



Campus Compact



AmeriCorps

Campus Compact AmeriCorps VISTA Member

*Michigan State University, Center for Community & Economic Development, Circular Economy
Lansing, (Ingham County), Michigan*

The Campus Compact AmeriCorps VISTA program places AmeriCorps VISTA members in full service with our campus and community partners for a one-year period. During this year, members spend 35 hours per week on their host site's campus or with one of that campus's community partners to work on building systems and programs that support low-income college students and community members. The VISTA member's work is to build capacity, meaning that rather than directly serving the community, they're enhancing or creating systems, structures, and resources that support the direct anti-poverty work. Campus Compact functions as the central VISTA program hub, performing program administration, offering training and support to VISTA members and their projects, and connecting the work happening in individual projects both to similar work happening nationwide and back to AmeriCorps. For detailed program information and FAQs, please visit our website.

Service Term:

June 17, 2024 - June 16, 2025

Please note that this start date is subject to change. Start dates are based on a federal calendar and are not flexible. Regardless of start date, the term of service lasts exactly one year.

Summary of Position Details:

*A circular economy (CE) stands opposite of the current linear models such as the "take, make, waste" paradigm. CE proposes a fundamental shift from extraction to consciously designing communities for reuse, repair, and recycling. The Ellen MacArthur Foundation identifies three goals of CE as (1) eliminating waste and pollution, (2) recirculating products and materials, and (3) regenerating nature. With a holistic view to developing Michigan circular economies, the Center takes an asset-based approach to community and equitable economic development centered in justice. This is one of the first in the country focused on CE at the local levels for low-income business owners. With the intention of priming at-risk ecosystems, the Center and partners will identify low-income entrepreneurs and assist to build strategy to support their business within the unique contextual framework of their communities and value chains for economic resiliency. This includes data collection and assessment in year one that ultimately builds into holistic methodologies by year three. Asset mapping for ecosystem alignment and research to bring down procurement barriers to local sourcing are examples. The VISTA member will also support partner recruitment and meetings, building a database of contacts and conducting outreach. Lastly, the member will also connect with MI Healthy Climate Plan AmeriCorps*State members to identify ecosystem linkages for climate justice that facilitate knowledge transfer and resource sharing.*

Responsibilities

- Call for external (outside of University) advisory board community members
- Finalize circular economy literature review for small business transition to be utilized within an MSU professional certification program
- Work with economic development organizations to craft and conduct a small business circular transition needs assessment
- Utilizing the micro and macro data provided by the entrepreneurs and owners, assist to “connect the dots” between broader ecosystems that strengthen Michigan networks for circular change
- Attend orientation, weekly meetings, days of service, and trainings/retreats coordinated by Campus Compact
- Complete data collection and reporting activities required by Campus Compact and AmeriCorps

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience at recruiting and engaging community stakeholders
- Knowledge of economic and business development
- Strong reading, writing and researching skills
- Interest or experience in data collection and analysis
- Experience in creating media and conducting outreach such as hybrid meetings and webinars
- Knowledge of innovation ecosystems is a plus

Requirements

- BA/BS or equivalent experience
- US Citizen, national, DACA status, or legal permanent resident
- Must be able to complete federal background check

Logistics

- Status: In-person
- Hours
 - M – F [9 A.M. - 5 P.M., flexible and may be negotiated, such as 8 A.M. - 4 P.M.]

Benefits

AmeriCorps VISTA Benefits:

- Bi-weekly living allowance of \$877.66
- End of service award (AmeriCorps member must choose one of two options; requires completion of full term of service to receive)
 - Segal AmeriCorps Education Award (\$7,395)
 - End-of-Service Cash Stipend (\$1,803.10)
- Relocation stipend for candidates moving more than 50 miles (\$750)
- Mileage reimbursement for candidate moving more than 50 miles (\$0.40/mile)
- 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
- 14 Days Holiday Leave

- Child care assistance for children under 13 years of age (**income dependent**)
- Student loan forbearance or deferment for certain loans
- 1 year of noncompetitive eligibility for federal positions*
- Access to professional development opportunities provided by Campus Compact & AmeriCorps

Additional Host-Site Benefits:

- “Life After VISTA” job search and networking support
- Local budget innovation support such as “double up food bucks”
- Potential anti-racist book club participation and access to lending library

How to Apply:

You can apply to this position two ways:

1. My AmeriCorps.gov Application
 - a. Visit this [link](#) and apply to the position through the my.AmeriCorps.gov system
 - i. Note: The myAmeriCorps system is sometimes finicky and can be hard to update – if that website says “no longer accepting applications,” please feel free to reach out to our team via email at vista@compact.org to check.
 - ii. For support using the myAmeriCorps portal, please see this [document](#).
2. Apply Directly to the Site
 - a. Reach out to the site contact, Mary ZumBrunnen via email at zumbrun1@msu.edu with your resume, cover letter and information
 - i. Title the email “VISTA Application: Your Name” to ensure it’s not missed

Deadlines:

The last day to submit an application for this position is May 14th, 2024; however, positions are filled on a rolling basis, and we recommend applying as soon as possible.