



Student Engagement Specialist
Youth Mental Health Corps AmeriCorps Member
Alpine Achievers Initiative

Updated March 26, 2026



Start Date: August 24, 2026

End Date: July 10th, 2027

Position Type: Full-time, AmeriCorps Service Position

Average hours per week: 40 hours

Total expected hours: 1700 hours of service

Pay rate: Rates for the 2026-2027 term are not yet set; the 2025-2026 max living allowance was \$24,480, \$979 paid bi-weekly before taxes and rent

To apply: complete an application [here](#)

Contact: recruiting@alpineachievers.org

If you require reasonable accommodations at any stage of the application, interview, or service process, please contact us—we're happy to support your participation.

Benefits and qualifications: see details below.

Alpine Achievers Initiative (AAI) inspires, connects, and nurtures youth, families, and communities in south-central Colorado. AmeriCorps members support local youth, from pre-k to high school, through academic interventions and extracurricular programming as Student Engagement Specialists. Members will be placed with host sites across seven counties throughout the San Luis and Arkansas River Valleys. To learn more about AAI's programming, visit www.alpineachievers.org.

CORE SERVICE RESPONSIBILITIES:

AmeriCorps members will provide direct support to students, addressing both academic and social-emotional needs. Responsibilities vary by site and may include one-on-one tutoring, small group academic assistance, and facilitating extracurricular activities.

Each position is tailored to the specific needs of the site. Some roles focus primarily on academic interventions, while others emphasize extracurricular programming. Most positions involve a combination of in-school and out-of-school activities, all of which require direct service with youth. Members are encouraged to build strong connections with students, offering both academic and social-emotional support, with guidance from their program manager and site supervisor.

To ensure success, members are required to meet with their program manager at least once a month and their site supervisor at least once a week. In addition, members must participate in the following:

- A week-long orientation, including overnight stays in shared accommodations.
- Monthly professional development sessions.
- A winter retreat, which includes overnight stays.

These experiences are designed to enhance the AmeriCorps member journey, promoting personal and professional growth, reflection, and community building.

Academic Interventions:

Provide targeted support to students needing extra help outside of regular class time, focusing on one-on-one or small group tutoring in subjects such as math and reading. Develop behavioral management skills to build relationships and confidence in students who are behind academically.

Out-of-School Programming:

Lead structured out-of-school activities that provide academic assistance and personal development opportunities. Facilitate a variety of indoor and outdoor activities, provide light academic support, and foster social and personal growth among youth..

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH CORPS (YMHC) RESPONSIBILITIES:

All members are enrolled in YMHC unless they opt out. YMHC members complete the Behavioral Health Plus Certification through Front Range Community College (10 weeks, 1.5 hrs/week). They increase school and community capacity to respond to youth mental health needs, provide peer support, and promote mental wellness. Opting out results in a reduced living allowance.

Note: Members who opt out of YMHC will not be required to take the coursework but will receive a reduced bi-weekly living allowance (\$875 instead of \$979).

ADDITIONAL RETURNING MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Returning members have additional leadership expectations, including:
Lead or co-lead at least one workshop/training during the year.
- Coordinate at least one large group social event.
- Serve as a recruitment ambassador, which may include travel and giving presentations.
- Model professionalism, inclusion, and maturity within the cohort and at service sites.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS:

- **Minimum Age:** 20 by start date (age waiver possible under 20).
- **Education:** High school diploma or equivalent required.
- **Background Check:** Federal, state, and NSOPR checks resident.
- **Citizenship:** U.S. citizen, U.S. National, or legal permanent resident.
- **Physical Requirements:** Able to lift 50 pounds.
- **Transportation:** Reliable vehicle, license, and insurance strongly recommended.
- **Housing:** Members must live in AAI-provided housing (no pets, friends, or family).
- **Returning Member Requirement:** Completion of at least one successful AAI term.

BENEFITS:

- **Living allowances** rates for the 2026-2027 term are not yet set; the 2025-2026 term pay rate was \$875 gross for first year AAI members
- **Segal Education Award** (\$7,395 for 1700 hr members) upon successful completion of the service term.
- **Professional Development** in youth development, academic interventions, and behavioral health.
- **Behavioral health Certification (YMHC members only):** Opportunity to earn a Behavioral Health Plus Certificate or become a Qualified Behavioral Health Assistant. Tuition paid by AAI.
- **Outdoor Recreation** access through AAI's gear library and facilitated activities.
- **Subsidized Housing** with utilities included. (Bi-weekly rent deduction from stipend of \$328)
- **Loan forbearance and interest deferment** (for qualifying loans)
- **Health Insurance** during term for 1700 hour members.
- **SNAP benefit eligibility** (Federal Nutrition Assistance for those who qualify).
- Additional Professional Development funds for returning members.
- Returning member's site preferences and housing prioritized where possible.

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Serve as a positive representative of AmeriCorps and Alpine Achievers Initiative (AAI) when engaging with students, community members, and partners.
- Maintain a professional leadership role when supporting youth in structured interventions and programs.
- Foster reliable and positive environments for youth and implement structured interventions where necessary.

- Apply positive youth development principles to daily service activities, including lesson planning, behavior management, curriculum development, and risk management.
- Demonstrate a willingness to learn, adapt, and accept constructive feedback from both staff and peers.
- Collaborate effectively within a team setting to achieve common goals.
- Reflect AAI's values and culture by treating peers with respect, both in and out of the service space.
- Participate in all required professional development sessions and AAI training.
- In some positions, duties may include transporting youth.

HOST-SITE PLACEMENT:

Host site placements are determined by AAI's assessment of program/site needs in conjunction with member preferences.

Disclaimers:

In accordance with AmeriCorps Regulation 45 CFR 2540.100, this position does not duplicate work of previous or existing employees or volunteers, supplant the hiring of workers, or include service or duties that have been performed or were performed by a current employee, an employee who recently resigned or was discharged, an employee subject to a reduction in workforce, or an employee who is on leave. The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) is committed to achieving a diverse, high-performing workforce. No persons involved with this program will discriminate based on race, religion, creed, color, national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, political affiliation, disability, marital/parental status, or military service. We strive to provide a service and work environment free of sexual, racial, ethnic, religious, or other harassment.