

817—14.3(15H) Approval. Before a national service corps program can access the benefits of the Iowa national service corps, it must be approved by the commission.

14.3(1) *Automatic approval.* Existing programs and service positions in the following categories are automatically approved: AmeriCorps programs in Iowa created pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §12501, Senior Corps and AmeriCorps VISTA in Iowa created pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §4950 et seq., the Iowa summer youth corps program created pursuant to Iowa Code section 15H.5, the Iowa green corps program created pursuant to Iowa Code section 15H.6, the Iowa reading corps program created pursuant to Iowa Code section 15H.7, the RefugeeRISE AmeriCorps program created pursuant to Iowa Code section 15H.8, and the Iowa conservation corps created pursuant to Iowa Code section 84A.7.

14.3(2) *Reciprocal approval.* Existing programs and service positions recognized by another service year certifying body may request reciprocal approval by following the process outlined on the commission's website.

14.3(3) *Regular approval.* All other entities seeking approval for their service programs or positions should follow the regular approval process by completing an Iowa national service corps approval application.

a. Applications for national service corps program approval are available from the Iowa commission on volunteer service's website.

b. A review team designated by the commission shall review applications from national service corps programs to determine whether the national service corps programs or positions are eligible to participate in the program.

c. Applicants shall receive written notification of the commission's decision. Written notification will also be provided regarding the due dates and process for submission of program reports.

d. Full approval means the commission has determined that the national service corps program has met the established standards.

e. Conditional approval means the commission has temporarily approved the national service corps program before the program becomes fully operational or before the program has met the standards for full approval.

f. Any program that is denied approval or decertified for any reason bears the burden of proving that all deficiencies previously cited have been corrected. Corrections shall be in accordance with requirements of the Iowa commission on volunteer service.

14.3(4) *Documentation.* Additional documentation may be required to verify elements of the application. Documentation verifying a program's compliance with approval standards may be required by the commission during the approval process. Each program shall provide relevant information upon the commission's request in order to be considered for approval. National service corps programs may be requested to provide documentation of continued eligibility at any time during and after approval.

14.3(5) *Duration of approval.*

a. Automatic approval will be in effect as long as the program is recognized as one of the automatically approved programs listed in subrule 14.3(1).

b. Reciprocal approval will be in effect as long as the program is recognized by the other certifying body.

c. Regular approval.

(1) Full approval may be in effect for three years, as long as the program continues to meet the approval standards.

(2) Conditional approval may be in effect for six months and may be used for the purpose of applying for program benefits and technical assistance available to approved national service corps programs. The commission may grant an extension of conditional approval if it is determined that significant progress is being made toward meeting the requirements for full approval. It shall be the responsibility of the national service corps program to notify the commission when the program believes it has met the full approval criteria.

(3) A national service corps program may renew its approval. Programs whose full approval has expired should reapply using the application form available on the commission's website.

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