

# Join and Serve

Experience  
life-changing growth



## Individuals Dedicated to Service and Education Needed in Iowa's Communities

In Iowa, 23% of third grade students are not proficient at reading (2013). These students urgently need your help. Research has documented that after third grade, students transition from learning to read to reading to learn. These few short years present a window of opportunity to build a strong foundation of a lifetime of education and economic success, or put students at risk for negative consequences associated with low levels of literacy. You can make a difference. Commit to serve eleven months as an Iowa Reading Corps AmeriCorps member, and experience life-changing growth. With your commitment, we can reach our goal to help more Iowa students become successful readers by the end of third grade.

### Gain experience in an elementary school setting

Based on current educational research and with the oversight of literacy experts, Iowa Reading Corps AmeriCorps members provide daily, one-on-one literacy tutoring to students in Kindergarten through third grade who are just below grade level in reading. Members receive extensive training and support before and throughout their term of service, so an education degree isn't required to be a successful candidate for Iowa Reading Corps.

### Commit to Service. Commit to Education. Commit to Your Community.

As an AmeriCorps member, you will join a network of more than 75,000 Americans each year who commit to national service. AmeriCorps members serving with Iowa Reading Corps will join the strong national service network in Iowa, and commit to the core need of education. Service does not end with tutoring. In partnership with local United Ways and school districts, members will also support volunteer and community engagement projects and will participate in summer reading and academic enrichment programs. These efforts will support the long-term commitment of the community to education and future students.



**100%**  
of school administrators agree that the Reading Corps program has a positive impact on their students and school



*A strategic initiative of United Way*

## I know growth. I saw it in the kids I worked with. I grew by working with them.

Stated by former Reading Corps tutors, it is clear that growth is in plain view. Growth with shape and substance. Growth that redefines a life. The work is not easy. The challenges are very real. But if you have the energy and attitude, we provide the training and support you need to help students improve their skills in reading. These are life skills. Essential. Attainable.

### Eleven months that shape a lifetime

The students are not the only ones who gain skills. During your 11 months of service, you too will experience life-changing growth while you:

- Build your career skills, network and resume
- Earn a yearly living stipend of \$12,100 for full time members and \$6,050 for part time members
- Receive an education award of up to \$5,730 to repay student loans, further your own schooling or to transfer for a family member (available for members 55+)
- Commit to education in your community and help students learn the skills they need to succeed
- Receive training from experts in the education field to help students build their literacy skills
- Receive other benefits, including health insurance and childcare assistance, if eligible



**One year. This year. Join the Iowa Reading Corps.  
Serve to grow.**

### Why I Serve

“There’s no better feeling than helping a child succeed. By serving as an Elementary Literacy Tutor, I get to help students develop the reading skills and confidence that they need to meet their literacy goals. While the students benefit from the one-on-one tutoring, I’ve also grown both professionally and personally and am so proud to play a role in these students’ success stories.”

**Nicole Rohlk, Iowa Reading Corps AmeriCorps member**



### Open positions

Full-time and part-time members commit to 11 months of AmeriCorps service, beginning in September. Member positions are available across Iowa in both rural and urban communities.

Learn more and how to apply by visiting [www.uwiowa.org/IowaReadingCorps](http://www.uwiowa.org/IowaReadingCorps). Iowa Reading Corps is an initiative of United Ways of Iowa and local United Ways across the state.

*Iowa Reading Corps will not discriminate for or against any service member or applicant based on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, familial status, disability, sexual orientation, or age. Reasonable accommodations provided upon request. This document is available in alternative formats.*