

**NSLA Summer Opportunity AmeriCorps Program**

***In partnership with Big Thought***

**2016 Americorps Application**

**PROGRAM**

In an effort to increase access to high-quality summer learning opportunities for young people, Big Thought is introducing a new leadership and civic engagement program that enables youth to gain workplace skills as **AmeriCorps members.** Summer is a critical time for young people, and for many it is also a crucial time to look for a first job - an important step in building skills and experiences for their future. The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) in collaboration with the National Summer Learning Association (NLSA) launched a new initiative, **Summer Opportunity AmeriCorps,** which places young people in positions to serve their communities, learn valuable leadership and workplace skills, and earn money to help them advance their education.

In Dallas, NSLA is partnering with **Big Thought** to engage **up to 80 youth (high school juniors/seniors, and recent graduates)** as **AmeriCorps members** to provide direct service to under-resourced communities in conjunction with Dallas City of Learning. Dallas City of Learning provides a digital learning environment for youth (K-12) through which they can access quality programming (live and digital), receive digital credentials to document their accomplishments and practice positive engagement in learning.

AmeriCorps members will be placed with Big Thought partner organizations in teams of 3 – 5 (*or more depending on host organization specifications)* and provide 100 hours of direct service to support summer learning and/or service-learning programs. **AmeriCorps members who successfully complete the 100 hours term of service will receive a $325 education award as a post-service benefit. AmeriCorps members may also be eligible for the President’s Volunteer Service Award.** Placement with host sites is based on student background and interest, as well as host site capabilities. Members will also:

* Develop a relevant service-learning project focused on community-wide issues using Big Thought’s SLANT (Service – Leaning Adventures in North Texas) curriculum.

Explore Dallas City of Learning platform and earn credentials.

* Utilize digital learning platform to connect youth served by partner organizations with digital and face-to-face activities, if applicable.

**The program takes place from July 5 – August 5, 2016.** AmeriCorps members will serve **16 hours a week**, Mondays – Thursdays with their assigned host site (4 hours/day with schedules determined by host organization), and participate in professional development activities with Big Thought on Fridays from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm (lunch provided).

**STUDENT ELIGIBILITY**

Students interested in the program must complete application, obtain parental permission (if under 18) and meet the following eligibility criteria:

* Must be a U.S. citizen, national or have permanent resident status.
* Enrolled as a high school junior or senior in Dallas County (or a recent high school graduate).
* Available to participate in the program from July 5 – August 5.
* Have consistent access to reliable transportation (public transportation or personal transport)
	+ Selected members must provide/arrange daily transportation to and from all AmeriCorps activities.
* **Participate in program kickoff on July 1 from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm** to meet other AmeriCorps members, their parents and Host organizations at the Meadows Conference Center, 2900 Live Oak Street, Dallas.
* Submit completed application no later than **Monday, June 27**.

Submit completed applications to jonathan.tyler@bigthought.org no later than **Monday, June 27**. Students will be notified of their selection status by June 29.

For additional information or questions, contact

Jonathan Tyler at jonathan.tyler@bigthought.org or 469-621-8986.

# 2016 Summer opportunity americorps PROGRAM

# application

**Please type and complete all fields. Submit no later than Monday, June 27.**

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| **personal information** |
| **Full Name:** |
| **High School:**  | **Grade Level:**  **[ ]  Junior [ ]  Senior [ ]  Graduate** |
| **Date of birth:** | **U.S. Citizen:** **[ ]  Yes [ ]  No** |
| **Home Address:**  |
| **City:** | **State:** | **Zip Code:** |
| **Home Phone:**  | **Cell Phone:**  |
| **Email Address:**  |
| **Mode of Transportation (check all that apply):****[ ]  Car [ ]  Relative/Friend [ ]  Public Transportation** | **Other Summer Plans/When (i.e. freshman orientation):**  |
| **Special Accommodations:** *please if any accommodations are required to complete program.* |
| **T-Shirt Size:** **[ ]  Small [ ]  Medium [ ]  Large [ ]  XL [ ]  2XL [ ]  3XL** |
| **DEMOGRAPHICS (FOR dATA PURPOSES ONLY)** |
| **Race/Ethnicity (please select all that apply):** **[ ]  American Indian or Alaska Native**  **[ ]  Asian**  **[ ]  Black or African-American**  **[ ]  Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander**  **[ ]  Hispanic or Latino** |
| **Gender:** **[ ]  Male [ ]  Female** |
| **Emergency contact information** |
| **Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s):** |
| **Contact Number (Home):**  | **Contact Number (Cell/Alternate):** |
| **Relationship of emergency contact to you:** |
| **Health Issues (i.e. allergies, asthma, diabetes, etc.):**  |

***Please respond to the following:***

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| **Why are you interested in being part of this program? What do you hope to learn from your experience?** |
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| **What are your career goals and expectations?** |
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| **Where do you plan to go for college? What is your intended major?** |
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| **What issues or causes are most important to you and why (i.e. animals, environment, education, hunger)?** |
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*By signing below, I stipulate that all information submitted in application is true and accurate, and that I meet all eligibility criteria.*

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**Signature of Student Date**

***By signing below, I acknowledge the following:***

* *Permission for a teacher or counselor (selected by my son/daughter to complete the recommendation form that will be submitted as part of the application. I understand the recommendation will be used in the selection process.*
* *If selected, I understand that my son/daughter agrees to participate for the duration of the program.*
* *I understand that my son/daughter will be responsible for his/her own transportation to and from all AmeriCorps activities from June 27 – August 5.*

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**Name of parent/guardian (if under 18)**

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**Signature of parent/guardian (if under 18) Date**