

2026-27 Host Organization Information Session

Agenda



About the Trust & Program Partnership

About the Program

- Background
- Overview
- Eligibility
- Host & Trust/Partner Responsibilities
- 2026-27 Program Snapshot

About the Application

- The Process
- Online Application & Narrative
- Matching Phase
- How to Apply



Questions

About the Trust



The Trust is a nonprofit grantmaking organization, first created in 1985 by the Maryland General Assembly, dedicated to improving the watersheds of the Chesapeake Bay.

The Trust's goal is to increase stewardship through grant programs, special initiatives, and partnerships that support...

- 1) K-12 Environmental Education;
- 2) On-the-ground watershed restoration;
 - 3) Community Engagement; and

the underlying science of these three realms.



The Corps Program - Background & Partners



Our History

- First established by the Maryland Legislature in 2010
- Chesapeake Conservation Corps
- Green Jobs Workforce Program



Our Growth

- 2022 Climate Solutions Now Act Maryland General Assembly
 - Expanded the climate focus of the program & # of placements
 - Chesapeake Conservation and Climate Corps
- 2025 Partnership with the Maryland Department of Service and Civic Innovation
 - Governor Moore's SERVE Act initiated Maryland Corps/Service Year Option
 - Expanded professional development opportunities & # of placements















Goals of the Corps

- Prepare and empower young adults for careers and leadership in the green workforce (MENTORSHIP IS KEY!)
- Increase the impact and reach of organizations advancing practices and solutions for addressing issues impacting the health of the environment.
- Promote, restore, and protect the health of the natural resources and communities throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed.
- Increase the diversity and influx of young talent into the green workforce across the Chesapeake Bay region.



The Corps Program - Overview



• The Structure

- A one-year term of stipend-supported term of service
 - August 18, 2026 August 17, 2027
- ~80 Corps Members will be placed at Host Organizations across MD
- Corps Members
 - Serve the equivalent of full-time (40 hours per week)
 - Receive professional development trainings (Trust & DSCI)
 - Stipend, FICA, workers comp, and eligibility for a completion award (Trust & DSCI)

• The Corps Members

- Are 18-25 years old at the start of the program
- A citizen of the United States, permanent resident alien, or have documentation confirming permission to work in the US for the duration of the Corps term
- Confirm they are available to serve full-time and reside in the state of Maryland for the duration of the Corps term



The Corps Program - Organization Eligibility



- Host Organization Eligibility
 - Must be a:
 - Non-profit
 - Environmental Organization
 - Community-based Organization
 - Faith-based Organization
 - Educational Institution
 - Government Agency
 - Must have:
 - At least one, full-time employee
 - Sufficient projects for a full-time (40 hr/week) equivalent workplan
 - Conduct work/be based in the state of Maryland





The Corps Program - Eligible Activities



- Host Organizations can suggest a wide variety of projects within the fields of:
 - Climate Change
 - Energy Conservation
 - Environmental Restoration
 - Sustainable Agriculture
 - Forestry
 - Community Engagement
 - Pre-k through 12 Environmental Education







- And must meet an identifiable public need with:
 - Specific emphasis on projects & programs that result in long-term preservation, protection, and conservation of the environment and/or
 - Are within a community disproportionately affected by climate impacts

Program & Participant Responsibilities



Host Organizations must...

- Assign a designated Mentor who will serve as:
 - A supervisor to ensure work is progressing
 - A mentor to guide & support the Corps Member
- Provide the **necessary tools** to complete the work
 - desk/computer/field tools
 - office space
 - and any reasonable accommodations
- Provide mileage and travel reimbursement for Corps Members for program related travel
 - Host Organization activities, Corps trainings, site visits, conferences, etc.

The Trust will...

- Provide the Corps Members':
 - Stipend, workers comp, FICA, payroll costs, and healthcare (for those not covered by a parent or guardian)
- Coordinate trainings with facilitators throughout the Corps program year
- Provide **funding** for the Corps Mini Grant, All-Hands Project days, and I professional conference per Corps Member
- Provide workplan support through check-ins during the Corps term
 - 1:1 support to Corps Members and Mentors

2026-27 Corps Program Snapshot



- ~80 Corps Member placements
- A one-year, full-time **professional experience** with a Host Organization
- 1:1 Mentorship
- **\$33,280** stipend (equivalent to \$16 per hr)
- Professional Development
 - Trainings (Virtual & In-person)
 - Asynchronous training platform (BuildWithin)
- 4 All-Cohort Project Days
- 4-10 Networking Visits to fellow Corps Members/Host Organizations
- 1 Small Grant opportunity
- Funding to attend a professional conference
- A Capstone Project

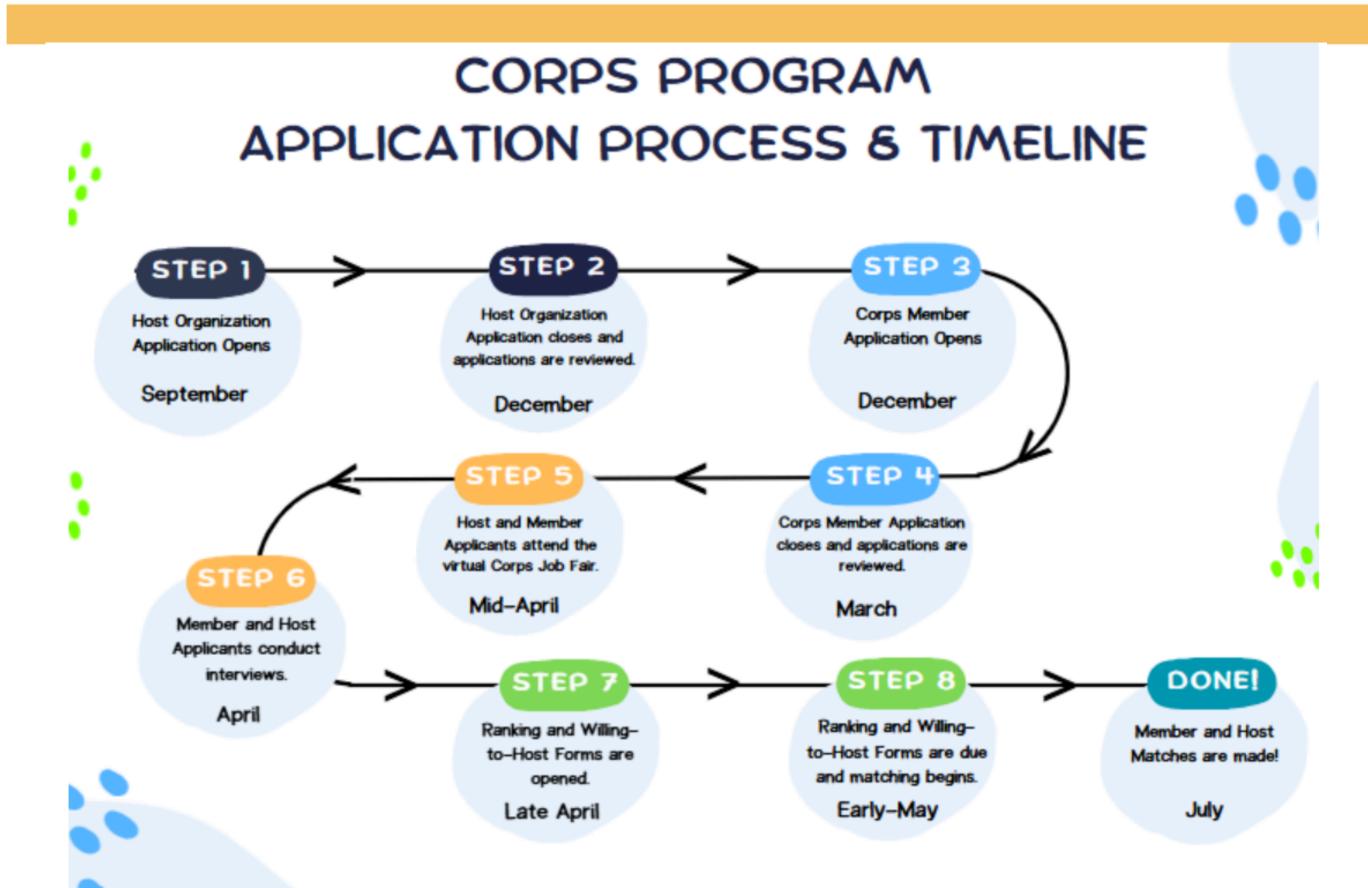












About the Application - Online Form

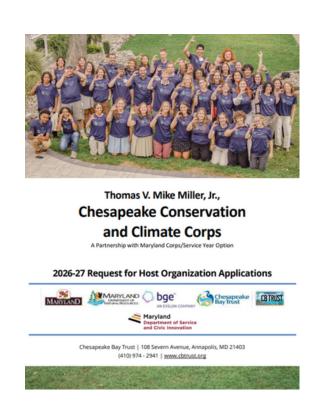


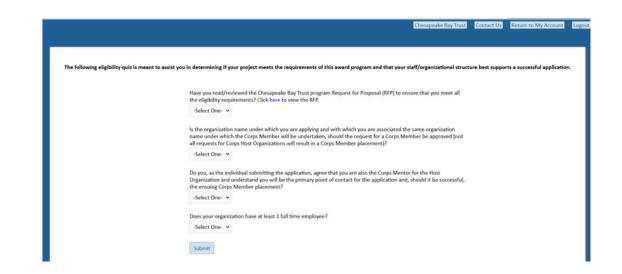
Online Application Form

- Eligibility Quiz (4 y/n questions)
- Applicant Information
- Host Organization Information
- Narrative Questions
 - Can be developed in the template (<u>available here</u>)
 - Must be submitted in the online form
- Terms & Conditions

Narrative Questions

- Description of Corps Member position
- Impact of Corps Member
- Value of the position for the Corps Member





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DUE DECEMBER 4TH, 2025 by 4PM

Multiple Corps Member Opportunity



- For the 2026-27 program the Trust anticipates placing a maximum of **one** Corps Member per successfully matched Host Organization
- However....
 - If your organization is willing to commit match to fully support the cost of one Corps Member, you can apply to be potentially matched with a second Corps Member
 - The 2026-27 match amount will be \$42,500
 - Organizations with significant capacity to provide matching resources are highly encouraged to consider this option.
- Applicants interested in this option will be required to sign and return the Multiple Corps Member Commitment Agreement in March 2026, prior to the matching process

Organizations interested in this opportunity should submit one application per Corps Member requested.









Matching Process

- All <u>eligible</u> Host Organization applicants will be invited to participate in the matching phase
- After the Host Organization and Member applications close
 - Members and Hosts will have access to full application materials
 - During Member open application only host summary of position is shared
 - Applicants will be invited to a virtual job fair
 - Host Organizations will submit their Willing to Host form listing Member applicants (vice versa for Corps Member applicants)

Key Dates

- Host Applications due December 4, 2025
- Member Applications due March 6, 2026
- Corps (virtual) Job Fair April 2026
- Willing to Host & Ranking Forms due May 15, 2026
- Matching Decisions Announced July 2026



How to Apply



Become a Chesapeake Conservation and Climate Corps Host Organization



The Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., Chesapeake Conservation and Climate Corps, now in partnership with Maryland Corps/Service Year Option, places young adults (ages 18-25) with nonprofit organizations or government agencies for a full-time equivalent, one-year term of stipend-supported service in the environmental field.

The Corps provides young professionals with experience, leadership and professional development training, mentorship, and a support network with other young environmentalists. Positions offered by host organizations are in the fields of environmental restoration, community engagement, environmental education, climate change, sustainable agriculture, energy conservation, and forestry.

For the 17th year of the Corps Program, the Chesapeake Bay Trust anticipates placing approximately 80 Corps Members for a full-time, stipend-support year of service (\$33,280) from August 18, 2026 to August 17, 2025.

Host Organization Application Status: OPEN

Application Deadline is: Thursday, December 4th 2025 at 4:00 PM EST

2026-27 Host Organization Application Package

2025 Host Organization Narrative Questions Template

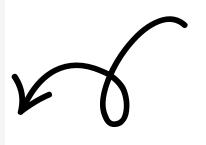
Start a New Application

Get started with a new application

New Applications

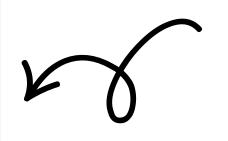
Review the Host Organization Application Package





Fill out the Online Application Form

 https://cbtrust.org/chesapeakeclimate-corps/apply/hosts/



Stay tuned for next steps!



Questions?

Thank you!

For more information visit

