

817—14.14(15H) Information specific to the Iowa summer youth corps program.

14.14(1) *Incentives.* Incentives will be determined by federal funding guidelines or restrictions, depending on the source of funds utilized for the Iowa summer youth corps in a given grant year. Types of incentives may include:

- a.* Education awards that may be used to further educational attainment and that may be earned upon completion of a defined number of hours;
- b.* Living allowances that are not considered wages but are paid evenly over the course of a service period; or
- c.* Wages that are based upon the hours worked.

Types of incentives or combinations of incentives that may be used for a program design will be described in the application instructions.

14.14(2) *Grant criteria.* To respond to funding priorities, as funds are made available, the executive director of the commission will establish criteria consistent with federal regulations. If federal funds are being offered, applicants will be considered on a competitive basis. At a minimum, the criteria will contain the following:

- a.* Goals and objectives of the project;
- b.* Qualifications of the applicant to manage funds;
- c.* For new and recompeting applicants, letters of local support verifying coordination and communitywide cooperation;
- d.* Total project budget;
- e.* For previous grantees, evidence of ability to submit timely and accurate reports;
- f.* Description and timeline of planned activities;
- g.* Agreement to develop for the project a community partnership group whose membership should include a cross-section of the community served;
- h.* Description of the applicant organization, including staffing pattern; and
- i.* Documentation of the applicant's ability to provide the required local match.

14.14(3) *Application process for new grants.*

- a.* The commission shall issue a request for applications containing project criteria and application forms for the appropriate fiscal year.
- b.* The applicant shall submit the completed application to the commission according to the timeline identified in the request for applications.
- c.* Applications submitted will be reviewed by a grant review committee composed of members of the commission grant review committee, individuals with expertise in youth programming, and the citizens of Iowa. Using the criteria in subrule 14.14(2), the committee will review the applications for appropriateness and to determine the merit of the project.
- d.* Applicants whose projects have been selected for funding will be notified by the commission.

14.14(4) *Administration of grants.*

- a.* *Contracts.* The commission shall prepare contractual agreements for the grants.
- b.* *Reporting.* All grant recipients shall submit progress and financial reports to the commission as outlined in the contract.
- c.* *Availability of funds.* Separate request for applications will only be issued when there are funds available for this program. To the extent allowable by federal regulations, summer youth corps will always be an acceptable program model for annual AmeriCorps grants and will be listed in the annual AmeriCorps program request for applications.

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