

IS READING CORPS RIGHT FOR YOU?

ND Reading Corps • 2017-18

What We'll Ask of You

Commit to 10 months

After we hire and train a tutor for a school, we rely on that tutor for the whole term of service— no substitutes or replacements. Our service term runs from August 8, 2017- May 31, 2018.

Serve 675 (Reduced Half Time) or 450 (Quarter Time) hours

- Reduced Half Time members serve 20 hour per week for a minimum **total of 675 hours**. Nearly all of these hours are accrued during typical school-day hours.
- Quarter Time tutors serve at least 15 hours per week for a minimum **total of 450 hours**. Nearly of these hours are accrued during typical school-day hours.

Serve daily in a school setting

Tutors implement the Reading Corps model with fidelity, which includes meeting with their students every day of the school week during normal school hours. Your schedule must be consistent throughout the year so that the student tutoring schedule is consistent. Tutors also participate in 2 additional Days of Service which typically occur after-school or in the evening at the school.

Participate in professional training

If you are accepted into the program, you will attend required training sessions. We explain below under “What You’ll Gain” why our training model sets us apart, and why we aren’t shy about making it a requirement. The initial training, called Reading Corps Institute, will be 3 days. For K-3 Literacy Tutors, this training is scheduled for August 8-10 in Fargo and covers everything you will need to know to get started at your school. Additional required trainings include a half-day training October 3 (Bismarck region) or October 4 (Fargo region) and a full-day training November 2 (Fargo region) or November 3 (Bismarck region) will continue to build your skills.

Engage in your community

Reading Corps tutors spend their year viewing their community through the lens of service. They seize opportunities to be involved with community-based service activities, such as volunteering at a library and getting involved on the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service. Occasional weekend or evening service may be necessary.

What You'll Gain

Training, coaching, and experience in research-based literacy strategies

Our training is one of many things that make our program powerful. Well-respected literacy experts train our tutors in proven, research-based literacy strategies. Each tutor is also assigned an Internal Coach at their school to provide ongoing and individual support. This tiered approach provides the content knowledge and tools tutors need to be effective and confident in their ability to help children grow their literacy skills.

Professional skill-building & networks

We invest so much in our tutors because they are each given real responsibility in their school. For those tutors who are pursuing or continuing a career in education, the hands-on experience and literacy training offer an invaluable stepping stone. Tutors work closely with on-site staff who can offer insight and a “foot in the door” in the field. For tutors not pursuing an education career, being part of Reading Corps provides transferrable professional experience and skills, while adding the impressive AmeriCorps name to their résumés.



Financial Benefits

Living allowance

Tutors receive a living allowance. Prior to taxes, the living allowance is approximately \$400(450) or \$600 (675) to be paid once per month. Applicants must take a careful look at their financial situation to determine if they can afford to commit to serve with Reading Corps.

Education Award

Tutors who successfully complete their year of service will receive an [education award](#) of \$2215.24 (675) or \$1,538.36 (450). The education award can be used to pay back federal student loans, the cost of tuition or other educational purposes. The award has a seven-year expiration period and can be used at any accredited post-secondary school. Please note that the Education Award is considered taxable income in the year that it is used.

Tutors who are 55 or older at the start of their service enjoy an additional benefit. They may choose to transfer their education award to a child, grandchild, or foster child within seven years. The award must be used within ten years of the tutor receiving it.

Student loan forbearance

If a tutor is making payments to a federally-backed education loan, payments may be [put into forbearance](#) during his or her year of service. Upon successful completion of the program, the accrued interest will be paid by the National Service Trust.

Our Reading Corps tutors are highly effective. By now, you've read the position description. You've also studied the benefits and commitments to service on these two pages.

Are you ready to serve?

To apply, visit www.ndseec.com/readingcorps

ND Reading Corps accepts applications until all positions have been filled. If you have questions about the commitment or benefits, please visit our website to find contact information for a staff member in your area.