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# 2021 SNAP Member Half-Term Application Packet





**Do you love the Sierra Nevada? Want to help restore and protect the Range of Light? Do you want to gain valuable environmental professional experience?**

Apply today to become one of the 15 Half-Term members of the 2021 Sierra Nevada AmeriCorps Partnership (SNAP)! Join the 15th year of the SNAP Program!

We are seeking enthusiastic, conservation-minded people to commit five and a half months of service to protect Sierra natural resources and sustainable communities. During the term, SNAP members will gain skills and technical training, mentor with outstanding environmental leaders and receive an education award at the successful completion of service.

**Deadline for applying is February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, with interviews beginning in mid-February.**

**Background:**

Since 2007, more than 395 SNAP Members have served at 40 Sierra conservation organizations and agencies to:

- Restore more than 19,000 acres of habitat,
- Monitor more than 7,500 ecological sites,
- Educate more than 250,000 people,
- Recruit and support more than 43,000 community volunteers, and
- Contribute 650,000 hours of service!

**Responsibilities & Projects:**

Members will serve full-time, April 5 - September 18, 2021. Projects & responsibilities will vary depending on service positions but, will be based on watershed restoration and assessment, watershed education, and volunteer recruitment and management. Click here to view a general SNAP Position Description. For more detailed service descriptions, please visit <https://sierranevadaalliance.org/programs/sierra-nevada-ameri-corps-partnership/join/>

**Applicant Requirements:**

- Must be a U.S. Citizen, U.S. National, or Lawful Permanent Resident Alien of the U.S.
- Must have a minimum of a High School Diploma or GED (higher education degrees are highly recommended).
- Must be a minimum of 18 years or older.



- Must not have a criminal history that precludes the applicant's ability to serve as an AmeriCorps member.
- Must not have been released for cause from a previous AmeriCorps term of service.
- Must have not served more than 3 previous AmeriCorps terms of service.

### **Compensation and Benefits:**

- Monthly stipend of \$1,390 per month
- Standard health insurance
- Up to 180 hours of technical, ecological and skills-development training throughout the year.
- AmeriCorps Education Award of \$3,172.50 will be granted upon completion of the program for use on existing qualified student loans or future higher education expenses.

### **How to Apply:**

1. Applications open on January 15, 2021. *We will not be accepting applications before that date.*
2. Fill out an application through [MyAmeriCorps](#).
3. Fill out the online SNAP Member application. [Click here to fill out the 2021 Half-Term SNAP Member Application](#). A sample of the online application is available in the SNAP Member Application Packet.
4. Beginning January 15<sup>th</sup>, email your resume and a 1-page cover letter stating your interest in the SNAP Member position and your best qualifications for the position to: [rachel@sierranevadaalliance.org](mailto:rachel@sierranevadaalliance.org). Be sure to use email subject: "SNAP Application".

**Deadline to Apply: February 8, 2021! Interviews will begin in mid-February.**

**For more information please contact:**

Rachel Durben, SNAP Program Director

530-542-4546 x705 or [rachel@sierranevadaalliance.org](mailto:rachel@sierranevadaalliance.org).

*All submissions are confidential. The Sierra Nevada Alliance and AmeriCorps are equal*



*opportunity employers. We conform to all the laws, statutes, and regulations concerning equal employment opportunities and affirmative action. We strongly encourage women, minorities, individuals with disabilities and veterans to apply to all of our SNAP Positions. We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin, age, disability status, Genetic Information & Testing, Family & Medical Leave, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law. We prohibit retaliation against individuals who bring forth any complaint to the employer or the government, or against any individuals who assist or participate in the investigation of any complaint or otherwise oppose discrimination.*

## 2020-21 Position Description

### Sierra Nevada AmeriCorps Member



**Why Join SNAP:** Becoming a Sierra Nevada AmeriCorps Partnership (SNAP) member enables you to do great things for the Sierra Nevada while you grow as an individual and attain tangible benefits. Put your idealism to work through AmeriCorps! Protect the Sierra environment and rural communities. You will learn teamwork, communications, conservation issues, responsibility and other essential skills that will help you for the rest of your life. And you'll gain the personal satisfaction of taking on a challenge and seeing results. The Sierra Nevada AmeriCorps Partnership needs your courage, skills, and dedication!

**Program Description:** The Sierra Nevada AmeriCorps Partnership (SNAP) places twenty-eight AmeriCorps members at different conservation agencies and organizations throughout the Sierra Nevada to conduct watershed restoration and monitoring, watershed education, and volunteer recruitment and support. Members serve for 5 ½ or 11 months with different conservation organizations and agencies across the Sierra to complete watershed restoration and monitoring, watershed education, and volunteer recruitment and support.

**Location:** Sierra Nevada, California. The 400-mile long Range of Light is a wonderful place to live, work, explore and play. We have Lake Tahoe, North America's largest alpine lake and Mount Whitney, the highest point in the contiguous United States. We have green, oak covered foothills, snowy peaks, world class rushing rivers, and unique high desert landscape. As a SNAP Member, you will be placed at a Host Site at one of the Sierra's vibrant rural communities.

**Position Description:** Each year, SNAP hires 28 AmeriCorps Members to fill a range of positions focused on Watershed Restoration & Assessment, Environmental Education and Volunteer Recruitment & Support at environmental nonprofits and agencies across the Sierra. Each position has a unique focus with different daily tasks and overall goals. To see what types of positions are available, visit our [website](#) for current position descriptions.

**Service Commitment:** SNAP members are passionate and committed to the mission of the Sierra Nevada Alliance, SNAP and AmeriCorps. Members make a 5 ½-month, full-time commitment to



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serve a nonprofit organization or public agency in the Sierra Nevada. Members serve 900 hours between April 5 – September 18, 2021.

**Required Qualifications:**

While each SNAP Position has unique requirements related to the position’s function, the SNAP Program has some general requirements:

- Must be a U.S. Citizen, U.S. National, or Lawful Permanent Resident Alien of the U.S.
- Must have a minimum of a High School Diploma or GED (higher education degrees are highly recommended).
- Must be a minimum of 18 years or older.
- Must not have a criminal history that precludes the applicant’s ability to serve as an AmeriCorps member.
- Must not have been released for cause from a previous AmeriCorps term of service.
- Must have not served more than 3 previous AmeriCorps terms of service.

**Website:** <https://sierranevadaalliance.org/programs/sierra-nevada-ameri-corps-partnership/join/>



## 2021 Half Term Program Timeline

- **January 2021**
  - January 15: Begin SNAP member recruitment
- **February 2021**
  - **February 8: Half Term member applications due**
  - February 9: SNAP staff make 1<sup>st</sup> round interview selections
  - February 10: SNAP staff notify 1<sup>st</sup> round invitees
  - February 11-18: SNAP Staff complete 1<sup>st</sup> round interviews of qualified applicants
  - February 18: SNAP Staff select 2<sup>nd</sup> round invitees and match with host sites
  - February 19: SNAP Staff send Host Sites Applicant Packets
  - February 22-March 2: Host sites conduct 2<sup>nd</sup> round interviews of qualified applicants sent to their site
- **March 2021**
  - **March 2: by 5pm, Site Supervisors send SNAP Staff Member preference**
  - March 3: SNAP Staff confirm Member placement with Host Site
  - March 4-5: SNAP Staff Send out Position offers
  - March 12: Half Term member acceptance due to SNAP by COB
  - March 13 – April 4: Host Sites and SNAP Staff coordinate with new Members to facilitate housing, complete background checks and initial onboarding process.
- **April 2021**
  - April 5-9: Half Term Member Orientation (in conjunction with Spring Training)

***\*Note: Start date and orientation details are subject to current regional and state Covid regulations, and may be conducted remotely if necessary***

***A preview of the program application is below. The application must be completed online (link on website). This version is only for reference.***



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## 2021 Sierra Nevada AmeriCorps Partnership Half-Term Member Application

In addition to this form, there are 2 more parts to the application process:

- 1) Complete the application through the My AmeriCorps Portal, <https://my.americorps.gov>
  - 2) Submit a resume and cover letter summarizing your interest in the SNAP Program via email to Rachel Durben, SNAP Program Director at [rachel@sierranevadaalliance.org](mailto:rachel@sierranevadaalliance.org).
- If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Durben.

Note: This form is not equipped with auto-save. Be prepared to complete the form in one sitting. If you navigate away from the form before submitting it, you will lose any information you have entered. This application is due on February 8, 2021.

\* Required

Email address \*

Your email

Section I: Basic SNAP Applicant Information

Full Name: \*

Your answer

Address \*

Your answer



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City \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

State \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone Number \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

Zipcode \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

What is your current legal state of residence? \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_



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How did you hear about the SNAP Program? \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

**Eligibility Requirements:**

Please indicate if you meet the following eligibility requirements. Documentation for all three eligibility criteria will be required once you are accepted as a Sierra Nevada AmeriCorps Partnership Member.

Applicant is a U.S. Citizen, U.S. National, or lawful permanent resident alien of the U.S. \*

Yes

No

Applicant has a high school diploma or GED. \*

Yes

No

Applicant is 18 years or older. \*

Yes

No



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Criminal History Check Consent: Prior to starting the SNAP program, all SNAP members must pass a criminal history check that allows them to serve as an AmeriCorps member, including National Sex Offenders Registry, California Department of Justice, and an FBI level criminal history check for felonies. Do you consent to a criminal history background check? \*

- Yes
- No

Previous AmeriCorps Service Terms \*

Individuals may serve up to four terms of AmeriCorps State/National. However, Members are only eligible to receive TWO full-term AmeriCorps Education Awards.

- I have not served any previous terms of AmeriCorps and am eligible for SNAP.
- I have served UP TO three terms previously as an AmeriCorps Member in a State/National AmeriCorps program and am eligible for SNAP.
- I have served MORE THAN three terms previously as an AmeriCorps Member in a State/National AmeriCorps program and am NOT eligible for SNAP.

## Section II: Applicant Motivation

What professional/career development and/or skills training are you looking to gain from your service with the SNAP Program? \*

Your answer

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Please rank the top three available positions and give a brief explanation of your ranking. \*  
You are not required to choose three (you may fewer). For 2021 Half-Term position descriptions, please refer to the "Join SNAP" page on the Sierra Nevada Alliance website, [sierranevadaalliance.org](http://sierranevadaalliance.org).

Your answer

Section III: Relevant Experience and Skills

Please rank the following list of activities from your least enjoyable (1) to most enjoyable (5). Then rank the following list of activities based on your skills in that area, with least skilled = 1 and most skilled = 5.

Recruiting and managing volunteers for a stream clean up day. \*

	1	2	3	4	5	
Least Enjoyable	<input type="radio"/>	Most Enjoyable				

Recruiting and managing volunteers for a stream clean up day.

	1	2	3	4	5	
Least Skilled	<input type="radio"/>	Most Skilled				

Conducting a public education presentation for a group of 50 adults.

	1	2	3	4	5	
Least Enjoyable	<input type="radio"/>	Most Enjoyable				



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Conducting a public education presentation for a group of 50 adults. \*

	1	2	3	4	5	
Least Skilled	<input type="radio"/>	Most Skilled				

Building and maintaining a hiking trail on a conservation easement. \*

	1	2	3	4	5	
Least Enjoyable	<input type="radio"/>	Most Enjoyable				

Building and maintaining a hiking trail on a conservation easement. \*

	1	2	3	4	5	
Least Skilled	<input type="radio"/>	Most Skilled				

Writing a newsletter article. \*

	1	2	3	4	5	
Least Enjoyable	<input type="radio"/>	Most Enjoyable				

Writing a newsletter article. \*

	1	2	3	4	5	
Least Skilled	<input type="radio"/>	Most Skilled				



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Asking a local business to donate food for an event. \*

	1	2	3	4	5	
Least Enjoyable	<input type="radio"/>	Most Enjoyable				

Asking a local business to donate food for an event. \*

	1	2	3	4	5	
Least Skilled	<input type="radio"/>	Most Skilled				

Leading 20 third graders on an educational field trip. \*

	1	2	3	4	5	
Least Enjoyable	<input type="radio"/>	Most Enjoyable				

Leading 20 third graders on an educational field trip. \*

	1	2	3	4	5	
Least Skilled	<input type="radio"/>	Most Skilled				



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Monitoring a stream's flow after a storm event. \*

1      2      3      4      5

Least Enjoyable                        Most Enjoyable

Monitoring a stream's flow after a storm event. \*

1      2      3      4      5

Least Skilled                        Most Skilled

Please list relevant computer programs you are comfortable using (i.e. Word, Photoshop, Pagemaker, Excel, AutoCAD, etc.). \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe a project that you completed in which you worked independently or with minimal supervision. How did you organize your time and work load to ensure a timely completion? \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

In your perfect position, what percent of time would you be willing to spend working in an office setting?

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_



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Do you speak any language(s) in addition to English?

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any GIS experience?

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

Section IV: Programmatic Requirements  
Please answer all of the following questions.

Are you willing to commit to the entire Term of Service? (April 5 - September 18, 2021)? \*

- Yes
- No

When driving a personal vehicle for work, Members must carry insurance coverage of \$100,000/\$300,000 bodily injury limits. Are you able to obtain this coverage? \*

- Yes
- No



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Are you willing to relocate anywhere in the Sierra? \*

If no, please include geographical limitations in your cover letter.

- Yes
- No

Do you have a preference for a small rural town or a larger town/city? \*

- Small, rural town
- Larger town or city
- Either

SNAP Members receive a monthly living stipend of \$1,390. Would you be comfortable making this budget work for your lifestyle during your service? \*

- Yes
- No

Members are required to work an average of 40 hours a week to ensure they meet the 900 Member Service Hour requirement. Are you capable of committing to this? \*

- Yes
- No



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Members are often required to work weekends or evenings outside of the typical business hours. Are you willing to commit to this? \*

- Yes
- No

Members may have weeks where they work more than the average of 40 hours a week. Are you capable of committing to this? \*

- Yes
- No

We require Members to camp for most of our trainings. Would you be comfortable with this arrangement? \*

- Yes
- No

Members are required to wear an AmeriCorps uniform (usually a shirt or button) while accruing service hours. Are you willing to wear the AmeriCorps uniform? \*

- Yes
- No



Section V: Member References

Please list up to three references the SNAP program may contact for a professional, academic, or personal reference.

Reference #1

Please include reference's name, title, address, phone, email, and relationship to applicant.

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

Reference #2

Please include reference's name, title, address, phone, email, and relationship to applicant.

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

Reference #3

Please include reference's name, title, address, phone, email, and relationship to applicant.

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

Section VI: Signature Page

I certify that all information contained in this application is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Full Name: \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \*

Your answer \_\_\_\_\_