Top 5 Skills AmeriCorps Alums Provide Employers

AmeriCorps alumni are a community of engaged citizens who carry their commitment to strengthen America into their careers.



AMERICORPS

Initiative

Alums are immediate contributors who lead by example as well as through direction, delegation, motivation, and inspiration.

The qualities that we were seeing in the graduates of [AmeriCorps] ... were the very qualities that we were looking for in potential new employees ... [They] are more focused and more efficient ... They understand that it takes hard work – probably better than anybody."

- Fortune 500 Corporation Senior Vice President



Interpersonal and Intercultural Communication

Alums served with and excel in partnering and communicating with diverse racial, religious, ethnic, cultural, and geographic groups.



Adaptability

AmeriCorps members undergo rigorous training programs. They have a proven ability to learn new concepts and skills quickly.

Alums have an ability to navigate a lot of day to day challenges. They know how to get things done and how to drive to impact."

- Technology Start-up Executive



Collaboration

AmeriCorps fosters an individual's ability to work individually and as a team, instilling a strong work ethic and responsibility to and appreciation of one's colleagues.

Alums have a client and community focus and strong communication skills. They are team-oriented relationship builders."

- Financial Services Company Hiring Manager



Accountability

Alums understand the responsibility that comes with being accountable for their own actions, the actions of team members, and their individual and collective results.

Competencies are drawn from the <u>AmeriCorps Alums Spring 2014 survey</u>, the Abt Associates longitudinal study <u>"Still Serving: Measuring the Eight-Year</u> <u>Impact of AmeriCorps on Alumni</u>" and informed by the Voices for National Service <u>"National Service: Providing Pathways to Employment</u>" report).

Institutional Support

Increasingly, institutions are creating policies and practices to recruit, retain, and advance alums.

- President Barack Obama announced <u>Employers of National Service</u> on September 12, 2014, a new cross-sector partnership that encourages employers to create recruitment, hiring, and advancement opportunities for alumni of AmeriCorps and Peace Corps.
- On June 23, 2014, <u>the U.S. Conference of Mayors unanimously endorsed</u> national service and encouraged their cities to place "a priority on hiring AmeriCorps alumni who have gained valuable skills, including project management, team building, and budgeting."
- <u>The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM)</u> issued guidance in August 2014 to encourage all government agencies to recruit and hire individuals who have served in AmeriCorps.

Alumni Profiles



Yamani Hernandez

Then: Public Allies Chicago AmeriCorps program, 1997 **Now:** Executive Director of the Illinois Caucus for Adolescent Health

"All youth deserve to be safe, affirmed and healthy."



William Consuegra

Then: Texas Youth Harvest AmeriCorps, 1994 **Now:** Economic Development Representative for the New Mexico State Land Office

"I have carried the AmeriCorps commitment and pledge with me every day over the past 20 years and am very glad that I can say that I have been getting things done since my swearing in."



Seth Marbin

Then: Youth Volunteer Corps (1995); AmeriCorps VISTA, University of Puerto Rico (1998); AmeriCorps Promise Fellow, City Year (1999) **Now:** Program Manager of GooglersGive Team

"You can make change wherever you are. There are a lot of people who feel like they want to change the world and who wouldn't think the corporate sector is the place to do that. But these days a lot of companies think holistically."

About AmeriCorps Alums



AmeriCorps Alums, an enterprise of Points of Light, is the only national network that connects the nearly 1 million alumni of all AmeriCorps programs to the people, ideas, and resources that support their commitment to a lifetime of service. For more information, visit <u>www.AmeriCorpsAlums.org</u>, like us on <u>Facebook</u>, follow @<u>AmeriCorpsAlums</u> on Twitter, and connect on <u>LinkedIn</u>.