# Living Allowance Calendar and Statement Information

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<th>Direct Deposit Date</th>
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VISTA strongly recommends you sign up for direct deposit to receive your living allowance. Living allowance payments made by check will arrive approximately five days after the direct deposit date. To set up direct deposit, go to my.americorps.gov. If your direct deposited living allowance payment does not arrive by the date listed, contact the National Service Hotline at 800-942-2677.

Deposit dates may differ if your disbursement is from a grant made to your sponsoring organization.
Jennifer Smith  
1234 Market Street  
Redding, CA 96024

AMERICORPS* VISTA ALLOWANCE STATEMENT

We are paying you:  
- Subsistence Allowance: $383.46, Year to date: $1,533.84
- Relocation Allowance: 0.00
- Stipend: 0.00
- Other: 0.00

We are deducting:  
- Fed Income Tax Withholding: $23.01, Year to date: $92.04
- Life Insurance: 0.00
- Overpayments Collected: 0.00
- Tax and Court Levies: 0.00
- FICA Deductions: 0.00

This payment  
Total Paid: $383.46, Year to date: $1,533.84
Less Total Deductions: 23.01, Year to date: $92.04
Plus Advanced EIC: 0.00, Year to date: 0.00
Net Check: 360.45, Year to date: 1,441.80

Stipend accrued this pay period: 0.00
Stipend paid this pay period: 0.00
Current stipend balance: 0.00

Notice- NO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE PROVIDED
These payments are not wages under federal or state unemployment compensation laws (45 USC 5055)
VISTA Living Allowance Frequently Asked Questions

Starting Service

How do I receive my living allowance payment and travel reimbursements?
As an AmeriCorps VISTA member, you are required to have your biweekly living allowance sent via electronic funds transfer or direct deposit except when this form of payment would cause unusual hardship. (For hardship cases, contact the VMSU to have payments made by paper check.)

To set up direct deposit, you must complete the direct deposit form under “My Living Allowance” in the My AmeriCorps portal. You will need your bank account number and your bank’s routing number. Contact your banking institution if you have questions. Any error in account or routing information may result in delay of your living allowance. Reissue of payment for living allowances can take up to six weeks. Please take time to verify your financial information in My AmeriCorps before your service begins.

When do I get my first living allowance payment?
You will receive your first living allowance payment 2 to 3 weeks after your first day of VISTA service. It depends when your start date falls in the living allowance payment calendar. If you start in the middle of a pay period, you will receive your first living allowance payment in about 2 weeks. If you start at the beginning of a pay period, you will receive your first living allowance in about 3 weeks. You will never receive your first living allowance payment the week you start service. See the living allowance payment calendar to check the pay period end dates.

How will I get reimbursed for my relocation travel costs?
A relocation travel voucher will be posted to your My AmeriCorps account under “Help Requests” around the time you start VISTA service. You must print, sign, and mail the voucher to the VMSU. Relocation travel reimbursement takes up to 8 weeks from when the VMSU receives the signed voucher and it is paid by direct deposit separate from the living allowance.

When will I get my settling-in allowance (or relocation allowance as it is sometimes called)?
If you have a settling in allowance coming to you, it will be included in your first living allowance payment.

During Service

When do I get paid?
Please see the living allowance calendar on the VISTA Campus. You are paid every two weeks, and the official pay day is Friday. These will be direct deposited into your account.

What do I do if my living allowance is delayed?
Double check the direct deposit information you entered in My AmeriCorps. Any error in account or routing information may result in delay of your living allowance. Then, contact the VMSU. Please be aware that any reissue of payment for living allowances can take up to six weeks. Please take time to verify your financial information in My AmeriCorps before your service begins.

How can I view my living allowance statements online?
Go to My AmeriCorps and click on My Living Allowance from your member home page. Living allowance statements are in the first box under your member information.

What address is listed on the living allowance statement?
The address listed is your project address (the address of where you are serving).

Why does the “Stipend” line amount list $0.00?
If you selected the Segal AmeriCorps Education Award, this line amount will always be $0.00. If you selected the stipend, it will show how much of the stipend accrued during each pay period.

Why weren’t any taxes withheld? Am I having enough taxes taken out?
The taxes that are withheld are based on the W-4 you completed at the beginning of service. The more allowances on your W-4 means less taxes will be withheld. If you feel like the taxes being withheld are not going to be enough to cover what you will owe, you can make changes to your withholding by filling out another W-4 through My AmeriCorps.
Close of Service (COS)

How can I get reimbursed for my travel back to where I moved from after my year of service?
A close of service travel voucher will be posted to your MyAmeriCorps account under “Help Requests” at the beginning of your last month of service. You must print, sign, and mail the voucher to the VMSU. Reimbursement for travel takes up to 8 weeks once the VMSU receives the signed voucher. This will come as a direct deposit payment separate from your living allowance.

If I selected the end of service stipend, when will I get that?
The stipend is generally disbursed automatically with the last two living allowance payments, provided that service is completed as scheduled and end-of service documents are completed properly and submitted to the Corporation State Office. VISTAs who continue in AmeriCorps VISTA immediately after completing a year of service will receive their stipend for the first year in the final pay period for that term of service, provided all documentation has been completed and submitted on a timely basis.

For information regarding the Eli Segal Education Award and further discussion of the financial support VISTAs can receive, please refer to Chapter 5 and Chapter 14 of the VISTA Member Handbook. If you have additional questions, please contact the National Service Hotline at 800-942-2677 or submit a request online at questions.nationalservice.gov.