



Encore Leadership Corps (ENCORPS) 2009-2010 Application Package

Introduction

What do you like most about living in Maine?

- Hiking quiet mountain trails?
- Walking easily through town to visit friends and family?
- Fishing in crystal clear waters?
- Being part of a close-knit community?
- Hunting in deep old woods?

Do you want to help protect these wonderful parts of life in Maine, and to gain even more? Then we have the program for you: the first Encore Leadership Corps (ENCORPS). ENCORPS is about taking care of all of Maine, from its beautiful natural resources to its cities and towns and the people who live here. ENCORPS is designed specifically for Mainers 50 years of age and older, regardless of their background or experience. ENCORPS is a program for everyday Maine people who care about the world around them and want to do their small part to make it better. If you fit this description, we invite you to become a participant in the first ENCORPS training program, beginning in April 2010.

-Lenard W. Kaye, Director, University of Maine Center on Aging

-Meredith H. Jones, President and CEO, Maine Community Foundation

What is the Encore Leadership Corps (ENCORPS)?

ENCORPS is a unique opportunity to give back to your community. It is for people like you in Maine who want to restore our towns and villages and to preserve Maine's environment for our future. ENCORPS will give you the help to get started and the tools to help you achieve these goals. Each year, ENCORPS will train 150-200 Mainers from throughout the state to be ENCORPS volunteer leaders. The program will focus on environmental stewardship, grassroots leadership, and community development, with a goal of giving participants the skills, knowledge and guidance they needed to make positive changes in their communities.

The ENCORPS is a program of the University of Maine Center on Aging in partnership with the Maine Community Foundation and with the cooperation of many other local, state, and

national organizations. Initial funding for this project comes from the U.S. Environmental Protection Administration's Aging Initiative and the Atlantic Philanthropies Foundation.

The Encore Leadership Corps grew out of the knowledge that many older adults are invested in preserving Maine's environment for future generations. Individuals who participate in the Corps, known as *ENCorps Volunteers*, will represent Maine's leaders set to shape the future of our downtown areas and Maine's environmental landscape.

ENCorps Volunteers may be nominated by local municipal officials, community agency leaders, volunteer program managers, or other interested individuals. Potential *ENCorps Volunteers* may also nominate themselves.

Why become an ENCorps Volunteer?

Whether you are already working to improve your community or just beginning to find the time to get involved, ENCorps will provide you with new opportunities. You will:

- Learn valuable skills and techniques to help improve your community
- Receive guidance and information from national and local experts
- Become part of a statewide network of volunteers creating change
- Meet other people who share the similar interests, perspectives and goals

What do ENCorps Volunteers do?

The ENCorps program will begin with a two-day summit in Northport, Maine. There, participants will learn about smart growth and environmental leadership and have a chance to meet other *ENCorps Volunteers* from around the state. Participation in this summit is required. The summit is scheduled for **April 12-13, 2010**. Travel and lodging will be provided for those who need it.

This two-day training program will provide you with the tools, energy, relationships and support to give you a jump start on all that you will need to complete a project that will improve or protect some part of your community.

You will receive:

- A toolkit that will give you "how to" information on smart growth principles and leadership guidance
- A staff contact to be an ongoing resource
- Online tools to connect with other volunteers so you can learn from each other
- Additional training opportunities
- Project ideas and contact information to help you get started

After the summit, *ENCorps Volunteers* will return to their communities and complete a volunteer project or assignment that is self-chosen and self-directed. *ENCorps Volunteers* will receive follow-up support to assist them in volunteering and participating in local

decision-making work, e.g., local planning boards, community organizations, or public health committees.

ENCORPS Volunteers will be required to report their volunteer project progress on a monthly basis.

Sample ENCORPS Volunteer Projects

- Serve as an environmental educator with a conservation program
- Help organize efforts to build and maintain walking trails in your community
- Develop community-based energy conservation initiatives
- Write grants for a local planning organization or environmental program
- Participate in a local town planning committee or board

In Order to Qualify as an ENCORPS Volunteer You Must be 50 or Older and:

- Have a strong interest in smart growth and protecting Maine's environment
- Be willing to volunteer for a local planning board, environmental organization, community program, or participate in other opportunities that fit with the program goals
- Have a strong interest in lifelong learning
- Volunteer experience of any type preferred
- Candidates must be available to attend the summit on **April 12-13, 2010**.

For more information about ENCORPS or being an *ENCORPS Volunteer*, potential participants are welcome to join an informational teleconference. A staff member will be available to describe the Corps and answer questions on the following dates:

- Wednesday, January 13, 11:00-12:00 p.m.
- Thursday, January 28, 3:00-4:00 p.m.
- Friday, February 12, 9:00-10:00 a.m.

To participate in one of these calls, dial 1-800-444-2801 and enter the conference code 3779326.

Application instructions

- Please complete the attached application (must be signed by the potential *ENCORPS Volunteer*)
- Submit the application and a completed recommendation form that documents the potential *ENCORPS Volunteer's* commitment to community volunteerism and to the environment, and why you think this person should become an *ENCORPS Volunteer*. If you are self-nominating, please give the recommendation form to someone who can provide a reference for you.
- Priority will be given to applications received by **March 12, 2010** in order to be considered for the 2010 Encore Leadership Corps program.
- Submit completed applications to **Encore Leadership Corps, UMaine Center on Aging, 25 Texas Ave., Camden Hall, Bangor, ME 04401**
- Decision letters will be mailed out on a rolling basis.

Questions? Please e-mail info@encoreleaders.org or call Melissa at 207-262-7931.

Encore Leadership Corps
2009-2010 ENCorps Volunteer Application Form

Please send your completed application and recommendation form by mail or fax to:

Encore Leadership Corps
UMaine Center on Aging
25 Texas Avenue, Camden Hall
Bangor, ME 04401
Fax: 207-262-7921

Encore Leadership Corps *ENCorps Volunteers* will be required to:

- Attend a two-day summit in Northport, Maine on **April 12-13, 2010** on smart growth and environmental planning (free to attend; travel will be covered for those who live 40 or more minutes away)
- Apply what they have learned at the summit through local community volunteering, presentations and courses, attending town meetings and legislative hearings, etc.
- Participate in follow-up activities and training at least once a month to connect with other *ENCorps Volunteers* throughout the state. These activities will be carried out by internet, telephone, mail, and regional in-person meetings.

1. Personal Information (Please print)

Name:

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Home Phone:

E-mail address:

Age: _____ years

Gender: Male _____ Female _____

2. Are you available to attend the summit on April 12-13, 2010?

_____Yes _____No

3. Do you have internet access?

_____Yes _____No

4. Why are you interested in being an *ENCORPS Volunteer* and attending the summit?

5. How did you learn about the Encore Leadership Corps and the summit?

6. Do you attend or participate in any of these organizations? (Check all that apply and write in name of organization, agency, or town/city with which you are affiliated). If these do not apply write N/A below.

	✓	Name Here
a. Area Agency on Aging	_____	_____
b. Senior College	_____	_____
c. RSVP or other volunteer program	_____	_____
d. Community Action Agency	_____	_____
e. Other agency/organization	_____	_____
f. Municipal township/City	_____	_____
g. Other	_____	_____

7. Briefly describe any involvement or experience you have had in environmental, green growth, or smart growth projects or activities. If this does not apply to you, please describe other volunteer experiences you have had including any boards or committees you currently serve on (use a separate sheet of paper if needed).

8. Do you have your own transportation to the summit? Yes No

9. Are you willing to carpool to the summit with others in your area? Please check all that apply.

- Rider
- Driver
- Neither—not willing to carpool

10. Which of the following will you need in order to attend the summit:

- Mileage reimbursement for car travel or carpooling*
- Overnight accommodations (lodging will be provided for those who live 40 minutes or more away from the meeting location)

*Carpooling will be required for this option

Please note: *ENCorps Volunteers* must be 50 years of age or older and will be expected to attend a two-day, no-charge education and training summit in Northport, ME. The Center on Aging will assist with travel arrangements for this conference. More information will be provided by mail and/or e-mail.

Questions? Please call Melissa at 207-262-7931 or e-mail info@encoreleaders.org

Applicant signature

Date

**Encore Leadership Corps (ENCorps)
2009-2010 Recommendation Form**

Name of potential Encore Leadership Corps Volunteer:

Your name, title, and organization, if applicable:

Briefly describe your relationship with this person:

How long have you known this person?

Why do you think he or she would is qualified to be an ENCorps Volunteer? (please attach additional sheets if needed):

Does this person know that you have nominated them? Yes No
If not, would you like us to send them an application form?

Yes, send the application form to this address:

No, he/she already has the necessary forms