



Now Recruiting:

New York City Peer Corps Members



Program/Initiative:	AmeriCorps - New York City Peer Corps
Sponsor:	New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC DOHMH)
Location:	Citywide placement within selected Peer Corps Host Sites (DHS Homeless Shelters Adolescent Skill Centers)
Program Duration:	September 16, 2019–July 29, 2020
Stipend:	\$12,000.00 Living Allowance for 45 weeks of service (1200 hours) – before taxes
Educational Award:	\$4,266.50 Segal AmeriCorps Education Award upon completion of the program
Program Background:	<p>In 2017, the number of NYC overdose deaths totaled 1,487—the highest number on record since the DOHMH started tracking overdose deaths. The Peer Corps initiative was developed in response to the rising number of overdose deaths. The DOHMH, in partnership with other city agencies and NYC non-profit organizations, recruits and mobilizes community members with lived experience in substance use and recovery (peers), bringing life-saving services to marginalized populations throughout all five boroughs. Peer Corps members dedicate ten and a half months to fulfilling the Peer Corps mission of <i>saving lives while building a stronger peer workforce.</i></p>
Scope of Service:	<p>Peer Corps aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Promote community trainings in the use of Naloxone, an opioid overdose-reversing medication- Educate community members on harm reduction and early recovery and connecting clients to resources- Participate in high-impact service projects led by city agencies and local nonprofit organizations which use civic engagement as a vehicle to addressing critical community issues- Facilitate the successful navigation of mental health and social service systems for members of vulnerable populations in NYC
Organizational Relationship:	Peer Corps members report to their designated host site supervisor.
Member Responsibilities:	<p>Peer Corps members will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Attend host site meetings/functions and become familiar with host site organizational structure, culture, and needs- Outreach to host site constituents who report having experienced or witness an overdose to offer support and risk reduction education- Connect constituents to harm reduction services, if appropriate- Provide opioid overdose prevention education and dispense Naloxone, an overdose reversing medication, to host site staff, constituents, and community stakeholders through comprehensive member-led trainings- Engage host site constituents who report current substance use and express a desire to begin recovery around early recovery goals- Co-facilitate groups with designated host site staff on a range of early recovery topics, including but not limited to: harm reduction strategies, medication for addiction treatment, and the building of recovery capital- Broker appropriate resources to host site constituents- Assist in navigating systems to gain services (this may include accompaniments and referrals)- Submit computer-based Peer Corps program metrics in a timely manner

Requirements:

Eligibility for the Peer Corps program will be based on:

- High school diploma or equivalent by September 9, 2019
- Direct or indirect lived experience with:
 - Substance use, homelessness and/or the New York City shelter system
 - Mental health service and treatment systems
- Basic knowledge and familiarity of Google applications (i.e. - G-Suite) and Microsoft Office
- Moderate written and verbal communication skills
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Bilingual Spanish/English preferred (not required)
- CRPA or CARC preferred (not required)

**Peer Corps
Benefits:**

All members are provided the following:

- Basic medical plan will be available at no cost to Peer Corps members (optional)
- Student loan forbearance or deferment on eligible loans while in service, if eligible
- Monthly professional development as well as periodic career coaching activities
- Unlimited monthly MetroCard
- Experience working in city government and with NYC nonprofit organizations
- Various professional networking opportunities
- Valuable resume-building experience
- President's Volunteer Service Award, if eligible
- Service hours are applicable to peer credentialing (i.e. – CRPA-P practice hours)

Apply for the 2019-2020 Peer Corps Service Year through the online application link provided:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PeerCorpsFY20>

For more information contact the Peer Corps programmatic team at peercorps@health.nyc.gov