



CivicSpark Fellowship Program

Advancing community planning goals, building local workforce capacity, and cultivating career opportunities for future civic leaders.

For the last 12 years, the award-winning and evidence-based CivicSpark Fellowship program, supported by AmeriCorps, has helped over 300 communities in California, Washington, and Colorado create and implement community planning projects, while also providing a launchpad for the careers of over 1000 emerging leaders. These Fellows have supported a wide range of actions, including:

- Conducting research, data analysis and technical assistance
- Preparing community needs assessments
- Supporting large-scale community planning processes
- Planning and hosting community meetings and events
- Leading volunteer engagement activities

*Organizations that participate in CivicSpark are 5 to 16 times more likely to achieve their project goals than organizations that don't have a Fellow.**

BENEFITS

- Receive dedicated support for your initiatives
- Access a proven capacity building workforce model
- Increase resources for all types of communities from rural, suburban, to urban
- Attract, train, and retain young leaders
- Reach and exceed your organizational and community planning goals

TIMELINE

- **March 19** - Application Opens
- **May 14** - Application Priority Deadline
- **July 6** - Fellow Interviews Begin
- **August 21** - Fellow Offers Due
- **October 5** - Fellowship Term Begins

**2023-24 Program Evaluation, LPC Consultants*

**Learn more about
CivicSpark:**



civicsparkfellowship.org

info@civicsparkfellowship.org

CivicSpark Partner Information

PARTNER ELIGIBILITY

- Public agencies (local, county or regional governments), state agencies, Tribes, ports, military bases, non-profit organizations and educational institutions can contract directly to host CivicSpark Fellows
- Fellows cannot be placed at for-profit organizations
- Fellows must implement projects or initiatives with a clear scope of work designed to build organizational capacity on a community planning issue
- Partners must agree to follow all [AmeriCorps requirements](#)

PROJECT CRITERIA

Projects must support local community planning needs such as public safety, disaster preparedness, affordable housing, electricity and power, public health, water management, transportation and infrastructure, economic development, parks and outdoor recreation or other related issues. Beyond the basic criteria, our program is looking for tangible and impactful resilience projects with a:

- Clear, suitable scope of work
- Commitment to implementation
- Strong connection to local workforce and community needs

We are also looking for projects from communities with identifiable capacity gaps, including:

- Absence of an adopted and up-to-date strategy (plan, element, or other) that comprehensively addresses a community identified priority with appropriate funding, programs, and policies, to implement the strategy.
- A defined local workforce capacity gap as evidenced by at least one significant program, policy, or planning goal that has not been met, or cannot be met, without resource or system development assistance.

FISCAL CONTRIBUTION

CivicSpark Fellowships are funded in part by AmeriCorps and in part by our partners hosting fellows. Rates for the program are all-inclusive and cover a portion of the Fellow living allowance and benefits (including health insurance), as well as programmatic operating costs including professional development and CivicSpark staff support for Fellows. **For the 2026 - 2027 service term, the partner fiscal contribution is \$37,500.**