



# Volunteer Louisiana

## Commissioner Fact Sheet

### **Interested In Joining The Commission...**

Volunteer Louisiana Commissioners are engaged citizens from across the state who have distinguished themselves professionally and in service to community. If you are interested in serving as a Volunteer Louisiana Commissioner, you can download an application at <http://www.volunteerlouisiana.gov/about/commissioners>

The Volunteer Louisiana Commission serves as the funding and decision-making body for AmeriCorps and other national service and volunteer initiatives in Louisiana. The Commission meets quarterly in Baton Rouge, and Commissioners represent Volunteer Louisiana in their local communities.

The Volunteer Louisiana Commission reviews all applications and submits a list of qualified applicants to the Lieutenant Governor. The Lieutenant Governor makes recommendations to the Governor, with whom final appointment authority rests.

### **Commission Mission:**

To build and sustain high quality programs that meet the needs of Louisiana's citizens and promote an ethic of service.

### **Commission Purpose:**

1. Encourage community service as a means of community and state problem solving.
2. Promote and support citizen involvement in government and private programs throughout this state.
3. Develop a long term, comprehensive vision and plan for action for community service initiatives in Louisiana.
4. Act as the state's policy making body for the Corporation for National and Community Service.
5. Serve as the state's liaison to other national and state organizations which support its mission.

### **Commission Expectations and Opportunities (highlights):**

1. Attend quarterly Commission meetings and committee meetings as scheduled
2. Serve with AmeriCorps programs in your region and participate in national days of service
3. Promote VolunteerLouisiana.gov and the online volunteer management system
4. Support the Volunteer Louisiana Foundation

5. Promote the Community Service Diploma Endorsement in local schools
6. Engage elected officials during Capitol Day, Mayor's Day of Recognition, AmeriCorps Week, etc
7. Nominate volunteers for volunteer service awards
8. Prepare a three-year service plan for the state.
9. Assist in the preparation of AmeriCorps and operational grant applications to the Corporation for National and Community Service on behalf of the State.
10. Provide the Governor and Lieutenant Governor and the legislature with an annual report that describes its activities during the previous year.

### **Commissioner Terms of Office:**

1. Appointments will be made by the Governor, in consultation with the Lieutenant Governor, from a list of potential candidates brought forth by the Commission and Lieutenant Governor.
2. All appointments shall be for three-year terms. Commissioners may only serve two consecutive terms.
3. No per diem allowance shall be paid to members of the Commission.

### **Commission Ethics Requirements:**

1. Commissioners are required to complete a Tier 2.1 Personal Financial Disclosure Statement by May 15 of each year  
<http://ethics.la.gov/Pub/FinDiscl/F417f.pdf>  
Tier 2.1 Disclosure FAQ  
<http://ethics.la.gov/PersonalFinancialFAQs.aspx>
2. Commissioners are required to complete ethics training each year  
<https://eap.ethics.la.gov/EthicsTraining/login.aspx>

### **Commission Membership:**

1. The Commission shall include members meeting the following criteria:
  - a. An individual with expertise in the educational, training, and developmental needs of youth, particularly disadvantaged youth
  - b. An individual with expertise in promoting the involvement of older adults in service and volunteerism
  - c. A representative of community-based agencies or of community-based organizations within this state
  - d. The Superintendent of the Louisiana Department of Education, or his designee.
  - e. A representative of local governments in this state
  - f. A representative of local labor organizations in this state
  - g. A representative of business
  - h. An individual between the ages of sixteen and twenty-five who is a participant or supervisor in a service program
  - i. A representative of a national service program
2. The Commission may include members meeting the following criteria:
  - a. Members from among local educators

- b. Members selected from among experts in the delivery of human, educational, environmental, or public safety services to communities and persons
- c. Representatives of Native American tribes
- d. Members selected from among out-of-school youth or other at-risk youth
- e. Representatives of entities that receive assistance under the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973

### **Commission Standing Committees:**

1. Governance and Development Committee: Responsibilities include developing cash and in-kind resources, sustainable resource development, and governmental affairs, informing and educating public officials, and developing a pool of qualified applicants for the Commission.
2. AmeriCorps Program Committee: Responsibilities include monitoring Commission policy regarding awarding and administration of AmeriCorps grants.
3. Volunteerism/Disaster Services Committees: Responsibilities include developing strategies and initiatives which promote volunteerism across Louisiana, monitoring efforts to engage volunteers in disaster preparedness, response and recovery, and overseeing the Louisiana Volunteer Service Awards.