

FY 2020 Terms and Conditions Volunteer Generation Fund Grants

These Corporation for National & Community Service (CNCS) Grant Program Specific Terms and Conditions and the General Terms and Conditions, are binding on the recipient.

Due to COVID 19, CNCS has provided guidance that informs the applicability, implementation, or enforcement of the terms and conditions due to legislative changes and new facts that support discretionary agency action. Please refer to the [COVID-19 FAQs](#).

TABLE OF CONTENTS		
I.	Changes from the 2019 Terms and Conditions for Volunteer Generation Fund Grants	2
II.	Definitions	2
III.	Budget and Programmatic Changes	2
IV.	Reporting Requirements	4
V.	Award Period and Incremental Funding	5
VI.	Program Income	6
VII.	National Service Criminal History Check Training	6

I. CHANGES FROM THE 2019 TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR VOLUNTEER GENERATION FUND GRANTS

1. Changed Office of Grants Management to Office of Grant Administration (OGA) and updated Grants Officer titles to Grants Award Specialist.
2. Added references to Portfolio Managers, applicable to awards that have transitioned to the regions, as opposed to the Program Officer, applicable to awards that have not yet transitioned.
3. Section III.A.3. – Added the section regarding adding subawards or contracts and making disaster related changes.
4. Section IV.A. – Updated the Due Date and Reporting Period Covered for Progress Reports.
5. Section VII – Updated the link for the e-Course.

II. DEFINITIONS

- A. **Recipient**, for the purposes of this agreement, means the direct recipient of this award. The recipient is legally accountable to CNCS for the use of award funds and is bound by the provisions of the award. The recipient is responsible for ensuring that subrecipients or other organizations carrying out activities under this award comply with all applicable Federal requirements, including the CNCS General Terms and Conditions, these specific terms and conditions, regulations applicable to the program, and the NCSA.
- B. **Subrecipient** refers to an organization receiving award funds from a recipient of CNCS funds. See 2 CFR § 200.93.
- C. **Program** refers to the activities supported under the award.
- D. **NCSA** means the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended. See 42 U.S.C. §§ 12501-12657.

III. BUDGET AND PROGRAMMATIC CHANGES

- A. **Programmatic Changes.** The recipient must first obtain the prior written approval of the Program Officer/ Portfolio Manager before making any of the following changes:
 1. Changes in the scope, objectives or goals of the program, whether or not they involve budgetary changes.

2. Entering into subawards or contracts for activities funded by the award, but not identified or included in the approved application and/or award.
3. Entering into additional sub awards or contracts for activities funded by the award, but not identified or included in the approved application and award budget.

Upon notification to the CNCS Program Officer/ Portfolio Manager, recipients may make programmatic changes due to, or in response to, an officially-declared state or national disaster without written approval from CNCS. As soon as practicable, recipients making disaster-related programmatic changes must discuss the recordkeeping, performance measure adjustments, and other award requirements with the CNCS Program Officer/ Portfolio Manager. While written approval from CNCS is not required before making disaster-related programmatic changes, CNCS reserves the right to limit or deny disaster-related programmatic changes, including disallowing costs associated with the disaster related activities.

B. Budgetary Changes. The recipient must obtain the prior written approval of CNCS's Office of Grant Administration before deviating from the approved budget in any of the following ways:

1. Specific Costs Requiring Prior Approval before Incurrence under the uniform administrative requirement, cost principles, and audit requirements for Federal awards at 2 CFR Parts 200 and 2205. Certain cost items in 2 CFR Parts 200 and 2205 require approval of the awarding agency for the cost to be allowable such as pre-award costs. Please ensure you consult the regulations prior to incurring costs to ensure allowability.
2. Purchases of Equipment over \$5,000, unless specified in the approved application and budget.
3. Unless the CNCS share of the award is \$100,000 or less, changes to cumulative and/or aggregate budget line items that amount to 10 per cent or more of the total budget must be approved in writing in advance by CNCS. The total budget includes both the CNCS and recipient shares. Recipients may transfer funds among approved direct cost categories when the cumulative amount of such transfers does not exceed 10 percent of the total budget.

- C. **Approvals of Programmatic and Budget Changes.** CNCS’s Grant Award Specialists are the only officials who have the authority to alter or change the terms and conditions or requirements of the award. Grant Award Specialists will execute written amendments, and recipients should not assume approvals have been granted unless documentation from the Office of Grant Administration has been received. Programmatic changes also require final approval of CNCS’s Office of Grant Administration after written recommendation for approval is received from the Program Officer/Portfolio Manager.

IV. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The recipient is responsible for timely submission of periodic financial and progress reports during the project period and a final financial report and for setting submission deadlines for its respective subrecipients that ensure the timely submission of recipient reports.

- A. **Progress Reports.** The recipient shall complete and submit one annual progress report in eGrants to report on progress toward achievement of its approved performance targets.

<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Reporting Period Covered</u>
December 31	Start of award year through September 30

- B. **Federal Financial Reports.** The recipient shall complete and submit financial reports in eGrants to report the status of all funds. The recipient must submit timely cumulative financial reports in accordance with CNCS guidelines according to the following schedule:

<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Reporting Period Covered</u>
April 30	Start of award through March 31
October 31	April 1 – September 30

A recipient must set submission deadlines for its respective subrecipients that ensure the timely submission of recipient reports.

The recipient must submit the Federal Financial Report (FFR) - Cash Transactions Report on a quarterly basis to the Department of Health and Human Services Payment Management System per the Electronic Funds Transfer Agreement.

C. **Reporting Other Federal Funds.** The recipient shall report the amount and sources of federal funds, other than those provided by CNCS, claimed as matching funds. This includes other federal funds expended by subrecipients and operating sites and claimed as match. This information shall be reported annually on the financial report due October 31st or at the time the final financial report is submitted if the final report is due prior to October 31st.

D. **Requests for Extensions.** Each recipient must submit required reports by the given dates. Extensions of reporting deadlines will be granted only when 1) the report cannot be furnished in a timely manner for reasons, in the determination of CNCS, legitimately beyond the control of the recipient, and 2) CNCS receives a written request explaining the need for an extension before the due date of the report.

Extensions of deadlines for financial reports may only be granted by the Grant Award Specialist/ Portfolio Manager, and extensions of deadlines for progress reports may only be granted by the AmeriCorps Program Officer/ Portfolio Manager.

E. **Final Financial Reports.** A recipient must submit, in lieu of the last semi-annual financial report, a final financial report. This final report is due no later than 90 days after the end of the project period.

F. **Final Progress Reports.** In the final grant year, a recipient must submit, a final progress report in lieu of an annual progress report. This final progress report is due no later than 90 days after the end of the project period.

V. **AWARD PERIOD AND INCREMENTAL FUNDING**

For the purpose of the award, the project period is the complete length of time the recipient is proposed to be funded to complete approved activities under the award. A project period may contain one or more budget periods. A budget period is a specific interval of time for which Federal funds are being provided to fund a recipient's approved activities and budget.

Unless otherwise specified, the award covers a three-year project period. In approving a multi-year project period, CNCS generally makes an initial award for the first year of operation. Additional funding is contingent upon satisfactory performance, a recipient's demonstrated capacity to manage an award and comply with award requirements, and the availability of Congressional appropriations.

CNCS reserves the right to adjust the amount of an award, or elect not to continue funding for subsequent years. The project period and the budget period are noted on the award document.

VI. PROGRAM INCOME

- A. **General.** Income, including fees for service earned as a direct result of the award-funded program activities during the award period, must be retained by the recipient and used to finance the award's non-CNCS share.
- B. **Excess Program Income.** Program income earned in excess of the amount needed to finance the recipient share must follow the appropriate requirements of 2 CFR Part 200 and be deducted from total claimed costs. Recipients that earn excess income must specify the amount of the excess on the financial report.
- C. **Fees for Service.** When using assistance under this award, the recipient may not enter into a contract for or accept fees for service when:
 - 1. The service benefits a for-profit entity,
 - 2. The service falls within the other prohibited activities set forth in these award provisions, or
 - 3. The service violates the provisions of 42 U.S.C. § 12637 – Nonduplication and Nondisplacement.

VII. NATIONAL SERVICE CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK TRAINING

All recipients and subrecipients **must** complete CNCS' National Service Criminal History Check (NSCHC) training every year. The CNCS designated e-course provides a thorough overview of the requirements and can be found at: <https://cncsonlinecourses.litmos.com>. Please use the link <http://cncsonlinecourses.litmos.com/self-signup/> and code CNCS-Litmos to set up your Litmos account. Each grant recipient and subrecipient must identify at minimum one staff person who has some responsibility for NSCHC compliance to fulfill this requirement on behalf of the grant recipient or subrecipient. The grant recipient and subrecipient must retain the certificate of completion and assign staff to retake the course annually prior to the expiration of the certificate. Grant recipients and subrecipients should save certificates of completion from each year as grant records.