

*Webinars for Supervisors*

Welcome to  
**Preparing for Life After  
AmeriCorps VISTA**

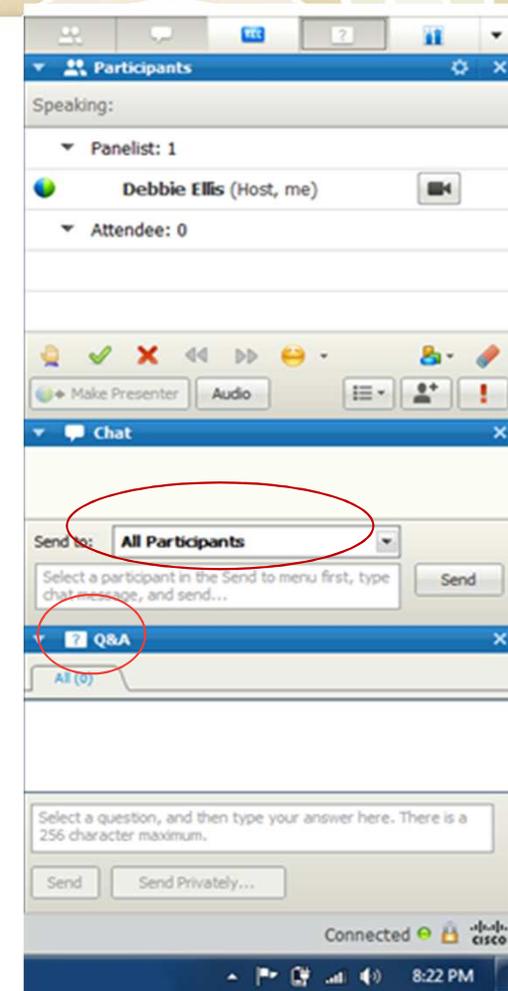
Corporation for  
**NATIONAL &  
COMMUNITY  
SERVICE** 

 **VISTA**  
Volunteers In Service To America

# Tips for Participating

## *Webinars for Supervisors*

- Phones are muted
- To ask questions, use the Q&A panel
- To share comments and ideas, use Chat
- Links and recording will be available after the session



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Welcome to  
**Preparing for Life After  
AmeriCorps VISTA**

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# Today's Team

*Webinars for Supervisors*



**Lois Morgan**

Bank Street College  
of Education



**Liz Matthews**

Corporation for  
National &  
Community Service



**Amy Cannata**

Education Northwest

# Session Goals

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By the end of the webinar you will be able to:

- Assist your VISTAs in identifying actions they'll need to take to “pass off” their tasks to the next VISTA, or someone else in the organization
- Help your VISTAs take meaningful steps to prepare for their future careers/lives

# 360° Approach



## Part One:



What do AmeriCorps VISTAs need to do to “pass off” their duties, before they leave their sites?

## Scenario: “Passing the Torch”

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**Susan** is approaching 7 months of service as coordinator of volunteer engagement for a VISTA project at an organization in rural Nebraska



She's recruited over 45 volunteers, many of whom have served as mentors for over 9 months.

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Chat Question:

What can **Susan** do to ensure a “smooth” transition to the next AmeriCorps VISTA?

# Another Chat Question:

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What if.....

...the VISTA project is ending and the organization will be continuing the VISTA's project work on its own?

- What would be different?
- What additional things need to be done?

# Sustainable Solutions

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*“As directed by Congress, VISTAs are short-term resources that serve to build the long-term sustainability of anti-poverty programs.*

*VISTA projects should be developed with a goal to phase out the need for VISTA members and **maintain the ability of the project to continue without them.**”*

# Sustainability

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## 1. Quick Poll: ✓ ✗

- What has *your* experience been with transitioning from one VISTA to another?

## 2. Chat:

- What issues have come up for you or your new VISTAs?

## Part Two:



Looking ahead—What's next  
for your AmeriCorps VISTA?

Poll:

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**Do you know what your VISTAs  
want to do after service?**

## Some Statistics

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### Post AmeriCorps VISTA Pursuits

- 70%: working at regular full-time or part-time jobs
- 19%: looking for work
- 29%: attending school full-time or part-time

Source: ICF International

# What's does the future look like?

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**Education**

**Career**



**Serve  
Again**

# Education Options

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- Ongoing Professional Development
- College
- Grad school
- Technical training
- Other



## **Important AmeriCorps VISTA Benefits**

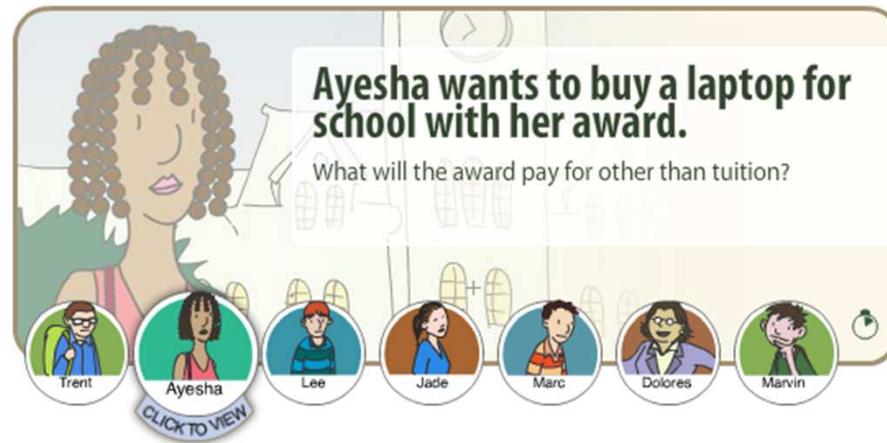
- Ed Award
- Ed Award Match

# Education Options

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How can you support your VISTAs?  
**Education Award Website:**

Stories to Learn By



[EdAward.org](http://EdAward.org)

# Career Options

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## Public Sector

- Nonprofits
- Foundations
- Educational Institutions

## Government

- City, State, Federal
- Non-Competitive Eligibility (NCE)

## Private Sector

- Corporate Philanthropy



# Career Options

## Important AmeriCorps VISTA Benefits

- Non Competitive Eligibility (NCE)
- Job Board

The screenshot shows the VISTA campus forum interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the VISTA logo and the text "VISTA campus". To the right, there are several icons representing different services or features. Below the navigation bar, there is a search bar and a "Search forums" button. The main content area is titled "Job Board" and contains a disclaimer: "The AmeriCorps VISTA Job Board is the place to post and search for job opportunities. VISTA Forum Wall Disclaimer: Any opinions expressed on 'the Wall', except as specifically noted, are those of the individual commenter and do not necessarily represent the views, opinions, or policies of the Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) program or the Corporation for National and Community Service." A red oval highlights a specific announcement: "Attention VISTA Alums with NCE - job opening with U.S. EPA in San Francisco - deadline this Friday, July 19, 2013". Below this announcement, there is a table with columns for "Discussion", "Started by", "Replies", and "Last post".

Discussion	Started by	Replies	Last post
Employment Program VISTA Project - Vancouver, WA	Erin Adams	0	Mon, Dec 9, 2013, 10:51 AM
Neighborhood revitalization VISTA project - Kelso, WA	Erin Adams	0	Mon, Dec 9, 2013, 10:49 AM
VISTA Leader, Tallahassee FL, Higher Education	Sam Mooneyhan	0	Fri, Dec 6, 2013, 11:36 AM
Apply today to become a VISTA, and change the lives of homeless students in Central Florida!	Emily Bachman	1	Fri, Dec 6, 2013, 11:22 AM

# VISTA Campus Resources: What is NCE



## VISTA campus

About VISTA



VISTAs



Leaders



Alumni



Supervisors



State Offices



### Quick Links

My AmeriCorps

Update Your Contact Info

Certification of Service

What is Non-Competitive Eligibility (NCE)?

Sign up for [USAjobs.gov](https://www.usajobs.gov), learn the particulars of how to get a job in the federal government, and keep your eyes open for appealing agencies with positions that might open around the time you are finishing service. Make you sure your search includes NCE applicable positions.

Check out job postings on the [VISTA Campus](#). The agencies who post positions on the Campus are often looking for applicants with a VISTA-type skill set.

As your year winds down, start submitting applications. Be sure to mention in your cover letter that you will receive NCE on the date your VISTA service ends.

When applying for positions after your year is complete, mention your NCE status in your cover letter AND attach your "My Service Letter" from your My AmeriCorps account.



# What is NCE: Non Competitive Eligibility

Upon completion of service, NCE status lasts 12 months, but can be extended for an additional two years for a total of **three years** from end of service date.

## Extensions are allowed for three reasons:

1. If, after service, you enter the military.
2. If you become a full-time student at a recognized institution of higher learning.
3. If you engage in another activity that the hiring agency thinks warrants an extension

USAJOBS  
WORKING FOR AMERICA

Home Search Jobs My Account Resource Center SIGN IN OR CREATE AN ACCOUNT

Advanced Search

Keyword Search (e.g.: Job Title, Agency Name, Job Announcement #, Control #)

Title Search

Series Number Search (Please enter all 4 digits when typing the Series Number. To search an entire occupation group, enter only the first two digits (e.g. 08 for engineers). When entering multiple Series Numbers please separate them with a semicolon (;). (Maximum of 10))

Applicant Eligibility

Are you:

- a current or former Federal civilian employee who holds or held a non-temporary appointment;
- In the competitive service in the Executive Branch or in a position not in the Executive branch specifically included in the competitive service by statute, or
- In an excepted service position covered by an interchange agreement, or
- Eligible for reinstatement;
- A Veteran eligible for veterans' preference or separated from the armed forces under honorable conditions after 3 years or more of continuous military service?
- A person with non-competitive appointment eligibility?

Yes No

Search Jobs Reset Form

# VISTA Campus Resources: Certification of Service



About VISTA

VISTAs

Leaders

Alumni

Supervisors

State Offices

## Quick Links

My AmeriCorps

Update Your Contact Info

Certification of Service

What is Non-Competitive Eligibility (NCE)?

A screenshot of the My AmeriCorps website. The page title is 'Print Service Letters'. It contains instructions on how to print a service letter and a form with two dropdown menus. The first dropdown is for 'Service Term' with the value '08/26/2007 to 08/26/2008'. The second dropdown is for 'Letter Type' with the value 'VISTA Certification of Service with Non Competitive'. A red circle highlights the 'Letter Type' dropdown menu. At the bottom right, there are 'cancel' and 'print' buttons.

Corporation for NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE

My AmeriCorps  
Your Place to Manage Your AmeriCorps Experience

Contact My AmeriCorps | Site Help | Logout  
FONT SIZE: Default | Large

HOME

### My AmeriCorps

- Applicant Home
- My Living Allowance
- My Tax Statements
- My Education Award
  - Create Forbearance Request
  - Create Interest Accrual Request
- My Service Letter
- Events
- Search Events
- My Resources
- Contact My AmeriCorps

### Print Service Letters

From this page, you can print out letters certifying your time of service in an AmeriCorps program. To print a letter, select a term of service and then select the type of letter you need. Type in the name and address of the intended recipient and click the "print" button to print the requested service letter. Form to be printed can be viewed using Adobe Reader software.

[Click here for help.](#)

\* Service Term:  
08/26/2007 to 08/26/2008

\* Letter Type:  
VISTA Certification of Service with Non Competitive

cancel print

# Upcoming Hiring Fair

*Webinars for Supervisors*

## **Special NCE Hiring Event for AmeriCorps VISTA Alumni**

**What:** Special NCE Hiring Event

**Who:** AmeriCorps VISTA Alumni and returned Peace Corps Volunteers with NCE and hiring managers from DOT, HUD and DOE

**Where:** U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE, Washington, DC 20590

**When:** Wednesday, June 25, 2014 from 2:00-5:00PM ET

*Webinars for Supervisors*

Questions?



# Serve Again

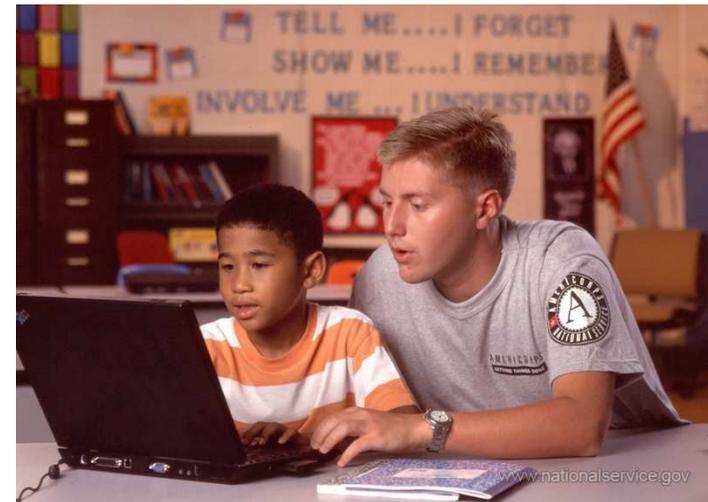
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## Continued “Formal” Service:

- Another year of VISTA
- Become a VISTA Leader
- Another AmeriCorps program
- Peace Corps

## “Private” Volunteering

- Local community organizations
- Schools, hospitals, etc.
- Literacy programs
- After-school programs



# Serve Again

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## Another Important AmeriCorps VISTA Benefit

- **Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF)**
  - Government program that can eliminate federal student loans if your VISTAs work for *10 years full-time at a non-profit or government agency.*
  - Information about this program can be found on the VISTA Campus under “The College Cost Reduction and Access Act”

# Alumni Profile #1—Andriana Bicanin

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**VISTA '09, WA State Employment Security**

**Department**

**VISTA'11, Asset Building Collaborative of North Carolina**

**Current Position:**

Graduate Student, Masters in Social Justice & Human Rights

**Cultivated Area of Expertise:**

Studying housing justice, incarceration and prison reform, immigration, city and state governmental abuse.

*“ AmeriCorps is instrumental to my ability to adapt to different communities, cultures, backgrounds, and lifestyles, creating my success in graduate school.”*

*\* Alumni profiles courtesy of AmeriCorps Alums*

# Alumni Profile #2: Marchelli Hill

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**VISTA '09, Community Services and Employment Training**

**Current Position:**

Community Involvement Coordinator for the city of Houston

**Cultivated Area of Expertise:**

Learned communication and public speaking skills, how to build a consensus and facilitate a group, and developed proficiencies in strategic planning and community organizing.

*“My AmeriCorps experience helped me develop a particular set of skills that I use on a daily basis and were instrumental in helping me obtain my current position with the city of Houston.”*

*\* Alumni profile courtesy of AmeriCorps Alums*

# About AmeriCorps Alums

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[www.AmeriCorpsAlums.org](http://www.AmeriCorpsAlums.org)

 orAmeriCorpsAlums

 AmeriCorpsAlums

*Building a community of  
engaged citizens and civic leaders  
that gets things done for America*



# VISTA Campus Resources

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## ***Transitioning – Passing the Project Torch***

- Checklist for Completing Service
- Exit Binder Content

## ***Transitioning – Graduating VISTAs***

### Self-paced tutorials

- What's Next—Life after your Service
- The Ed Award
- VISTA Works
- NCE for VISTAs
- Careers in Service

# Additional Webinars on Life After AmeriCorps

## *Webinars for AmeriCorps VISTAs*

Visit the Ongoing Learning page on the VISTA Campus for a complete listing of archived and upcoming VISTA webinars for members.

### **Upcoming:**

- **Learn how to write a Federal Government resume – July 22, 2014, 2PM ET**

### **Archived Life After AmeriCorps Webinars:**

- Navigate the federal hiring process
- Planning Your Post VISTA Career
- Resume Writing
- How to Use LinkedIn for Your Service and Your Career

*Webinars for Supervisors*

Questions? Solutions?

# Thank You

*Webinars for Supervisors*

Please complete evaluations

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Watch webinars on demand on the VISTA Campus!

If you have further questions or for more information, contact us:

**[VISTAwebinars@cns.gov](mailto:VISTAwebinars@cns.gov)**