



SAN DIEGO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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Superintendent of Schools
Randolph E. Ward, Ed.D.

September 15, 2014

Feeding America San Diego
CalFresh Verification Letter

Re: Erica Feigenbaum 1st Year PASS AmeriCorps Member

To Whom It May Concern:

Erica Feigenbaum is enrolled in the PASS AmeriCorps Program which began August 18, 2014 and will end approximately on June 30, 2015. This PASS AmeriCorps Member serves at a school site providing mentoring, tutoring and prevention/intervention services to students identified as at-risk.

AmeriCorps is a national service initiative that began in 1994 through the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). The program's purpose is to engage Americans in service to address problems facing our nation's communities. As a state and national organization and direct grantee of the Corporation for National Service, the PASS AmeriCorps members are placed at a select school site providing the PASS Model of mentoring and prevention/intervention services to engage at-risk students in academic achievement, healthy behaviors and positive connections to school through service-learning projects and activities.

Though members receive a monthly stipend in exchange for service, the stipend is not considered salary and is not correlated to the number of hours an individual member serves (works). Rather the stipend is a pre-determined amount, (\$15,000 for first year members) serving their full term of service, granted to the member in exchange for providing services. This amount is divided into 11 equal monthly stipends resulting in a \$1,363 gross amount. Each member is required to complete a W-4 and federal and state deductions further reduce this gross amount.

The AmeriCorps*State and National program was authorized by the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (NCSA), 42 U.S.C. § 12501 *et seq.* The NCSA states that allowances, earnings, and payments to participants in AmeriCorps programs "shall not be considered income for the purposes of determining eligibility for and the amount of income transfer and in-kind aid furnished under any Federal or federally-assisted program based on need, other than as provided in the Social Security Act." 42 U.S.C. § 12637(d). Based on this language, the USDA issued an opinion in 2001 stating that AmeriCorps*State and National benefits are excluded from income for food stamp purposes.

If I can provide any additional information, please call me at (858) 569-5474.

Sincerely,

Marie Pecoraro
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San Diego County Office of Education
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SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP