

# Justice for Montanans AmeriCorps Member Office of Consumer Protection and Victim Services



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**Justice for Montanans members help empower low to moderate income Montanans to advocate for their legal right and increase access to justice.**

**Term of Service:** September 2020 – August 2021

**Service Schedule:** Member will serve a minimum of 1,700 hours over a 48-week term and receive a living stipend every two weeks. Member may take approximately 2 weeks of combined vacation and sick time as well as 10 holidays during the term which will not count towards the 1,700 hour requirement. Member will typically serve 40 hours per week. There are 3 positions available and members will serve in Helena, Montana.

**Position Summary:**

Make a difference for Montana’s consumers and victims of crime by serving as an AmeriCorps member of Justice for Montanans with the Office of Consumer Protection and Victim Services (OCPVS). OCPVS helps educate and protect Montana consumers and businesses to prevent fraud and offers information, resources and referrals to victims of crime. Members will have the opportunity to assist with various OCPVS programs with the support of friendly and encouraging staff members. All members will uphold the goals of the Justice for Montanans Program by increasing access to justice for low to moderate income Montanans.

**Specific Position Responsibilities:**

- Answer the Consumer Protection phone lines.
- Assist with various programs and tasks including scam call reporting, scam alerts, consumer complaint program, identity theft passport program, crime victim compensation program, End of Life Registry, and Class Action Lawsuits
- Assist Montanans with consumer-related issues by communicating Montana consumer rights and coordinating resolutions with staff, businesses, attorneys, and other agencies.
- Learn consumer protection investigative techniques and use techniques to gather data
- Refer people to appropriate service agencies and partner organizations
- Attend the biannual Montana Domestic Violence Fatality Reviews
- Meaningfully contribute to the development of OCPVS policies, procedures, and public resources; such as the OCPVS website
- Develop and assist with program-wide outreach efforts as needed
- Attend trainings to broaden your knowledge of the legal system, techniques for working with clients in crisis, and important resource providers
- Perform other AmeriCorps-related duties such as reporting, timekeeping, and service projects



**Minimum Requirements:**

- Over 18 with a high school diploma or GED; college degree or equivalent work experience preferred
- A United States citizen, United States National, or legal permanent resident alien
- Ability to take initiative, handle multiple projects, track details essential to project completion, analyze information, and meet deadlines
- Strong ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing with diverse groups of people
- Demonstrate good interpersonal skills, public relations and ability to network with professionals
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Ability to appropriately handle confidential information and willingness to sign a confidentiality policy
- Basic computer proficiency including Word and some knowledge of Excel and Power Point
- Passion for increasing access to justice and assisting low-income individuals
- A driver's license and personal means of transportation within the state of Montana are highly recommended
- Must pass a national service criminal history check due to contact with vulnerable populations
- Qualified individuals with disabilities and those from diverse backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply. We provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals.

**Benefits:**

- Living allowance of \$14,279 over 48-week term of service
- An AmeriCorps Education Award of \$6,345 upon successful completion of service. This award can be used to pay education costs at qualified institutions of higher education, for educational training and resources, or to repay qualified student loans. Members aged 55 and over may transfer the education award to a child, grandchild or foster child.
- Eligible for deferment or forbearance on qualified student loans
- Guaranteed health benefits and child care assistance if qualified
- Hands-on experience and training serving in the legal field
- Opportunity to live, serve, and be part of the AmeriCorps team in the state of Montana

**Questions? Contact Mēghan Scott: [jfm@mtlsa.org](mailto:jfm@mtlsa.org) or 406-442-9830 x143**

**To apply please visit [www.justiceformontanans.org](http://www.justiceformontanans.org)**

