



Notre Dame AmeriCorps Reasonable Accommodation for Members with Disabilities

AmeriCorps encourages individuals with disabilities to participate as national service providers through the AmeriCorps programs. AmeriCorps prohibits any form of discrimination against persons with disabilities in recruitment, as well as in service. As a program that receives federal funds, Notre Dame AmeriCorps complies with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

No qualified individual with a disability shall, by reason of disability, be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefits of the program, services, or activities of the program, or be subjected to discrimination by the program. Nor shall the program exclude or otherwise deny equal services, programs or activities to an individual because of the known disability of an individual with whom the individual is known to have a relationship or association. According to the ADA, the term "disability" means, with respect to an individual, a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the individual's major life activities, a record of having such an impairment, or being regarded as having such an impairment. "Major life activities" means functions such as caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working.

A "qualified individual with a disability" is an individual with a disability who with or without reasonable accommodations meets the essential eligibility requirements for the receipt of services or the participation in programs or activities provided by the program. Reasonable accommodations may include modifying rules, policies, or practices; the removal of architectural, communication, or transportation barriers, or the provision of auxiliary aids and services.

The program shall make reasonable accommodations in policies, practices, or procedures when the accommodations are necessary to avoid discrimination on the basis of disability, unless the program can demonstrate that making the modifications would fundamentally alter the nature of the service, program, or activity, and/or impose an "undue hardship". A reasonable accommodation may include: making facilities readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities; job restructuring; part-time or modified schedules; acquisition or modification of equipment or devices, training materials, or policies; etc.

Members may submit a reasonable accommodation request, in writing, to the Site Director.

Confidentiality: Information provided regarding her/his disability by a Member or a potential Member shall be kept confidential, except that appropriate supervisors, managers, and safety and health personnel may be informed regarding any restrictions in service duties or necessary accommodations. Government personnel may be provided information in compliance with various laws and regulations.

Self-Identification: Members or potential Members with disabilities are not required to disclose information about any physical or mental limitations, whether or not they believe it will interfere with their capability to perform the essential functions of the position sought or held. If they would like, however, for the program, to consider any special arrangements to accommodate a physical or mental impairment, they may identify that impairment, describe the functional limitations that result from that impairment, and suggest the type of accommodation that they believe would be appropriate. Medical verification of the condition may be requested for the members to be protected under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

Grievances: An individual whose request for an accommodation was denied may use the grievance procedure outlined in the Member Contract to appeal the decision and/or file a complaint with the Corporation for National and Community Service Equal Opportunity Office within forty-five days of the decision or forty-five days from when the member becomes aware of the decision.

I have read and understand the Reasonable Accommodation for Members with Disabilities Policy:

Signature: _____ Date: _____