

Grant Proposal Report to Commission from Task Force

Recommendation: Authorize proposal

Legal Applicant: Alpha Legal Foundation

Project Name: Alpha Legal Access Navigators

Category: ☐ AC Formula -- Standard
☒ AC Formula – Rural State
☐ AC Competitive
☐ Other Competition

Type: ☐ Planning
☐ Operating
☒ Fixed Amount
☐ Cost Reimbursement
☐ Ed Award Only

Applicant type: ☐ New (no prior AC experience)
☒ Re-compete (# of yrs: 1)

Proposed Dates: 01/01/2026 to 12/31/2026
Submitted request is for Yr [1]

Federal Focus Area:
Capacity Building

Commission priorities: Rural, underrepresented communities, evidence based interventions, workforce pathways

Local Share Required in Budget: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Source of Funds detail required: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Requested Resources: Funds and Slots (*indicates sections with calculation errors)

	CNCS		Local Share
Operating			N/A
Member Support			
Indirect (Admin)			
CNCS Award amount	\$135,000	Total Local Share (cash + in-kind)	
% sharing proposed	N/A		
% share required	24%		
Cost-per-member proposed	\$ 27,000		
max allowed	\$27,000		

Total AmeriCorps Member Service Years: 5

	Slot Types Requested						
	1700	1200	900	675	450	300	Total
Slots With living allowance	5						
Living allowance proposed	27,000						
Slots with only ed award	N/A						

Program Description (executive summary):

Alpha Legal Foundation proposes to have 5 FT AmeriCorps members who will provide legal education, procedural guidance, resources, and support for self-represented litigants in courthouses, legal aid organizations and community-based organizations in York, Cumberland and Androscoggin counties. At the end of the first program year, the AmeriCorps program will have made the civil justice system more accessible to at least 100 Maine residents who face legal issues with no representation and strengthen a diverse pipeline into the legal field. The AmeriCorps investment of \$81,000 will leverage \$100,000 comprised of no additional public funding and \$100,000 in private funding from ALF's current operational budget.

Service locations: Alpha Legal Foundation

Other than the legal applicant, please list the agencies or organizations that appear to be the major collaborators or partners in this grant.

Will the applicant place AmeriCorps members with other agencies? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Applicant proposes to deliver services:

☐ Within a single municipality ☐ Within a single County but not covering the entire County
☐ County-wide in a single County ☒ Multiple Counties but not Statewide ☐ Statewide

Performance measures (targets proposed for Year 2)

SERVICE ACTIVITIES: Legal Field Navigation

Number of individuals receiving service.

Target: 175 individuals

Individuals reporting increased awareness, knowledge and skills

Target: 70 individuals

CAPACITY BUILDING: Agent Support Capacity

Number of organizations that received capacity building services

Target: 10 Organizations

Number of organizations that increase their efficiency, effectiveness, and/or program reach

Target: 6 Organizations

MEMBER DEVELOPMENT: Member Development

Number of members receiving training

Target: 5

Number of members reporting increased knowledge and skills

Target: 5

Final Assessment of Application:

- ☒ Forward or fund with no corrections/modifications
☐ Forward or fund with corrections/modifications
☐ Do Not Forward or fund

Referenced Conditions/Corrections

N/A

Task Force Review Notes and Appraisal Summary:Performance Targets

Exceeding initial expectations. A little too early to review performance data from past year's efforts. Recommended to come up with some more performance measures/targets to track - see if they can come up with a few more for better success in coming years.

Budget

It would be good to work on budget explanations with a little more clarity - a little bit cleaner. The program is still in development, but it appears to be moving forward.

Positions/slots Recommendation

Good amount of positions/slots - all ok
The demand appears to be increasing for program services.

Other comments

Possibly look at some of the wording in the continuation, and have a different variety of words to describe their program
Keep monitoring progress