

# Literacy\*AmeriCorps Seattle/ King County

## Fact Sheet

### OVERVIEW

Founded in 1993, Literacy\*AmeriCorps is a team-based national service program focusing on adult and family literacy. We address ESL (English as a Second Language), Adult Basic Education & GED prep, and family literacy. We have additional projects in financial and technology literacy and we coordinate a speaker's bureau of adult learners.

AmeriCorps members serve for 11 months and provide teaching & tutoring services to students at our service sites, which are local nonprofits, libraries, alternative education programs and community colleges. AmeriCorps members also coordinate special projects and events, recruit volunteers, and participate in a variety of service and training activities. Our volunteers meet at their service sites during the week.

Our team gathers together on alternate Fridays to reflect on service experiences, share resources, participate in trainings and group community service projects.

### APPLICANT DEMOGRAPHICS

- Our current team of 2007-2008 has an age range from 21 to 62 years old.
- In 2007-2008, we received 151 applications for 29 full-time positions.
- Educational background ranges from high school diplomas to graduate degrees.
- Approximately 20-30% of applicants are from out of state.

### ONE YEAR OF SERVICE:

The Literacy\*AmeriCorps Seattle/King County program is an 11-month program which requires 1700 hours of service. The average number of hours per week is roughly 35-40. Eleven months of service is a big commitment, so please consider your relocation to Seattle carefully. There is no assistance with housing or relocation expenses.

### STIPEND, EDUCATION AWARD AND OTHER BENEFITS:

- The Literacy\*AmeriCorps position pays a stipend of \$11,400 for 11 months of service. The stipend is paid bi-weekly similar to a pay check. It is also taxed like regular income. Literacy\*AmeriCorps members may work another job as long as that position does not conflict with the service schedule at their site.
- The education award is available only after completing the 1700 hours of service. **This award is also taxed when you use it.** The education award can be applied to future schooling or existing student loans.
- The healthcare benefit plan is a standard HMO program. The coverage is for urgent care, and does not provide long-term or existing illness coverage.
- Childcare benefits are also available for those who qualify. Reimbursement coupons are provided for childcare based on the member's household income which would also include a spouse's income.