

California Department of Aging

Senior Community Service Employment Program Narrative

Older Americans Act Title V

Program / Element / Component -- 20

Description

The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) provides part-time work-based training opportunities for older workers in local community service agencies and assists program participants in obtaining unsubsidized employment. While training in community service positions, participants provide non-profit or government “host agencies” with support to provide community services.

The Program provides participants with a variety of supportive services such as personal and job-related counseling, job-related training prior to and as preparation for community service assignments, job search assistance, and job referral.

The United States Department of Labor (DOL), Employment Training Administration, is the Federal agency responsible for administering SCSEP. Fiscal Year (FY) 2012-13 funding supported 714¹ participant training slots administered by the California Department of Aging (CDA) and 2,727 participant training slots administered by eight National SCSEP Grantees in California. Each participant training slot may serve more than one participant over the course of the year.

CDA contracts with 14 Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) to provide local SCSEP services, and collaborates with the National Grantees for equitable distribution of the remaining California participant training slots. The 14 AAAs provide services directly or by contract.

Benefits

SCSEP fosters individual economic self-sufficiency and increases the number of persons who may benefit from unsubsidized employment in both the public and private sectors. Placing older individuals in community service employment training positions strengthens their ability to become self-sufficient, provides support to organizations that benefit from increased civic engagement, and strengthens the communities served by such organizations. In FY 2012-13, CDA’s SCSEP participants provided 571,489 subsidized community service hours.

¹ In FY 2012-13, Federal SCSEP grants were reduced 4.37 percent nationwide to meet sequestration targets. In California the State Grantee participant training slots were reduced from 719 to 714 and the National Grantees slots were reduced from 2,744 to 2,727

Eligibility

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| <i>Age</i> | 55 or older. |
| <i>Income</i> | Must not exceed 125 percent of the Federal poverty level. |
| <i>Other</i> | Must be a California resident, unemployed at the time of enrollment, and have poor employment prospects. CDA's website provides a SCSEP Eligibility Calculator to assist individuals in determining their income eligibility for SCSEP. The Calculator is only a guide; individuals should confirm their eligibility with local SCSEP staff. http://www.aging.ca.gov/Programs/SCSEP/Calculator/ |

Access

Information about SCSEP is available through the statewide toll-free Senior Information Line at **1-800-510-2020** and CDA's directory of SCSEP programs at <http://www.aging.ca.gov/Programs/SCSEP/Listing/>.

Current State Fiscal Year Funding Information (2013-14)

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| <i>Source</i> | Federal DOL, local funds, and in-kind contributions. |
| <i>Allocation Formula</i> | The allocation formula is based on DOL's SCSEP grant slot allocation to CDA and the equitable distribution agreement with the National SCSEP Grantees operating in California. |
| <i>Match Requirements</i> | 10 percent cash or in-kind donations. Currently, participating AAAs meet the State's 10 percent match requirement. |
| <i>Funding Cycle</i> | July 1 – June 30 |