

SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE

AmeriCorps Program

Live the Mission...Make A Difference
Earn Money For Your Education



Join the 2012-2013 Springfield College
Student Success Corps



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The mission of Springfield College is to educate students in spirit, mind, and body for leadership in service to others. As members of the **Springfield College Student Success Corps**, students live and share this mission, engaging in service that meets the critical educational, social-emotional, and health needs of Springfield youth.

Members serve in Springfield pre-schools, middle schools, and high schools, where they facilitate interventions and identify resources that target risk factors for dropping out, including poor early literacy skills, low attendance, behavioral problems, and course failure in English and math. In addition, through the YMCA Fit Kids Program, members promote and enhance the health and wellness of Springfield public school students, giving them and their families the tools to live healthier lives.

Undergraduate and graduate students can apply for part-time (900 hours) or quarter-time (450 hours) positions and are placed based on their academic program, prior experiences, and skills. Members also receive extensive training and support from the AmeriCorps staff and from experts in education and health, resulting in an enriched educational experience and a lifelong commitment to community engagement.

Service Positions

Academic Coaches (900 hours)

work with students at-risk for dropping out. They provide academic support in math and English; monitor attendance, grades, and behavior; build trusting relationships; and facilitate the transition to high school and to college or career.

Leaders in Academics, Community Engagement, and Service (LACES)

Academic Coaches (900 hours)

work with student-athletes, primarily the football team. They provide academic support through weekly study halls; monitor attendance, grades, and behavior; and build trusting relationships.

School Counselors (900 hours)

serve with a guidance/adjustment counselor or school social worker. They provide one-on-one and group counseling to at-risk students with social-emotional and behavioral issues.

Note: School Counselors and Academic Coaches work as a team to implement attendance interventions, identify resources for students with social-emotional and behavioral issues, foster academic success, and support college and career awareness and preparation.

Literacy Coaches (450 hours)

serve in private or public pre-K programs in Springfield. They provide early literacy instruction, interventions, and support to children ages 3 to 5.

Fit Kids Coordinators (900 hours)

assist in the planning, coordination, and implementation of the Fit Kids Program at YMCA after-school sites. The Fit Kids Program provides academic support; physical, health, and wellness education; and healthy eating and nutrition

information to school-aged children and their families.

Fit Kids Coaches (450 hours)

facilitate physical education, health, and wellness programming. They provide homework help and disseminate healthy eating and nutrition information to school-aged children and their families as part of the YMCA Fit Kids Program.

School Volunteer Coordinators (900 hours)

serve in the Springfield College Office of Student Volunteer Programs and at Springfield School Volunteers to recruit, train, and manage college and community volunteers to meet needs in the Springfield Public Schools. School Volunteer Coordinators also help facilitate school-based programs, coordinate college visits, and assist with volunteer generation, planning, and implementation of member service projects.

Transition Coaches (900 hours)

serve at the high school or middle school level. At the high school level, they provide workshops and one-on-one meetings with ninth graders focused on the transition to high school. They address issues such as study skills, time management, and navigating a new environment. Upper class students will receive help with college applications, financial aid, career readiness, and the transition to college. At the middle school level, they facilitate workshops and one-on-one meetings around planning for high school (for eighth graders), college exploration, financial aid, and career exploration.

Member Requirements

Members must:

- be at least 18 years old
- be enrolled at Springfield College
- be a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident
- clear a criminal background check (CORI) in MA; an FBI Criminal Background Check; and a Sex Offender Registry database check



Member Benefits

Living Allowance:

Part-time members receive a living allowance of \$6,050; quarter-time members receive \$3,024.

Education Award:

Upon successful completion of service, members will receive an Education Award of \$2,775 (part-time) or \$1,387.50 (quarter-time) from the Corporation for National and Community Service. This voucher can be applied toward qualified student loans or future tuition and is valid for seven years.

Worker's Compensation:

In the event of injury during service, members are eligible for worker's compensation.

Loan Forbearance/Interest Accrual:

AmeriCorps members may request forbearance on qualified student loans, postponing their loan payments during the term of service. The National Service Trust will repay a portion of the interest accrued on qualified loans during the term of service.

Member Selection

Through a written application and personal interview process, members are chosen from among applicants who meet the selection criteria, which include: a strong desire to serve the community, leadership skills, interests and skills matching the issues being addressed, professionalism, and the ability to perform the required service hours and training.

**Students applying to be School Counselors should be graduate students enrolled in either the School Guidance or Social Work program, or be enrolled in another graduate counseling-based program.*

Applications are available in the AmeriCorps Office or on the Springfield College website (Offices/Services>AmeriCorps Program).
Applications are due May 1, 2012.

Please note that AmeriCorps positions are contingent on continued funding from the Massachusetts Service Alliance and the Corporation for National and Community Service. Funding decisions for 2012–13 Massachusetts AmeriCorps programs should be finalized by June 2012.

Program Requirements

Members are required to:

- complete required hours and training.
- attend a week-long orientation.
- attend monthly member meetings.
- attend the midyear training.
- attend the spring social.
- maintain good academic standing.
- assist with Humanities in Action Day.
- develop an additional service project.
- participate in Opening Day, the annual kick-off of the AmeriCorps service year.
- submit weekly journal entries.



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*Supported in part by the Massachusetts Service Alliance
and the Corporation for National and Community Service.*

Springfield College does not discriminate in admissions or employment policies and practices on the basis of race, sex, sexual orientation, age, color, religion, national origin, disability or status as a veteran.

Springfield College is committed to providing equal educational opportunity and full participation in college programs and activities for persons with disabilities. Reasonable accommodations are provided for persons with documented disabilities on the basis of need. Reasonable accommodations are available for applicants during the interview process and for members at their service sites.