data collection
- In time management and organization
- In leadership
- In fostering collaboration amongst stakeholders and service recipients
- And more

ESP will have two different service positions available to AmeriCorps members:

1. Java Joy Program Leader
2. Family Experience Leader

Refer to the specific job descriptions to learn more about each position and how to apply

Membership Timeline: September 1, 2017 - Aug 31, 2018 with ability to re-enroll for up to 4 terms

Location: The position will be primarily held in Watkinsville, GA, located 20 minutes outside of Athens, GA. **Members will be provided rent-free housing in Jefferson, GA - also 20 minutes outside of Athens.** Members will travel to the surrounding Northeast Georgia counties to fulfill certain responsibilities using a program-owned vehicle.



189 VFW Drive / Watkinsville, GA 30677

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Hour Requirements: Full-time members must log 1,700 hours of service during the 12-month term of service (an average of 35-40 hours per week with planned weeks off). Typical hours are Monday - Thursday from 10 am - 7 pm, Friday from 9 am - 12 pm, with occasional weekend and evening hours required as necessary to complete programs.

Living Allowance: Full-time members will receive a monthly living allowance of \$1,052.50/month

Additional Benefits

- **Rent-free housing at our camp property, Camp Hooray, is provided and required for all members**
- **Segal Education Award equivalent to the Pell Grant (\$5,815) upon successful completion of service term.** Award can be used to pay educational costs at eligible post-secondary educational institutions as well as to repay qualified student loans. To qualify, the member must successfully log required service hours during the term of service: 1,700 for full-time. For more information: www.nationalservice.gov/programs/ameriCorps/segal-ameriCorps-education-award
- Leadership Certificate
- CPR & First Aid Certification
- Health Insurance Stipend (members may decline health stipend)
- Daycare assistance (if eligible)

Requirements & Qualifications

- Strong candidates will:
 - Have experience working with the disability population or with recreational programs (summer camp and afterschool programs)
 - Hold a post-secondary degree in a related field (i.e. Special Education, Public Administration, Social Work, Human Development & Family Sciences)
- Applicants must:
 - Possess a valid driver's license and have a clean driving record
 - Possess a post-secondary degree or equivalent
 - Consent to undergo all required background checks
 - Have a passion for service and make a good faith commitment to a full year of service

About the AmeriCorps State Program

The AmeriCorps State program is a federally-funded grant providing U.S. citizens with the opportunity to serve domestically. Funding is provided through the Georgia Commission on Service & Volunteerism (GCSV) and the Corporation for National & Community Service (CNCS). Please see www.nationalservice.gov for more information about AmeriCorps. ESP is approved for funding for the equivalent of 5 full-time AmeriCorps State members. Yearly funding is not guaranteed, but is provided if all requirements are met.



Java Joy Program Leader

Java Joy is a job skills training program within ESP to empower adults with disabilities to gain confidence, learn job applicable skills, and advance their abilities. Java Joy is mobile coffee cart, employed by our adults with disabilities, and rented by local companies as a fee for service. Our adults, or “Joyristas,” prepare and serve coffee, baked goods, and transformative joy.

In fulfilling the objectives of Java Joy, the Java Joy Program Leader will:

- Create and implement job skills training for all Joyristas
- Encourage and assist all Joyristas to find creative ways to appreciate and work with their disability
- Monitor individualized work plans and recreational goals for each Joyrista
- Serve as team leader of all Java Joy community events
- Ensure all worksites maintain a safe, clean, friendly environment for both Java Joy staff and community members
- Assist in the promotion of Java Joy, planning and implementing Java Joy events, and fulfilling the objectives of the program

Additionally, *all* ESP AmeriCorps members will be responsible for:

- Leading and assisting in the administration of ESP Thrive programs: 8 weeks of summer camp, 19 afterschool enrichment classes, monthly evening and weekend recreation opportunities, and ongoing family support programs
- Giving participants in low-income and rural communities access to ESP through transportation
- Leading recreational therapy program objectives and outcomes for each participant
- Overseeing and recruiting program volunteers
- Serving at ESP’s camp property, Camp Hooray

How to Apply:

All interested applicants must:

- 1) Apply to serve through the Corporation for National and Community Service official portal, myAmeriCorps, [HERE](#) (Applicant will need to create a profile), **AND**
- 2) Submit a cover letter and resume to americorps@extraspecialpeople.com



Family Experience Leader

At ESP, we focus not just on our participants of all abilities, but the entire family unit. Families of a child with a disability often experience isolation and unique challenges that other families may not face; providing additional support for our families is crucial in fulfilling our mission each day. Our family support programs include: annual family camp at a fully accessible beach, monthly family dinners, onsite counseling and family workshops, new parent meetings, community outreach, and meeting our families where they are.

In fulfilling the objectives of our family support programs, the Family Experience Leader will:

- Focus on reaching families of a child with a disability in low-income and rural communities by planning and implementing targeted outreach to schools, hospitals, and communities throughout the 26-county region ESP serves to provide program information and other family resources
- Serve as an advocate for ESP families and other families of children with disabilities
- Facilitate program enrollment for new families
- Lead and implement new family support resources and programs

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- 4) Submit a cover letter and resume to americorps@extraspecialpeople.com