

UMBC's Peer Health Education Program

University Health Services & The Counseling Center

The Peer Health Education program is made up of undergraduate students from a wide range of academic backgrounds. The Peers are requested to go around campus to residence halls, classrooms and student organizations to give presentations on different health topics pertaining to college students (ie. mental health, alcohol & drug use, nutrition, safer sex, etc). The Peers also participate in a variety of events on campus by the request of other departments or events sponsored by University Health Services (ie. tabling in The Commons for an awareness month or week).

Aside from the main work that you would do as a Peer Health Educator, this program is also a great opportunity for you to build upon your public speaking skills, enhance your interpersonal communication skills, meet new people from across campus, network with different student organizations and departments, master your team-building skills, add a valuable piece to your resume/CV, and have fun while learning!

Each student in the program will receive 3 upper level credits per semester for being a Peer (you can be in the program for up to 4 semesters in a row) and will be able to register for the class if and when we have accepted you into the program. The credits are given out through the Social Work department. Please note that as an incoming peer you are required to take a once-a-week class where you will be trained on all of the different health topics. The class will be held on **Wednesday's** from **4:30-7:00pm** in the Fall 2015 semester. On average, you should expect to dedicate approximately 3-6 hours a week (class included) to this program, and each week can vary depending on the amount of events we have. If the class time does not fit your schedule, we encourage you to keep our program in mind for the following year as we try to take new applicants every semester.

Peer Health Educators are given the opportunity as they progress in the program to focus on a specific area of health they are passionate about through our committees. Committee options are subject to change based on need, but usually include areas of focus on sexual health, alcohol/drug use, and mental health. Those peers interested in focusing on mental health will have the opportunity to work extensively with the Counseling Center as 2nd, 3rd, and 4th semester peers.

If you would like to see an example of projects and events that the Peer Educators put on, stop by one of our upcoming events and introduce yourself so we know who you are! You can find a listing of our events on our myUMBC group's page here: <http://my.umbc.edu/groups/healthed>.

**Peer Health Education Program
Application for Fall 2015 Semester
DUE: Friday, April 24, 2015**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____

UMBC Email: _____

UMBC ID #: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

ACADEMICS

Major/Minor: _____

Class Year: _____

GPA: _____

Expected Date of Graduation: _____

AVAILABILITY

Number of Credits for Next Semester: _____

Organizations & Other Non-Academic Commitments: _____

Can you Commit 3-6 Hours per Week to the Program – Yes or No? _____

Can you fit in and attend the mandatory weekly class scheduled for Wednesdays from 4:30-7pm – Yes or No? _____

Can you make yourself available for a mandatory orientation/training between the dates of August 20th and 23rd – Yes or No? _____

REFERENCES

Professional or Academic #1 – no friends/family

Name:

Job Title:

Employer:

Phone:

Email:

Professional or Academic #2 – no friends/family

Name:

Job Title:

Employer:

Phone:

Email:

Student Leader Reference (may be an RA, student org president, student manager, etc.)

Name:

Job Title:

Employer:

Phone:

Email:

QUESTIONS

Please answer the following questions in paragraph format on a separate sheet of paper, typed (300-500 words total).

- 1) How did you find out about the Peer Health Education Program?

- 2) Why are you interested in health promotion and education? Have you had any significant experiences that lend to your interest in the Peer Health Education program?

- 3) What qualities and skills do you have that would make you a good fit for the Peer Health Education program? What makes you stand out as an applicant?

- 4) Do you have any particular areas of interest within health promotion, education or awareness that you are passionate about? (i.e. mental health, sexual health, alcohol/drug use, physical health, etc). Please explain your interest.

- 5) What do you see as the **most** important health or wellness issue on UMBC's campus? How would you suggest the university address/educate/support students around this issue?

Signature _____ Date _____

By signing above, I am acknowledging that my application may be reviewed by staff members from Health Education and/or Counseling, as well as student staff. I also acknowledge that any online or social media account I hold is subject to review and may influence my application.

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2015!

Please submit applications to the Health Education Office (ground floor of Erickson Hall) or to the front desk of University Health Services. You may also email or fax your application to the Health Education Coordinator, Ms. Mickey Irizarry, at:

Email: pirizarry@umbc.edu

Fax: 410-455-1125