The California Conservation Corps (CCC) is the oldest and largest conservation corps in the nation. Created in 1976 by Governor Jerry Brown, it was soon made a permanent state department under the umbrella of the California Natural Resources Agency.

The CCC’s mission is to protect and enhance California’s natural resources and communities while empowering and developing young adults through hard work and education.

Corpsmembers must be 18-25 years-old; U.S. military veterans through age 29. There are 1,623 Corpsmember positions. Justice involved, foster youth, and adults seeking to finish their high school diploma are strongly encouraged to apply.

**Wildland Firefighting:** The CCC partners with CAL FIRE, U.S. Forest Service, and Bureau of Land Management to operate year-round and seasonal firefighting hand crews. Corpsmembers respond to fires both locally and statewide.

**Forestry / Fuel Reduction:** Improving the state’s forest health is a CCC priority. Corpsmembers help reduce the risk of wildfire by removing hazardous fire fuels, such as overgrown brush and invasive species. Crews work in rural environments as well as near urban landscapes.

**Trail Construction & Maintenance:** Corpsmembers construct and maintain park trails, and build or restore park campgrounds across California with State Parks, conservation districts, and local governments. Project work may include constructing bridges, boardwalks, ADA compliant trails, and emergency trail reroutes.

**Flood Fighting:** All Corpsmembers are trained to respond to local and statewide flood emergencies. Flood fighting techniques include how to properly fill and stack sand bags, utilize muscle walls and visqueen, reinforce levees, stabilize hillsides, and debris removal.
**Emergency Response:** The CCC is an emergency response agency. Corpsmembers respond to emergencies across California for wildfire camp support, erosion control, floods, and more. Corpsmembers may be required to work 16 hour days for up to 21 days in a row.

**Riparian & Watershed Restoration:** For decades the CCC has worked to help restore California's native habitats. Corpsmember work includes instream habitat improvement, invasive species removal, fish passage barrier removal/modification, and native riparian planting.

**Energy:** The CCC Energy Corps provides trained labor for public agency and non-profit energy-efficiency and renewable projects. Corpsmembers receive energy industry level training while working on lighting retrofits, energy surveys, solar and electric vehicle charging system installations.

**Culinary Program:** Corpsmembers at CCC residential facilities can receive hands-on training in the culinary arts. The program provides Corpsmembers with a pathway to careers with commercial kitchens, catering companies, resorts, restaurants, and government agencies. Corpsmembers work with culinary staff to prepare and provide meals to all residential Corpsmembers.

**CORPSMEMBER BENEFITS**

**Monthly Pay:** Corpsmembers receive a monthly stipend of $2,265

**Scholarships:** Corpsmembers can earn up to $8,000 in scholarships per year

**Residential:** Corpsmembers can reside in dormitories at nine CCC locations, paying $400 per month for housing and meals

**Non-Residential:** Corpsmembers can commute to CCC centers daily for work while living at home

**High School:** The CCC partners with John Muir Charter School and Urban Corps Charter School to offer Corpsmembers the opportunity to earn their high school diploma

**Community College:** Each CCC center works with its neighboring community college to provide additional educational opportunities for Corpsmembers

**Career Navigators:** Dedicated staff helps Corpsmembers plan for school and careers