SERVE-AMERICA

The proposal extends and expands the existing Serve-America program for schoolage youth and Higher Education Innovative Projects for Community Service.

Modifications to these programs are described below.

Service-Learning Program

Program Goals

- To build a foundation for service among the nation's youth, inspiring them to serve and instilling in them the values and attitude to serve effectively after graduation.
- To create opportunities for all American children to serve our country.

Types of Programs

- Programs may be partnerships of local education agencies and community-based organizations.
- Local educational agencies may receive planning grants to hire service-learning coordinators.

Types of Funding

- School-based programs will be eligible for funding through State educational agencies, partly based on formula and partly through competition.
- State educational agencies must develop State plans that indicate programs to be funded and detail 3-year strategies for service-learning in their States. The Corporation must approve State plans.
- Programs may receive one-year planning grants for school-based programs.

 Subgranting to experienced institutions for school-based programs will also be allowed.
- All local programs will be required to provide at least 10 percent of total program costs in the first year of funding, increasing to 50 percent in the fourth. Local programs may utilize other federal education funds to meet the match requirement.

Training and Technical Assistance

- Clearinghouses will be expanded to further enable them to disseminate information and curriculum materials; train teachers, service sponsors and participants; and provide needs assessments or technical assistance.
- States will also receive additional resources to train and educate State educational personnel.