Public Health Peer Advising Application
Fall 2017 - Spring 2018

Application Due Date:
1) You can drop off a hard copy of your application on Friday, March 10th, 2017 at 4 PM in Arnold House 119, OR
2) Email your application to Joan Daniel (jadaniel@umass.edu), the Graduate Advisor Assistant, by the end of the day on Friday, March 17th.

Description

The Peer Advising Program is designed to foster personal and professional development in public health leadership, as well as providing guidance to students in the Public Health Sciences major. The program aims to improve the Public Health Sciences Program as a whole. This will be gained through the following modalities: in-class dialogues and learning activities, assigned readings, and working with groups and individual students in the drop-in advising center.

Through this internship, you will be able to refine your own knowledge of public health, explain the major to others, improve leadership skills and qualities, create community, support peers, and be part of a dynamic and innovative advising program.

Responsibilities

1) Attend weekly trainings (2.5 hours in the fall and 1.5 hours in the spring)
2) Commit to 3.5 hours of drop-in one-on-one advising hours per week.
3) Co-lead information sessions for prospective and current majors. This requires the ability to speak about public health and present the program and requirements in a coherent and interactive way, which you will work on in the trainings.
4) Volunteer and represent PHS at SPHHS and University events, including the major fair, open houses, alumni events, and orientations. You will need strong communication and presentation skills to relate to new students, draw out prospective students’ interests through open-ended questions, and convey the core of public health in a concise and coherent way.

Eligibility:

1) Be a rising junior or senior.
2) Have completed at least one full year as a public health major.
3) Have and maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 over the course of the internship.
4) Have a passion for public health and learning about the field.
5) Have a desire to help other students in the major, including identifying strategies to support underrepresented and at-risk students.
6) Have excellent interpersonal, problem-solving, and listening skills.
7) Have strong organizational skills and attention to detail.
8) Be able to work with and support people of all cultures, genders, ethnicities, ages, abilities, etc.

**Terms of the Position**

1) Peer Advisors are required to attend the leadership class, related activities outside of office hours/class, and host drop-in hours in the peer advising office each week. The time will be decided on the peer advisor’s schedule.
2) Peer Advisors must attend a day-long training session the first weekend of the Fall 2017 semester & a ropes course during September.
3) Peer Advisors are required to shadow current peer advisors in Spring 2017 – for a minimum of 2 hours after completing FERPA certification.
4) Need to commit to a second semester of peer advising (2 credit) after the fall seminar/internship.
5) Review the Public Health Peer Advising manual over the summer prior to training.

**Supervision**

Peer advisors will report to:
Megan Griffin, MPH
Public Health Undergraduate Program Advisor
413-545-2523
meggriffin@schoolph.umass.edu

**To Apply:**
Complete the application form and provide a copy of an unofficial transcript to **Arnold House 119, the Peer Advising Center**. If you have any questions, you can contact Joan Daniel at jadaniel@umass.edu. Please feel free to meet with a current Peer Advisor during their drop-in hours to talk about their experience and skills required to be successful in the position. Interviews will begin at the end of March.