



April 21, 2020

Dear WSC Members and Site Staff,

We hope all of you are healthy and safe. Please contact us if you need assistance with alternative service or teleservice options or if you have questions about service next year. We're here to support you and will do what we can to help!

We have a few important updates for you:

Education Awards

- We have been granted greater flexibility with education awards. Members will not be required to make up hours missed due to COVID-19 – in some cases, members will still qualify for full education awards with the successful end of their service term. Successful completion is based on the minimum service criteria of consistently serving through the end of the service term or COVID related termination of service.
- **WSC will require that members meet minimum service standards starting on May 1.**
- Members, when you exit, please contact your WSC Coordinator to determine eligibility for the education award.

Minimum Service Standards

We're very grateful and proud that the vast majority of our members are finding ways to continue to serve through teleservice, alternative service, training and service learning projects at home. So many of you are making a fantastic contribution to your communities – thank you!

Beginning on May 1:

- Members should continue to strive to deliver as many service hours as possible in support of their projects and alternative service. At a minimum, members should be logging no less than about 5 service hours per week (10 hours during a pay period).
- Members are not required to do alternative service out of the home during the *Stay Home, Stay Healthy* order, but they must at minimum:
 - Continue to serve the primary site as appropriate and possible;
 - Complete the maximum allowed professional development training hours (up to 20% of service term);
 - Check in with site staff and their WSC Coordinator weekly if the minimum service hours threshold cannot be met;
 - Seek out teleservice or at-home service learning projects to build hours.
- Every member situation is unique and we will work to be as flexible as possible. Members must contact their WSC Coordinator if they have compelling circumstances that prevent them from serving the minimum service hours.
- Members who are sick or are caretaking someone who is sick are exempt from these requirements for as long as the illness persists, and through the quarantine period.

Most of our members are already exceeding the minimum service requirements and should continue to do what they are doing. WSC will be reaching out proactively to any members who may be having difficulty meeting the service requirements. WSC will be as flexible and generous

as possible with any member who is actively attempting to serve or has a valid and compelling reason preventing them from providing service.

In service,

Washington Service Corps / Washington Reading Corps