



State Capitol, 6th Floor West
P.O. Box 98927
Lincoln, NE 68509-8927
Phone 402.471.6229 or 800.291.8911
Fax 402.471.6286
www.serve.nebraska.gov

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College Possible Receives \$396,000 in AmeriCorps Funding for Continued Support of Low-Income Students

Omaha, NE – ServeNebraska announced today that College Possible has been granted \$396,000 in AmeriCorps funding from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), the federal agency responsible for AmeriCorps and other national service programs.

This grant will support 33 AmeriCorps members in Omaha who will serve 1,834 low-income students in achieving academic success and college preparation resulting in improved academic performance and increased rates of college admission.

For nearly 10 years the Omaha division of College Possible has been committed to serving low-income students in the Omaha area. They proudly serve more than 700 high school students attending 10 partner schools across the Omaha metro and more than 1,200 college students from Omaha attending colleges across the country. Nearly 80 percent of College Possible students are first generation college students.

With the arrival of COVID-19, College Possible AmeriCorps members have adapted their service to continue to meet critical needs of students in Omaha and Greater Nebraska communities. This includes shifting to virtual service, both online and over the phone, and providing social, as well as academic, support to their assigned student groups.

“Funding is critical to our organization and allows us to serve 1,800 students in Omaha on their path to a college degree. We use funding throughout the year to support our high school and college students throughout the metro.” said Executive Director of College Possible, Arvin Frazier. “We’re grateful for the support of ServeNebraska, its partnerships throughout the state, and its commitment to serving communities.”

CNCS will provide an additional \$204,435 in Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards for the AmeriCorps members funded by this grant. After completing a full term of service, AmeriCorps members receive an award of approximately \$6,000 that they can use to pay for college or to pay off student loans.

Every year, 75,000 AmeriCorps members serve through 21,000+ schools, nonprofits, and community and faith-based organizations across the country. These citizens have played a critical role in the recovery of communities affected by disasters and helped thousands of first-generation college students

access higher education. They also tutor and mentor young people, connect veterans to jobs, care for seniors, reduce crime and revive cities, fight the opioid epidemic, and meet other critical needs.

AmeriCorps is funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service, the federal agency for volunteering and service, and recently marked its 25th anniversary. Since the program's inception in 1994, more than 1.1 million AmeriCorps members have served the nation, providing more than 1.6 billion hours of service and earning nearly \$4 billion in education awards to pay for college or pay back student loans. Those interested in joining AmeriCorps can learn more at [AmeriCorps.gov/Join](https://www.americorps.gov/Join).

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About ServeNebraska

ServeNebraska is governed by a 17-member, bi-partisan board appointed by the governor. ServeNebraska's mission is to mobilize Nebraskans to strengthen their communities through collaboration, volunteering, and national service. ServeNebraska oversees AmeriCorps programming, hosts the state's most prestigious volunteer awards, and provides training and technical assistance to program staff throughout Nebraska. To learn more, visit www.serve.nebraska.gov