



SANTA MARIA CENTER

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ABOUT THE CENTER

The CCC Santa Maria Center is a non-residential facility with as many as 15 Corpsmembers. Corpsmembers commute to the center each morning for work. Crews typically work five, eight-hour days Monday through Friday or four ten-hour days Monday through Thursday. Corpsmembers may also camp near remote project sites, called “spikes”, for up to eight straight days.

The center is part of the CCC Los Padres District and Corpsmembers often train and work projects alongside their residential colleagues from San Luis Obispo.

Santa Maria Corpsmembers regularly support wildland fire base camp operations.

WORK & TRAINING



Forestry / Fuel Reduction: 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 to complete this work. Santa Maria partners include State Parks, U.S. Forest Service, local conservation districts, cities, and counties. Training is often project specific, but includes the use of chain saws, pole saws, loppers and wood chippers.



Public Service Conservation Work: Corpsmembers assist state and local agencies, as well as non-profit organizations, implement projects that have significant public benefits and uses. Work can include bridge construction, dog park construction, park and median landscaping, and minor construction and finishing work. Training varies and is unique to each project.



Trail Construction & Maintenance: Corpsmembers construct and maintain trails for U.S. Forest Service, State Parks, local conservancies, counties, cities, and other non-profits. Project work may include clearing brush from along hiking trails, rebuilding trail tread, installing riprap to reduce erosion, and other trail maintenance.

WORK & TRAINING



Emergency Response: Corpsmembers respond to emergencies across California for wildfire camp support, floods, food bank support, vaccination centers, and more. Corpsmembers may be required to work extended hours on these assignments. Extended hours means Corpsmembers can work up to 16 hours in a day, earning excess pay. Emergency assignments away from center can last up to 21 days in a row.



Invasive Species Removal: Corpsmembers learn how to remove invasive species using chain saws, brush cutters, herbicides and in some cases, burning and replacing them with California species. Project partners include Caltrans, State Parks, CAL FIRE, U.S. Forest Service, local non-profits and conservation districts, and others.



Additional training and project work may include **Riparian & Watershed Restoration** and **Flood Fighting**. For a full list of projects, available training opportunities, and certifications, visit the **Santa Maria Center web page**.

EDUCATION



High School: The Santa Maria Center offers Corpsmembers the opportunity to earn their high school diploma through a partnership with **John Muir Charter School**. Corpsmembers without a diploma must work to earn one while enrolled.

Community College: Opportunities may also be available for Corpsmembers to further their education and earn additional certifications.



Core Training: All Corpsmembers participate in CCC's Corpsmember Development Program. These courses include resume building, job searching, and interview training and typically require three hours of educational activities per week.

POST-CCC

The Los Padres District has a dedicated “Navigator” who works with Corpsmembers to plan their post-CCC careers, including assisting with job applications, college admissions, and more. Corpsmembers go on to careers in the fire service, State Parks, Caltrans, U.S. Forest Service, and more!

