



The Maine Commission for Community Service

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March 3, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AmeriCorps Program Design Course Readies Maine Agencies for Next Grant Competition

AUGUSTA – The Maine Commission for Community Service is offering a multi-session course on designing an AmeriCorps program in anticipation of the next major round of grant-making. The course, “Developing a Blueprint for AmeriCorps,” is open to teams of local organizations that might want to submit a proposal in the Fall 2008 AmeriCorps grant competition.

AmeriCorps grants provide financial support to public and nonprofit organizations that sponsor volunteer service programs. Eligible applicants include faith-based and community-based nonprofit organizations, higher education institutions, Indian tribes, local education agencies, and public agencies. AmeriCorps program grantees recruit, train and place AmeriCorps members in service assignments to meet critical community needs in education, public safety, health, and the environment.

The Maine Commission for Community Service is the state government administrator of AmeriCorps*State programs. In addition, it is responsible for providing training and technical assistance to potential grant applicants.

An orientation session for the “Blueprint” course will take place by webinar on Monday, March 31, 2008 at 3:00 pm. This session will clarify the purpose, scale, and basic eligibility criteria for operating AmeriCorps programs. Course participants are urged to attend this free session before committing to the entire program.

An outline of “Developing a Blueprint for AmeriCorps” and an online registration for the March 31 webinar are available at www.MaineServiceCommission.gov. For more information, contact the Commission at service.commission@maine.gov or call 207.287.8931. The deadline for webinar registration is Friday, March 21.