

# Primary Education Teacher Training



## Your Skills. Our Jobs.

When you pursue a career in education, you set on a course to help people gain skills to better their lives. Education is the largest area of need identified by the countries asking for Peace Corps assistance. With more than 230 Primary Education Teacher Trainer positions around the world, the Peace Corps is calling on educators to become part of a service legacy that dates back to 1961. While you may have many job prospects, nothing in your career is likely to compare to the challenges and rewards of the Peace Corps.

## When the world calls roll, answer “present.”

Add a new dimension to your career. Discover innovative ways to apply your textbook, classroom, or life-learning experiences. Work in unforgettable locations where your teaching skills and resourcefulness are respected and vital. Forge new and lifelong relationships within the communities you serve. The possibilities as a Peace Corps Volunteer are endless and yours to leave an indelible mark.

Upon returning to the U.S., you'll discover open doors leading to new and exciting personal and professional opportunities. Fluency in a foreign language, international experience, and cross-cultural understanding are highly sought-after assets in today's global economy. You'll take away the satisfaction of knowing your efforts will have a lasting influence abroad while making you stand out here at home.

Experience as a Peace Corps Volunteer working to train local teachers is valued by numerous organizations, including the U.S. Agency for International Development, the U.S. Department of Education, the Corporation for National and Community Service, Teach for America, public and private school districts across the U.S., and many private companies, NGOs, and public organizations seeking individuals with unique skills.

## The Work.

As a Primary Education Teacher Trainer, your role will be to provide formal and informal training and support to elementary school teachers. You may also provide classroom instruction. Depending on your specific assignment, you might:

- Assist teachers with lesson planning and methodology
- Develop culturally appropriate instructional materials and workshops
- Help teachers integrate participatory techniques into their teaching through modeling, workshops, and ongoing support
- Work alongside a host country counterpart to plan and conduct teacher training in topics ranging from general education methodologies to child psychology and development
- Foster relationships between educational staff, parents, and community leaders
- Use English language to focus on other critical community topics, such as health, HIV/AIDS, the environment, remedial education, or science
- Teach primary education classes



As the Peace Corps approaches its 50th anniversary, it continues to promote peace and friendship, with Volunteers serving in over 70 countries. Since 1961, nearly 200,000 Americans have served the Peace Corps in 139 countries around the world

# Are You Ready?



## How do I qualify?

To qualify for a Primary Education Teacher Training assignment, you will need at a minimum:

- Bachelor's degree in elementary, or early childhood education OR
- Bachelor's degree in any discipline and certification in elementary education OR
- Bachelor's degree in any discipline and full-time classroom teaching experience at the preschool or elementary level for one or more school years

## Is this the right fit?

Let the Peace Corps match your skills and ambitions with the right type of program. Based on the areas identified by our host countries, there is a pressing need to provide students with English competency, introduce innovative teaching methodologies, encourage critical thinking in the classroom, develop curriculum materials or train teachers informally in conversational English and other academic subjects. You might work in a large city or a very small rural community. You might be assigned to a school, a regional office of the ministry of education, a regional teachers' resource center, or a teacher training college. One thing is certain: you have the opportunity to put your education and ideas into practice and in the process, set the groundwork for a truly sustainable impact.

## How can I stand out?

Qualified applicants will have classroom teaching experience, ranging from one semester of student teaching to many years' full-time. Many applicants have state teaching certification. You will strengthen your application if your credentials include: knowledge of elementary teaching methodologies, experience developing educational materials, and demonstrated skills in classroom management.

The ability to learn a new language is an important ingredient to a successful volunteer experience. Become more competitive by taking at least a year of French or two years of Spanish at the university level. If you have learned a language informally, Peace Corps may consider the CLEP and ACTFL exams to consider you for placement.

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*"My counterpart wrote lesson plans for a teaching competition. The plans were so well put together using methods starkly different from any other competitor and she won the biggest prize - and she did it herself. I like to think that only a year ago, this may not have happened, which speaks volumes about the possible successes of team teaching."*

— Bridgette Ames, Volunteer in Kyrgyz Republic