EDA VISTA Corps
Informational Webinar
for Applicants
About the Program

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EDA’s mission is to lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy.

As the only federal agency with economic development as its exclusive mission, EDA drives collaborative regional economic development initiatives that lead to job creation.
Core Principles of AmeriCorps VISTA

- Anti-Poverty Focus
- Community Empowerment
- Capacity Building
- Sustainable Solutions

AmeriCorps VISTA is a program of CNCS, the federal agency that improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering.
Economic Development Districts (EDDs) are multi-jurisdictional entities, commonly composed of multiple counties and in certain cases even cross-state borders. They help lead the locally-based, regionally driven economic development planning process that leverages the involvement of the public, private and non-profit sectors to establish a strategic blueprint (i.e., an economic development roadmap) for regional collaboration.
Goal Alignment

The VISTA Project will seek to help economically distressed communities identify economic development needs and resources to meet those needs.
EDA – VISTA Project History

2016
4 VISTAs are placed with EDDs in Texas

2017
Program opens to 10 EDDs across the AURO region
Addition of VISTA Leader

2018
AURO to host 15 VISTAs
DRO opens program to 5 EDDs in Colorado and Utah

2019
AURO to recruit host 15 VISTAs
DRO extends program to all regional states with 10 total VISTAs
Each program will have 1 VISTA Leader
EDA VISTA Projects

VISTAs work on pressing needs projects for their assigned organization which build capacity and represent a unique task that the host otherwise lacks the resource to complete.
Types of Projects

Examples of past focus areas:

- Survey, assessment, and growth strategy for regional businesses development
- Feasibility for localized development projects
- Economic development education and community engagement
- Facilitate localized or value add Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) work
- Specific focus on: disaster recovery and mitigation, industry expansion, brownfields, communication strategy, etc.
EDA - Program Structure
Division of Oversight

District
Day-to-Day: Supervision & Support

EDA
Monthly/As Needed: HR and Support

VISTA
2020 EDA VISTA Locations
Austin Region 2020 Positions

1. Austin Regional Economic Development VISTA Leader
2. Environmental Justice Community, Lafayette, LA
3. Economic Development Weatherization, San Antonio, TX
4. Baton Rouge Economic Development Assistant
5. Economic Development Assistant, Jasper, TX
6. Agent for Economic Development, Kilgore, TX
7. Opportunity Zone Economic Development, Houston, TX
8. Central Louisiana Community Coordinator, Alexandria, LA
9. Community and Economic Change Agent, Santa Fe, New Mexico
10. Northwest Arkansas Rural Community Grant Coordinator, Harrison, Arkansas
11. Community Advocate for Workforce and Economic Development, Alpine, TX
12. Allied Economic Development Services Coordinator, Lubbock, TX
13. Southwest Arkansas Economic Development Strategy Coordinator, Magnolia, Arkansas
14. Assistant Southwest Oklahoma Economic Development VISTA, Burns Flat, OK
15. Historic Development and Restoration Project Manager, Silver City, New Mexico
Denver Region 2020 Position

1. Denver Regional VISTA Leader, St. James, Missouri
2. Economic Development Assistant, Logan, Utah
3. Economic Development Coordinator, Ogden, KS
4. Ambassador for Volunteer Development, Camdenton, MO
5. Montana Business Assistance Center, Helena, Montana
6. VISTA for NROC, Lincoln, NE
7. Disaster Resiliency Economic Development VISTA, Poplar Buff, Missouri
8. Economic Development Coordinator, Price, UT
9. Disaster Resiliency VISTA for Southwest Missouri, Springfield, Missouri
AmeriCorps Benefits

During Service

- $958/month living stipend
- Relocation expenses*
- Childcare*
- Professional Development Training
- Liability insurance

*Must meet program requirements to qualify
AmeriCorps Benefits

After Service

End of Service Stipend: After a successful year of service, VISTAs can choose to receive either a $1,800 stipend or a $6,095 Segal AmeriCorps Education Award.

• Non-Competitive Eligibility (NCE) Status: VISTA member will receive one of non-competitive eligibility from the federal government upon completing one service year as a VISTA member.
2020 Timeline

1. **Recruitment**: Monday, September 9\(^{th}\)
2. **Application Deadline**: Friday, December 13\(^{th}\)
3. **Start of Service**: Tuesday, January 21\(^{st}\)
4. **Regional Training**: March/April

*Dates are subject to change*
How to Apply

Visit MyAmeriCorps.gov to create an account.
How to Apply

After creating your MyAmeriCorps profile, click “Applications” found on the left-hand side of page to create an application.
How to Apply

Click on one of the position links at
https://www.eda.gov/programs/multi-agency/vista-corps/
How to Apply

Click Apply Now! at the bottom of the listing to submit your existing application profile.
Program Resources

Economic Development Administration (EDA):
https://www.eda.gov/programs/multi-agency/vista-corps/

AmeriCorps VISTA:
https://www.nationalservice.gov/programs/americorps/americorps-programs/americorps-vista

AmeriCorps VISTA Benefits:
https://www.vistacampus.gov/livingallowance
Contact

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