



AmeriCorps – Frequently Asked Questions

How is Maggie's Place different from other service programs?

In our Maggie's Place homes, AmeriCorps and moms live in community, sharing together and living life alongside one another. AmeriCorps members live in solidarity with the women they serve, and each member of the community, regardless of their role, is changed profoundly by the experience.

Can I apply if I'm not a US citizen?

AmeriCorps members must be US citizens or legally documented residents.

Are there medical considerations for service?

As AmeriCorps members, you will interact with pregnant women and newborns, groups that have a heightened risk of illness and complications. Pregnant women have somewhat suppressed immune systems and newborns have underdeveloped ones, making it extra important that AmeriCorps take appropriate precautions for the health of the community, such as keeping their own vaccines up to date. It is expected that as an AmeriCorps member, you will receive a flu shot at the beginning of flu season, even if you don't typically get one each year, as well as that you have received a tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis booster within the last five years. The vaccine must have had the pertussis component included, as the tetanus-only shot doesn't include it. If you are unsure if you have received it, please check with your doctor. AmeriCorps members are also expected to be able to operate well under high levels of stress, and take any mental health struggles or challenges into consideration when applying for service at Maggie's Place.

Are there costs associated with applying/serving?

AmeriCorps are responsible for traveling to and from their placements.

How do I handle my college loans?

Either forbearance or deferment is available for most federally guaranteed student loans. Contact your lender for more information. Maggie's Place is happy to provide any forms or letters required to prove your status as a full-time volunteer. AmeriCorps loans may have the option to be placed in forbearance for the duration of service.

Can my family and friends visit me? Call me?

Yes! AmeriCorps often invite family and friends to visit and share in their experiences of life at Maggie's Place. While AmeriCorps members are expected to immerse themselves into the community at Maggie's Place, we also recognize that keeping in touch with family and friends is important and necessary to stay healthy.

Is Maggie's Place a religious organization?

Maggie's Place is not a religious organization. We are a social service organization, and we accept moms, staff, and AmeriCorps members of any, or no, faith background. Maggie's Place was founded in the spirit of the Catholic Worker Movement, and we continue to be guided and inspired by Catholic Social Teaching. Each home has a chapel with the Blessed Sacrament present, or a church near the home. We encourage our AmeriCorps members to continue practicing their faith if it is a part of their life, but we are not evangelical in any way, shape, or form. Any religious activities take place outside of AmeriCorps hours.

Is there a dress code at Maggie's Place?

We ask our AmeriCorps members to look presentable during times that the home is open to guests, volunteers, and donors (9AM-9 PM). This means no inappropriate clothing. When asked to speak at an event or attend staff-wide meetings, AmeriCorps members should be expected to have business casual wear.

What about meals?

Each home has a grocery budget and is stocked with community groceries. If you prefer to buy your own personal food, you can do so with personal money. Meals are on your own for both moms and AmeriCorps, except for Monday night community night.

Do I have to pay room & board?

No expenses are taken out of your monthly stipend of \$1166.

Do I have to have my license?

Every year-long AmeriCorps member needs to have their license, and ideally, needs to be at least 21 year old in order to drive our Maggie's Place cars. SummerCorps do not have to be 21.

Will I have my own bedroom?

AmeriCorps will share a bedroom with other AmeriCorps members in our AZ homes. In our OH home, AmeriCorps members each have their own room.

Do you get regular holidays off?

No. Maggie's Place homes do not close for the holidays, so AmeriCorps members do not get traditional holidays off. We are often the primary support and community of the moms that live with us. We ask all first-year AmeriCorps to stay for Christmas, and can take time off for either Thanksgiving, or Easter, as part of their 24 allotted vacation days.

Can I have another job while at Maggie's Place?

A year of service at Maggie's Place is extremely immersive. AmeriCorps members will not have the time or flexible time needed to hold another job while serving at Maggie's Place in a live-in or live-out position. This also applies to any other commitment, like school or online classes.

What does day to day life look like?

Each day is dependent on the needs of the moms in the home, so each day looks different! Typically, the day is split into duty shifts. When an AmeriCorps member is not on duty, she may spend her time one-on-one with moms, driving moms and babies to appointments or classes, doing her administrative position work, or taking personal time.

Arizona

P.O. Box 1102, Phoenix, AZ 85001 - P: 602.262.5555 F: 602.262.5556
Arizona Relay 7-1-1

Ohio

P.O. Box 25612, Garfield Hts, OH 44125 - P: 440.886.2620 F: 440.499.6045