



## MEMORANDUM

To: Office of Field Liaison; VMSU; VISTA HQ  
From:  Mary Strasser, AmeriCorps VISTA Director  
Date: August 4, 2011  
Subject: 11-008: Limits on Duration of Service for Members

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Under the Domestic Volunteer Service Act, no individual may be enrolled in AmeriCorps VISTA as a full-time member for more than a total of five (5) years. I am rescinding Policy 01-04, Terms Limits for Members, which determined that notwithstanding the DVSA allowable limit of VISTA service of five (5) years, as a matter of VISTA program policy, individuals could serve for only up to three (3) years. **Individuals may serve in VISTA for up to five (5) years in their lifetime.** For purposes of this policy only, Summer Associate service will not be considered a “term” of service.

**However, serving additional years of service in AmeriCorps VISTA – re-enrollment for another year or a future assignment after a break in service - is not automatic or guaranteed.** Sponsoring organizations should carefully review the member’s performance and the future needs of the project. AmeriCorps VISTA is not an entitlement and members’ requests for re-enrollment must be recommended by the project and reviewed by the appropriate Corporation State Office. State Office staff must balance a VISTA’s request to continue service beyond the first term with the availability of project slots and the Corporation’s overall goal to provide as many different individuals as possible the opportunity to serve in AmeriCorps (based on funding availability).