



MINNESOTA
ALLIANCE
WITH YOUTH



Serve as a Minnesota Alliance With Youth AmeriCorps Promise Fellow or VISTA Member

Nearly 1 in 5 Minnesota high school students did not graduate on time in 2018. Those who do not graduate are disproportionately lower-income students and students of color. Dropping out of school is a process, not a one-day event, and often has multiple causes. Students leaving high school often cite lack of motivation, boredom, an unchallenging atmosphere, or an overall lack of engagement in school as reasons they dropped out*. Minnesota Alliance With Youth **AmeriCorps Promise Fellows** and **VISTA Members** serve at schools, community based organizations, and nonprofits to provide the additional direct service or capacity building services needed to intervene early to reverse the trajectory of dropping out.

Promise Fellows	VISTA Members
<p>Promise Fellows serve youth in grades 6-12 at schools and nonprofits, providing supports to create a positive climate, increase academic engagement, and prevent school dropouts.</p> <p>Promise Fellows provide these interventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caring Adult <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Informal mentoring, homework help • Service and Service Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mentor, volunteer, engage in service learning projects • Out of School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clubs, activities, tutoring 	<p>VISTA members strengthen communities and bring youth out of poverty by serving at non-profits, government agencies, community-wide coalitions and statewide agencies.</p> <p>VISTAs implement three key strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build the capacity of host site organization to address educational inequities • Coordinate efforts that bridge and build the integration of school and community wide support for youth • Actively engage youth as agents of change in closing opportunity gap in their community

What does daily service look like?

(This is a sample schedule. Actual schedule will vary by site.)

Promise Fellows	VISTA Members
7:30am: Arrive at Host Site before school begins	9:00am: Arrive at Host Site
8:00am-10:00am: Meet with students one on one	9:30am-11:00am: Research best practices
10:00am-11:00am: Enter daily attendance and student intervention data into online database	11:00am-12:00pm: Prepare to lead a training presentation
11:00am-12:00pm: Lunch club with students	12:00pm-1:00pm: Attend MCN networking lunch
12:30pm-2:30pm: Provide in class support	1:00pm-3:00pm: Meet with partner organization to develop resource dissemination plan
3:00pm-4:30pm: Facilitate afterschool homework club	3:00pm-5:00pm: Create flyer for upcoming Host Site programming

*National High School Center, 2007

What should you know before applying?

Serving with the Alliance as a VISTA or Promise Fellow might be a great fit for you! Please make sure you can answer **YES** to the following questions:

Can I commit to the time required for the position?

Commitments		
	Promise Fellow	VISTA Member
Term of Service	11 months	12 months
Total Service Hours Required	1700 hours	No minimum service hour requirement
Minimum hours per week	40 hours; 30 hours or 20 hours	40 hours
Alliance Trainings	Monthly	Monthly
Start/End Date(s)	September 1 – July 31 September 16 – July 31 October 1 – August 15 October 16 – August 15 November 1 – August 31	August 2020 – August, 2021
Start and End Dates based on Alliance onboarding schedule		

Can I commit to serve based on the benefits received?

Benefits		
	Promise Fellow	VISTA Member
Living Stipend	\$649 (pre-tax) twice per month <small>(First stipend payment will be 30 days after start date)</small>	\$472 (pre-tax) biweekly <small>(First stipend payment will be 2-3 weeks after start date)</small>
Education Award*	\$6,195	\$6,195
Federal Student Loan Forbearance	Yes	Yes
Health Insurance**	Yes	No
Child Care Assistance	Yes	Yes

*VISTA Members may elect to receive an end of service stipend of \$1,800 or the education award. AmeriCorps Members may only earn the total value of two full-time education awards

**VISTA Members receive up to \$6,600 in a healthcare allowance plan for out of pocket health care costs

Do I meet the minimum qualifications?

Each site may have its own qualifications to serve, but the minimum qualifications to serve as an AmeriCorps Promise Fellow or a VISTA with the Minnesota Alliance With Youth include:

- Have a high school diploma or GED by the start date
- Be at least 18 years of age or older by the start date
- Be a citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident alien of the United States
 - VISTAs may hold the following legal residency classifications: refugee, asylum or asylee, temporary protected status or deferred action for childhood arrivals (DACA) status.
- Successfully pass background checks
- Have an interest in mentoring, working with youth, and educational equity
- Additional qualifications may be required depending on position

The Alliance is committed to recruiting individuals without regard to disability, gender, race, religion, or sexual orientation. Reasonable accommodations provided upon request. This document is available in alternative formats.