1967

Peace Corps Factbook

Peace Corps (U.S.)

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The Purpose of the Peace Corps

Congress established the Peace Corps on September 22, 1961. Objectives defined by the Act for the Peace Corps are to promote world peace and friendship by making available to interested countries Americans who will:

- Help the people of these countries meet their needs for trained manpower.
- Help promote a better understanding of the American people on the part of the peoples served; and
- Help promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of the American people.
PEACE CORPS PROFILE

To be a Peace Corps Volunteer you have to be at least 18 years old, a United States citizen, and free of dependents under 18.

You do not have to have a college degree. A skill or trade often takes the place of a degree in Peace Corps service. You do not have to have previous foreign language training. The Peace Corps has found that its own training programs can provide the language needed for the Volunteer to do his overseas job.

By the middle of this year there will be nearly 15,000 Volunteers overseas. Their average age is 24.2 years. All but 200 are over 20 years old. More than 100 Volunteers are over 50 and another 100 are over 60.

Though more than half of the Volunteers teach, only 25 per cent of these had taught before joining the Peace Corps. Nearly a third of all Volunteers are working in rural and urban community development projects; almost 20 per cent are in health and agriculture. There are, however, more than 300 job categories to be filled, with openings in almost every major skill or discipline.

Since President Kennedy created the Peace Corps by Executive Order on March 1, 1961, more than 20,000 Americans from all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Guam have gone overseas as Volunteers. Eighty-five per cent had college degrees, of which over six per cent had completed graduate work.

Though most Volunteers are single, there are more than 1,000 married couples serving overseas, most of whom were married when they joined the Peace Corps. In addition to the stipulation prohibiting dependents, the Peace Corps also requires that married couples both qualify for the same project, though not necessarily for the same job. Engaged couples may also apply for service in the same area.

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF THE VOLUNTEER?

As a Volunteer sent overseas to fulfill the three goals of the Peace Corps, you must be prepared to devote all of your talent and imagination to the job you are given. You will be expected to live at the level of your co-workers and to become as completely as possible a
member of your new community.

You will be given a specific assignment and, ordinarily, will be guided in your work by a host government official or agency to whom you will report on a regular basis. You will also have the support and guidance of a Peace Corps staff member assigned to your area.

Your success as a Volunteer, however, will not be measured simply in terms of completing the work assigned, but on your ability to communicate with the members of your adopted community and to stimulate interest in solving problems through group action.

Peace Corps projects are developed at the request of host countries. The Peace Corps does not initiate invitations to make Volunteers available. When a request is received, it is then the Peace Corps' responsibility to assure a good working situation. Careful work goes into programming your job. However, the excitement and adventure of the Peace Corps experience are in some measure due to its unpredictability.

Studies of up to 5,000 returned Volunteers show that more than half changed their vocational plans while in the Peace Corps. Of those Volunteers who entered the Peace Corps with no long-range vocational goals, two out of three found them during their overseas tours.

The more tangible benefits of Peace Corps service are the opportunities to travel, to learn another language, and to gain practical overseas living and working experience—a consideration for those interested in international careers. In the first group of Volunteers to go overseas only eight per cent were interested in pursuing international careers when they entered Peace Corps. By the time they had completed service, nearly a third had decided on such careers.

Much of the relevance of the Peace Corps experience must be described in terms of the intangibles. As a Peace Corps Volunteer you learn how to immerse yourself in the life of another culture. Participation in the life of a community new to you, on an equal basis with other members of the community, creates the opportunity to think and feel as they do. A new sensitivity and awareness is generated that should ultimately lead to a better understanding of the world in which we live.

APPLICATION & SELECTION

To apply for Peace Corps service you must:
1. Carefully complete the
standard application form available from most Post Offices, Peace Corps Headquarters in Washington, D. C., Peace Corps college liaison offices, members of official recruiting teams or United States Senators and Congressmen. You may state a preference for area and assignment.

2. Submit your application to Peace Corps Washington or to an official Peace Corps representative. The application does not obligate you in any way.

3. Upon receipt of your application, you may be asked to take the Peace Corps Placement or Language Aptitude Test. These tests are used in helping to determine country assignment; there are no passing or failing scores. The tests should be taken only once.

When your application and tests have been reviewed, the references you supplied on your application will be contacted, along with other key persons who have taught or employed you. Responses from these references play a major role in the selection process. There are no personal interviews.

Invitation for Peace Corps training will be based on the Peace Corps' ability to match your background and potential with existing project needs. If a thorough analysis of all material available indicates that you have the needed skill, maturity, motivation and character, an invitation to train for a specific project is issued.

Medical selection standards are exceptionally high, but not inflexible. Some Volunteers are blind or wear artificial limbs. But in all cases the Volunteer's skills and abilities should match the needs and objectives of the project to which he is assigned.

You are free to accept or decline an invitation. You may state a preference for another country, or may ask that you be invited for another project at a later date.

The selection process continues throughout training, giving both the Peace Corps and the trainee a further chance at assessment. The process provides as many realistic opportunities as possible for both the individual and the Peace Corps to evaluate the presence or absence of those qualities associated with success as a Volunteer. This is a time for both learning and self-examination.

On the average, 75 per cent of those who enter training go overseas as Volunteers. About half of those who do not go change their minds as a result of their training experience.
TRAINING

Training is an essential and integral part of Peace Corps service. Ideally, it should begin a process of inquiry, learning and self-discovery that will continue throughout your assignment. In addition, it is intended to give you a sense of competence in the work you are expected to do, a sense of the reality of your forthcoming experience, and a sense of the resources you have both within yourself and available to you from the Peace Corps to make your two years of service a productive and enriching time in your life.

Most training programs are conducted at colleges and universities in the United States; some are conducted at the Peace Corps’ own facilities at Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, in Hilo, Hawaii, or by such groups as the National 4-H Foundation, the Experiment in International Living, CARE, or industrial organizations.

The training staff consists of members of the university faculty or organization staff, and others from outside which may include returned Volunteers, nationals from the country where the trainees are going, and Peace Corps staff. Training usually requires about 13 weeks.

Training is an essential and integral part of Peace Corps service. Modern methods include practical field experience in classrooms and in rural and urban problem areas, as well as 300 hours of intensive language training. This trainee will become one of over 7,000 Volunteers (more than half of the Peace Corps’ total Volunteers) teaching overseas.

Advance Training Program for College Juniors:

The Advance Training Program gives prospective Volunteers the opportunity to train for Peace Corps service between their junior and senior years in college. In effect, the program lasts for 15 months and includes two summers of intensive study and cross-cultural living experience, plus an academic year of independent study at each participant’s own college. Occasionally, seniors and others who plan a year at graduate school may participate.

The aim of the program is to produce more intensively trained Volunteers for particularly difficult jobs or language areas who are capable of more effective performance in the field.

The Advance Training Loan Program has been established by the Peace Corps National Advisory Council to insure that financial need is not a bar to juniors who must earn summer money for senior year expenses. Trainees may borrow up to
$600 (at interest not to exceed 6 per cent per annum) from participating banks.

Loan repayment may be deferred until you have finished both your education and your Peace Corps service.

Final Selection:

When the Final Selection Board meets, its decision to designate you as a Volunteer is based on the following criteria:

1. Motivation which will ensure commitment to serve in the Peace Corps despite periods of stress and adversity.
2. Aptitude sufficient to meet the demands of a particular program and to cope with other challenges of Peace Corps work, including rapid learning in a short training period.
3. Personal qualities including initiative, determination, friendliness, patience, ability to communicate, and respect for other people regardless of race, religion, nationality, social standing, or political persuasion.
4. The physical stamina and emotional stability to maintain effectiveness under the stresses of Peace Corps work.
5. Competence in the skills required for the assignment overseas.
6. Sufficient progress in the new language before the end of training.
7. Adequate knowledge by the end of training of both the host country and the United States.

Selection is made without reference to race, creed, or political affiliation.

THE VOLUNTEER OVERSEAS

Staff:

The top man in each country is the Peace Corps Representative (also referred to as the Country Director). Serving with him may be a Deputy, one or more Associate Representatives, one or more Peace Corps physicians, and where applicable, a Contractor's Overseas Representative (COR) who provides technical assistance.

The Director and his staff are responsible for your conduct, your safety and protection, and for seeing that your performance and host country supervision are satisfactory. He also organizes and administers new programs and is the principal liaison to ministries and host country officials.

Health:

If you are injured or become ill, the Peace Corps staff physician will treat you himself, arrange for treatment by host country doctors and medical
facilities or, in extreme cases, return you to the United States. Staff doctors are assigned to the Peace Corps from the U. S. Public Health Service. (The ratio of doctor to Volunteer is 1:145; in the United States the ratio is 1:750.)

During training you are given appropriate physical and psychiatric examinations, immunizations and a thorough medical orientation. You also receive instruction in emergency first aid and in preventive measures which must be taken while overseas. The latter includes study of food processing and preservation techniques, water treatment, waste disposal, and insect control.

In the event of a disability resulting from illness or injury while in service, Congress has extended coverage to each Volunteer under the Federal Employee's Compensation Act. However, you are advised to retain any personal health insurance you have throughout your Peace Corps service.

Legal Status:

Volunteers are not officers or employees of the United States Government. You do not have diplomatic immunity and your personal legal liability for your action does not change as a result of registration as a trainee or enrollment as a Volunteer.

You are subject to State and Federal laws while in the United States and to host country laws overseas. An agreement between the Peace Corps and each host country provides that you are to receive equitable treatment—the same afforded any private citizen of the United States residing in those countries.

Some Specifics:

TERM OF SERVICE

Volunteers normally serve for 24 months, including the two-to-three month training period. There are some programs which may require as many as 27 months of service, including training. Your invitation to training will state whether you have been selected for a 27 month program. There are no programs of shorter duration.

Training programs begin throughout the year.

Extension or Re-Enrollment:

Volunteers who have the desire and the capacity to sustain their commitment and to serve effectively for an additional period are encouraged to consider extending their regular term of service or re-enrolling for a new term of Peace Corps service.

If you extend for a year or more, you may take up to 30 days of special leave in the
# Current Peace Corps Opportunities

## Latin America

**Bolivia**
- Community Development
- Secondary Education
- Agriculture
- Construction
- Health
- Vocational Education
- Math and Science
- University Education
- Elementary Education
- Handicrafts
- Volunteer Secretaries

**Costa Rica**
- Community Development
- Agriculture
- Construction
- University Education
- Physical Education
- Volunteer Secretaries

**Dominican Republic**
- Community Development
- Agriculture
- Health
- Vocational Education
- Physical Education
- University Education
- Volunteer Secretaries

**Ecuador**
- Public Works
- Agriculture
- Home Economics
- Community Development
- Secondary Education
- Physical Education
- University Education
- Volunteer Secretaries

**El Salvador**
- Community Development
- Agriculture
- Construction
- University Education
- Volunteer Secretaries

**Guatemala**
- Community Development
- Agriculture
- Vocational Education
- University Education
- Volunteer Secretaries

**Honduras**
- Community Development
- Agriculture
- Construction
- Health
- University Education
- Social Work
- Volunteer Secretaries

**Jamaica**
- Teacher Training
- Vocational Education
- Physical Education
- Credit Co-ops
- Educational Television
- Volunteer Secretaries

**Panama**
- University Education
- Health
- Agriculture
- Community Development
- Volunteer Secretaries

**Peru**
- Rural Co-ops
- Secondary Education
- Community Development
- Home Economics
- Vocational Education
- Construction
- Health
- Handicrafts
- University Education
- Agriculture
- Volunteer Secretaries

## Far East

**Malaysia**
- Community Development
- Primary Education
- Health
- Vocational Education
- Math and Science
- University Education
- Village Development
- Secondary Education
- Agriculture
- Construction
- Volunteer Secretaries

**Philippines**
- Vocational Education
- Community Development
- Primary Education
- Health
- Secondary Education
- Vocational Education
- Public Works
- Volunteer Secretaries

## Windward-Leeward Island Group

**Includes:**
- St. Lucia
- Barbados
- Antigua
- Dominica
- St. Kitts
- St. Vincent
- Grenada

## British Honduras

- Vocational Education
- Community Development
- Secondary Education
- Construction
- Math and Science
- Elementary Education
- Volunteer Secretaries

## Central America

**University Education**
- Volunteer Secretaries

**Chile**
- Community Development
- Agriculture
- Construction
- Health
- Vocational Education
- Home Economics
- University Education
- Fisheries
- Credit Co-ops
- Volunteer Secretaries

**Colombia**
- Community Development
- Handicrafts
- Vocational Education

## British Empire

**Dominion of Canada**
- Teaching English as a Foreign Language
- Volunteer Secretaries

**U.K.**
- Public Works
- Health
- Secondary Education
- Agriculture
- Vocational Education
- University Education
- Volunteer Secretaries

**U.S.A.**
- Public Works
- Health
- Secondary Education
- Agriculture
- Vocational Education
- University Education
- Volunteer Secretaries

## Europe

**Norway**
- University Education
- Volunteer Secretaries

**Germany**
- University Education
- Volunteer Secretaries

**United Kingdom**
- University Education
- Volunteer Secretaries

## Far East

**Philippines**
- Vocational Education
- Community Development
- Primary Education
- Health
- Secondary Education
- Vocational Education
- Public Works
- Volunteer Secretaries

## Western Africa

**U.S.A.**
- Public Works
- Health
- Secondary Education
- Agriculture
- Vocational Education
- University Education
- Volunteer Secretaries

**U.K.**
- Public Works
- Health
- Secondary Education
- Agriculture
- Vocational Education
- University Education
- Volunteer Secretaries

**U.S.S.R.**
- Public Works
- Health
- Secondary Education
- Agriculture
- Vocational Education
- University Education
- Volunteer Secretaries
# CURRENT PEACE CORPS OPPORTUNITIES (continued)

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United States, Western Europe, or any other part of the world outside the Communist Bloc. This period of special leave is not counted as part of the extended service.

Extension for service in the same country will not require you to participate in a new training program or go through the regular selection process. However, training and selection will generally be required if your re-enrollment is for service in a different country or is to begin after a break in service.

Transfer, Resignation, Early Termination:

You may resign at any time. The Peace Corps, however, expects that you volunteered with an honest intention to serve for the duration of the term of service and that you will honor that commitment.

You can, however, request a transfer to other work in the same or a different country.

A Peace Corps Representative has the authority to return you to the United States with a recommendation that your service be terminated, or can recommend assignment to another job in the same or a different country.

Unless termination is for medical or other pressing reasons beyond your control, the cost of return transportation will be deducted from your re-adjustment allowance.

Leave:

Upon arrival overseas, you are credited with two days of leave for each month of service. You are encouraged to use your leave time to become better acquainted with the country in which you are working. However, you may seek approval to use a portion of your leave time for travel in nearby countries. An allowance of $7.50 is paid for each day of leave actually taken, in addition to your regular monthly living allowance.

You cannot return to the United States while on leave, except in cases of family or medical emergency.

**ALLOTMENTS AND ALLOWANCES**

**Readjustment Allowance:**

For each month of service you accrue $75 which accumulates, without interest, from the day you register for training through the day your service ends.

Unless provisions for allotments have been made, $1,800 will accumulate during the two years of service. (Deductions for Federal income tax, Social
Security and insurance premiums brings the total to between $1,400 and $1,500; depending on your state of residence, you may also have to pay state tax.) You are not required to pay income taxes in the country where you serve.

When a Volunteer is separated overseas after satisfactory completion of his tour of duty, he may withdraw up to one-third of the accumulated readjustment allowance for travel and other expenses. Otherwise, readjustment payment will be made after the Volunteer returns to the United States.

Social Security:

Volunteers are enrolled in the Social Security system. If you do not have a Social Security card, apply immediately to the nearest Social Security Administration office. Social Security taxes are deducted from your readjustment allowance each month.

Life Insurance:

When you register for training, your life will be insured for $10,000 unless you waive coverage. The premium of $1.20 per month is deducted from your readjustment allowance. If you waive coverage or later cancel it, it cannot be reinstated.

Volunteers like Nick Rohrer have helped farmers in India to vastly increase egg and chicken production. Of the more than 1,000 Volunteers serving in the Peace Corps' largest single program, in India, nearly half are liberal arts graduates working in agricultural projects.

Allotments:

Under certain circumstances you can send home part of your monthly readjustment allowance. Such circumstances include support of parents, payment of health or life insurance premiums, educational loans, aid toward the education of members of your family, or other genuine personal or family needs or emergencies. All regular monthly allotments must be approved by Peace Corps headquarters. (Allotments greater than half the monthly allowance rarely are approved.)

Transportation:

The Peace Corps will provide transportation from your home to training sites, from there to your overseas assignment, and from there back to your home in the United States. If you live outside of the United States, the Peace Corps will pay only for travel from the nearest point of entry into the United States. You are responsible for all transportation costs to the point of entry.
Travel and Clothing Allowances:

When you arrive at the training site, you receive a $16 travel allowance to reimburse you for expenses during the trip from home and other incidental pre-training expenses. Transportation and a travel allowance are provided for travel to the port of embarkation or to further training. During training a small amount of "pocket money" is provided.

Upon completion of training, you receive an allowance to enable you to buy any special clothing required for your overseas assignment which may not be available in the host country.

Settling-In and Living Allowance:

Each month overseas you will receive a living allowance. Overseas allowances are paid in the currency of the host country. This allowance is not a salary. It is designed to cover the costs of adequate food, clothing, housing, utilities, and incidentals such as laundry, tobacco, film and postage.

Allowances are based on local living costs and differ from country to country or even from location to location within a country. They are subject to change depending on experience or changes in host country living costs.

Married couples usually receive allowances equal to those paid two single Volunteers living in the same household.

When you first arrive overseas you may receive a settling-in payment to purchase in local markets the things you will need to set up housekeeping.

THE DRAFT

If you are eligible for military service, you must ask your draft board — before you enter Peace Corps training — for deferment and for permission to leave the United States. All deferments are determined by local draft boards.

As deferments last only one year, you must request an extension before the end of each year of Peace Corps service. You should also keep your draft board informed of your whereabouts at all times.

Deferment does not exempt Volunteers from future draft requirements, nor does it mean that they cannot qualify for further deferment after completing terms of Peace Corps service. Further deferment would depend upon such considerations as age, physical condition, marital status, the Selective Service regulations in effect when the Volunteer is...
released, and the number of other persons eligible.

A reservist must have completed his initial period of active duty, or active duty for training, in a military reserve unit before he may be considered for service in the Peace Corps, unless his reserve obligation does not call for active duty. Thereafter, as with any other individual who goes abroad to do useful work, any remaining weekly drill or summer camp obligation could be suspended while he is in the Peace Corps.

MARRIAGE AND PREGNANCY

Married couples must both qualify for the same project (not necessarily the same job) and have no dependents under 18.

Volunteers who wish to marry and to remain Volunteers must have the prior approval of the Peace Corps Country Representative. His decision will be based on whether the couple can continue to maintain a modest standard of living, the job and housing changes necessary to accommodate them after marriage, and whether the required changes are consistent with the needs of the Peace Corps program and have the approval of host country officials.

Approval generally will not be granted if the future spouse has come to the host country expressly to marry a Volunteer. Nor may a Volunteer return to the United States to marry.

Married couples expecting a child must notify their Representative as soon as possible. He and the Peace Corps doctor will consider health hazards to the mother and child, prospects for the continued effectiveness of the Volunteers, and plans for supporting the family before approval for the continuation of service is given. If the outlook is unfavorable from any of these points of view, the Volunteers will be asked to resign and will be given transportation home.

STUDENT LOANS

While you are in the Peace Corps, interest does not accrue on any National Defense Education Act student loan contracted on or after September 23, 1961, and you may request that payments of principal be deferred. However, teaching in the Peace Corps will not reduce the debt as does teaching in the United States.

Although this does not apply to NDEA loans outstanding on September 22, 1961, or to other student loans, a lender may, if asked, be willing to grant you partial or complete deferment
during Peace Corps service. In addition, principal on loans insured under the Higher Education Act of 1965 need not be paid during up to three years of Peace Corps service. Volunteers seeking such deferments should contact their lenders directly. The Peace Corps will be glad to certify your status for such a lender.

**FAMILY EMERGENCIES**

Should a parent or sibling die, or become critically ill, emergency leave may be authorized and transportation home provided at Peace Corps expense. Normally, emergency leave will be granted only once during your service. This leave is limited to two weeks, including travel time.

Illnesses and injuries to Volunteers overseas are reported to the Peace Corps Headquarters in Washington. The Volunteer's family will be notified of serious illness or injury unless the Volunteer requests otherwise.

**AFTER THE PEACE CORPS**

You will return from overseas with an interest in and first-hand knowledge of another area of the world. You will have had the opportunity to learn and use the language and to know the culture and traditions of your host country.

Some Volunteers have found work closely paralleling their overseas experiences in anti-poverty projects and other community action programs. Others have found that the overseas experience especially qualified them for jobs with the Peace Corps staff, the United States Information Agency, the Agency for International Development, or the State Department. (If you obtain Federal employment, your overseas service does count toward retirement, leave and other benefits determined by length of service.)

If challenge and responsibility are what the returning Volunteer seeks, they can be found, whether in private industry or non-profit organizations, in special scholarships and fellowships set aside for returning Volunteers by more than 60 universities, in international organizations, or in government.

To assist returning Volunteers in educational and occupational planning, Congress has authorized the establishment of a Peace Corps Career Information...
Service. Bulletins containing current information on scholarships and job possibilities are distributed to Volunteers in the field and to those who have completed service.

Although through association with the Peace Corps one is involved in collective training, collective assignments and goals, the Peace Corps in fact relies heavily on the qualities of the individual Volunteer—on individual effort and individual responsibility. It is this strong sense of individuality that hopefully will be brought home and applied to the affairs and concerns of our own society.

What Returned Volunteers Are Doing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Number of Returned Volunteers</th>
<th>1965-</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1963</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continuing Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1963</th>
<th>1964</th>
<th>Sept. '66</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate School</td>
<td>22.7%</td>
<td>20.3%</td>
<td>27.0%</td>
<td>23.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>9.6%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Employed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1963</th>
<th>1964</th>
<th>Sept. '66</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal Government</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
<td>12.6%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State &amp; Local Govt.</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job Corps Center</td>
<td>.3%</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>.9%</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VISTA Volunteers</td>
<td>.4%</td>
<td>.1%</td>
<td>.2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Organizations &amp; Foreign</td>
<td>.9%</td>
<td>.7%</td>
<td>.5%</td>
<td>.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>20.3%</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
<td>16.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-profit</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>6.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profit-Making</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>10.7%</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
<td>18.3%</td>
<td>13.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BACK COVER: Nothing is more important to a country’s future than teaching its young people. They are the future. Volunteer George Seay takes his “garden club” on a field trip.
"Blue collar" skills are urgently needed in the new industrial revolution in the developing countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Noel Hancock teaches industrial arts at a boys' school in Kuala Lumpur.