

Position Title: Campus Compact AmeriCorps Member

Serving at: *Tisch College, Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts*

Position Status: Full Time (35hr/wk)

Service Term: July 19, 2021 - July 18, 2022

Position Details:

Overview:

Tisch College and partners are seeking a self-motivated and resourceful AmeriCorps VISTA member to join our team. The Tisch Community Research VISTA will help shape and implement an initiative that builds the community research capacity of local nonprofit organizations as well as Tufts students and faculty. The primary goal is to better understand community problems and potential solutions through research that is antiracist in orientation, leveraging community based participatory and action research approaches.

The main components of this initiative are: (a) piloting a participatory research cohort comprised of students and an antipoverty focused community partner, (b) developing/supporting related workshops, and (c) developing/compiling shareable online resources. In conjunction with the Director of Community Partnerships and the Director of the Tisch College Community Research Center, the VISTA will help expand community-university partnerships in Greater Boston and help plan and launch the initiative.

About AmeriCorps*VISTA program:

VISTA members are committed to their mission to help bring communities out of poverty. Members make a year-long commitment to serve on a specific project at a university or nonprofit organization. The focus of their efforts is to build the organizational, administrative, and financial capacity of organizations that serve low-income communities. In Massachusetts, this program is administered through Campus Compact and AmeriCorps.

Job responsibilities:

- Help plan and pilot a community-student research cohort and related workshops for community and university stakeholders, bringing together new and experienced community researchers to share best participatory practices and antiracist frameworks to inform anti-poverty programs.
- Compile and refine resources and materials that culminate from the cohort and workshops into an online shareable format for a larger nonprofit, community, and university audience. Support the development of an online participatory research hub under Tisch website (<https://tischcollege.tufts.edu/research/tcrc>).
- Work together with the Tisch College Community Research Center Director and Directory of Community Partnerships to grow relationships with anti-poverty organizations in target geographic areas.
- Support opportunities to better leverage a new online community engagement platform for research partnerships (Give Pulse).

*Contingent on the successful completion of a whole term of service

**Household income restrictions apply

- Participate in TCRC steering committee meetings, Tisch College staff meetings, weekly check ins, and other convenings.
- Compile required reports as directed by the AmeriCorps program.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

Primarily interfaces with: Tisch College staff, community organization staff, Tufts students, Tufts faculty. Reports to the Director of Community Partnerships and the Director of Tisch College Community Research Center.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience and/or deep interest in community (especially participatory/action) research
- Prior experience working within a nonprofit organization
- Passionate, energetic, and interpersonal leader
- Communication and writing skills
- Group facilitation skills
- Ability to work with diverse stakeholders
- Organizational skills (time management, follow-through, priority setting)
- Public speaking
- Well develop sense of personal initiative
- Creative approaches to problem solving
- Background and/or interest in community-based participatory research, action research, Critical Race Theory, civic engagement, or similar concepts is also helpful.

This position will remain remote work while the university continues COVID restrictions to non-essential employees. At this juncture, it is anticipated that the first 2-3 months will be remote and move on-campus in Fall 2021. Questions related to this position can be directed to elaine.donnelly@tufts.edu.

As part of service, the AmeriCorps member will participate in training and professional development with fellow AmeriCorps members serving at other Campus Compact VISTA projects. Roughly 10-15 percent of the member's time will be devoted to professional development.

Stipend and Benefits Provided by AmeriCorps and Campus Compact

- Bi-weekly living allowance of \$1,027.88
- End of service award* (AmeriCorps member must choose one of two options)
 - Segal AmeriCorps Education Award (\$6,345)
 - End-of-Service Cash Stipend (\$1,803.10)
- Relocation stipend for candidates moving more than 50 miles (\$750)
- Healthcare benefits (AmeriCorps member must choose one of two options)
 - Healthcare allowance for out-of-pocket expenses
 - Basic healthcare coverage
- 10 Days Personal Leave
- 10 Days Sick Leave
- Child care assistance for children under 13 years of age**
- Student loan forbearance or deferment (depending on lender)
- 1 year of noncompetitive eligibility for federal positions*

- Access to professional development opportunities provided by Campus Compact & AmeriCorps

Additional Benefits Provided by Tisch College

- Access to fitness center
- Access to library resources
- Access to professional development and training opportunities

About Tisch College:

The Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life at Tufts University is a national leader in civic education and engagement that sets the standard for higher education's role in advancing the greater good.

Tisch College is charged with a broad and vital mission: to prepare students for a lifetime of engagement in civic and democratic life, to study civic life and its intersections with public and private institutions, and to promote practices that strengthen civic life in the United States and around the world.