

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is “social enterprise”?

Social enterprise brings together the nonprofit, private, and public sectors - and utilizes best practices from across industries and around the globe to work toward the common good. New Sector’s approach to social enterprise leverages the unique talents and skills of people and institutions across sectors to share resources, learn from each other, and work collaboratively in pursuit of social change.

### How would you describe the typical Residency class?

Last year, New Sector received applications from over 200 students representing nearly 50 universities. The selected class included 22 recent graduates and young professionals from all over the country, exceptional students of all academic disciplines, and individuals with experience and interest in all facets of social enterprise. Though their projects allow participants to take on significant individual responsibility, it is the group experience that is unique to our Residency. We construct a class that represents a wide diversity of viewpoints, backgrounds and passions that will push our Residents to reexamine their views and values while they explore the intersection of the private and nonprofit sectors firsthand. At the same time, our workshops and group events foster a cohesive environment that allows our Residents to form bonds that endure long after the end of their year.

### Is this program only for people who want to work in the nonprofit sector?

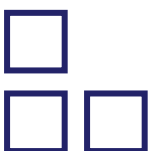
The New Sector Residents learn skills that are transferable to a career in any sector. We intend the New Sector Residency in Social Enterprise to be a formative experience for all participants, during which Residents will be given the chance to take on significant responsibility while thinking strategically about the challenges unique to social enterprise. New Sector Alumni are currently using their analytical skills to do innovative work at private sector organizations including Google and McKinsey, nonprofits like Health Care for All and the Global Fund, and prestigious graduate schools such as the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and Harvard Business School. Alumni have also gone on to found their own organizations and work for our partnering organizations and corporations.

### What types of projects do Residents do?

Each Resident will work on-site at a Boston-based social enterprise on a capacity-building project in a variety of functional practice areas including growth and scaling, marketing, performance management, strategy, and operations. All projects will engage the talented, young leaders of our Residency class on a strategic level with both nonprofits and for-profits committed to contributing to positive social change. In addition to working regularly with top management, Residents will gain experience employing the analytical frameworks at use in the private sector to help enterprising organizations and companies better serve their stakeholders. Residents will also be involved in other work integral to the everyday operations of their Host Site. Throughout the year, Residents will not only execute their projects, but will learn by becoming immersed in the culture of their Host Site organizations.

### What compensation will I receive?

Residents receive stipend and benefits totaling roughly \$30,000 in annual compensation. Compensation has several components, including: total stipend of \$22,800, health care coverage with no financial contribution from the Resident, an AmeriCorps Education Award worth \$4,725, which can be used to pay tuition or school-related loans at any accredited institution in the United States, and an annual travel stipend (in the form of a subway/bus pass) worth \$700. In addition, Residents participate in our mini-MBA program, whose trainings are valued at approximately \$16,000. Residents working with



nonprofit Host Sites also qualify for loan deferment and payment of interest accrual by the Federal Government.

### **What topics should my application address?**

Your resume should include your major, GPA, and relevant standardized test scores (e.g. SAT or ACT scores). You should also choose to mention any work experience or extracurricular activity that demonstrates your dedication to civic engagement and social responsibility.

Your cover letter should answer two questions: What do you hope to gain through your participation in the New Sector Residency in Social Enterprise? What unique qualities will you bring to the Residency?

There is no "ideal" résumé or cover letter. We seek to recruit a class of Residents made up of individuals with different goals, backgrounds, and talents. We read your cover letter to get a sense of your personality and your passions, and as such, there are no correct answers. Please be candid and give concrete examples in your discussion.

### **What is the application process like?**

Our written application consists of your résumé, a cover letter (see above for topics to address in the cover letter), and the RISE application. We review applications as they are submitted, with a first deadline of November 3, 2008 and a second deadline of February 6, 2009. We will invite qualified candidates to two rounds of interviews before extending offers to those selected for the Residency class of 2009-2010. In accepting our offer, you accept an offer to the program as a whole, and not to any one particular Host Site or project. Once you have accepted our offer, we will match you with a Host Site.

### **When will I find out about my Host Site?**

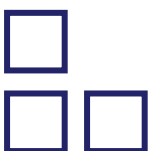
Before the start of the program and after candidates have accepted their offer, New Sector will provide accepted Residents an opportunity to indicate their preferences for Host Site characteristics, subsector, and project type in an effort to make a mutual match between the Resident and Host Site. Residents will interview potential Host Sites of New Sector's choosing. Host Site feedback from the interviews will be the determining factor in placement. Please note that it is likely each accepted Resident will end up at one of his or her preferred sites, but it is in no way guaranteed that even the most qualified applicant will end up at his or her first choice site.

### **Can non-US citizens apply to the Residency program?**

Not at this time. The Residency is funded through AmeriCorps and Residents in the program are enrolled as AmeriCorps members. We must therefore comply with AmeriCorps regulations, which stipulate that AmeriCorps members must be U.S. citizens, Nationals, or Legal Permanent Residents of the U.S. New Sector does sometimes have positions available outside of AmeriCorps funding, but due to the current condition of the economy we do not expect the availability of such positions for the upcoming program cycle. We encourage non-citizens to check back for our 2010-11 program year, when such positions may be available.

### **Are there other eligibility restrictions?**

Our Residency positions are funded through AmeriCorps, so we must comply with AmeriCorps regulations which only allow an individual to participate in any AmeriCorps State or National program for a total of two years. If you have already participated in such a program (e.g. Teach for America) for two



years, you are not eligible for the 2009-10 Residency in Social Enterprise program. You may, however, be eligible for other opportunities that we post on our website throughout the year.

## How often will I see my Residency classmates?

One of the most valuable components of the New Sector Residency in Social Enterprise is the caliber of our participants. As such, we go out of our way to provide both formal and informal events through which Residents are able to form a network of talented, socially motivated peers. Before our Residents arrive for their year, they are invited to join our message board so that they can begin to get to know each other. Over the course of the year, the whole class comes together on a biweekly basis for workshops addressing topics relevant to their professional development. On weeks when workshops do not meet, Residents participate in small group Learning Teams, which provide a forum for the sharing of ideas, knowledge, and approaches to their own specific projects. Learning Teams serve as a professional and personal support and as a way of familiarizing all Residents with the communities in which their classmates are serving. Throughout the year, our message board allows Residents to keep in constant contact. In addition to workshops and Learning Teams, there are opportunities to spend time with your classmates through events including community service days, social outings, and career development and networking programs.

## Does New Sector provide housing?

New Sector does not provide housing for our Residents. In general, most Host Sites will be easily accessible via public transportation. Residents often use resources such as craigslist.com to find apartments near their Host Site. Last year, several Residents used our message board to coordinate housing with their classmates.

