



Compelling Personal Circumstance – COVID-19

This form is to be used to exit AmeriCorps members for Compelling Personal Circumstance for reasons related to COVID-19. Reasons to exit AmeriCorps members for Compelling Personal Circumstance include site closures, member or immediate family illness, and caring for an at risk loved one.

45 CFR § 2522.230 Under what circumstances may an AmeriCorps participant be released from completing a term of service, and what are the consequences?

(a) Release for compelling personal circumstances.

(1) An AmeriCorps program may release a participant upon a determination by the program, consistent with the criteria listed in paragraphs (a)(6) and (a)(7) of this section, that the participant is unable to complete the term of service because of compelling personal circumstances, if the participant has otherwise performed satisfactorily and has completed at least fifteen percent of the agreed term of service.

(2) A participant who is released for compelling personal circumstances and who completes at least 15 percent of the required term of service is eligible for a pro-rated education award.

(3) The program must document the basis for any determination that compelling personal circumstances prevent a participant from completing a term of service.

(4) **Compelling personal circumstances include:**

(i) **Those that are beyond the participant's control, such as, but not limited to:**

A participant's disability or serious illness;

Disability, serious illness, or death of a participant's family member if this makes completing a term unreasonably difficult or impossible; or

Conditions attributable to the program or otherwise unforeseeable and beyond the participant's control, such as a natural disaster, a strike, relocation of a spouse, or the nonrenewal or premature closing of a project or program, that make completing a term unreasonably difficult or impossible; COVID-19

(ii) **Those that the Corporation, has for public policy reasons, determined as such, including:**

Military service obligations;

Acceptance by a participant of an opportunity to make the transition from welfare to work; or

Acceptance of an employment opportunity by a participant serving in a program that includes in its approved objectives the promotion of employment among its participants.

(5) Compelling personal circumstances do not include leaving a program:

(i) To enroll in school;

(ii) To obtain employment, other than in moving from welfare to work or in leaving a program that includes in its approved objectives the promotion of employment among its participants; or

(iii) Because of dissatisfaction with the program.

(6) As an alternative to releasing a participant, an AmeriCorps*State/National program may, after determining that compelling personal circumstances exist, suspend the participant's term of service for up to two years (or longer if approved by the Corporation based on extenuating circumstances) to allow the participant to complete service with the same or similar AmeriCorps program at a later time.



CNCS COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

CNCS GENERAL PROGRAM QUESTIONS

9. May members be exited for Compelling Personal Circumstances if they are unable to serve?

Within AmeriCorps State and National, grantees determine compelling personal circumstances. Extended site closures and sustained disruptions could reasonably justify a compelling personal circumstances exit under [45 CFR § 2522.230 \(a\) Release for compelling personal circumstances](#).

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Evidence for consideration of Compelling Personal Circumstance:

(Must be in line with the above indicated reason for release for Compelling Personal Circumstance. Indicate any attachments provided as proof -notes, emails, etc.). Please submit in the box below:

Member end date: _____ **Signature of AmeriCorps Program Staff:** _____

Received by ServeWyoming Staff date: _____ **Signature:** _____