



Peace Corps

Peace Corps Résumé Tips

Your résumé is the *most critical* part of your application. Interviews are not guaranteed, so your résumé is the essential component to communicate to Peace Corps staff that you have the stuff it takes to be a Volunteer. Try to take the following points into account when sculpting your resume for the Peace Corps:

Tailor it. Review the “Required Skills” and “Desired Skills” sections of the volunteer project(s) you’re most interested in. Use these sections as a guide to help you tailor your résumé content and language to highlight the skills mentioned in the posting.

Have a Key Qualifications section at the top of your resume. Include a few bullet points here outlining your strongest skills that are relevant to the project(s) you’re most interested in. Having a Key Qualifications section is better than an Objectives section.

Be comprehensive. Strive to have your Peace Corps résumé be no longer than two to three pages long. Try to include all relevant professional, volunteer, and leadership experience from college and beyond.

Emphasize the relevant parts first. Don’t include great details about jobs that do not relate to Peace Corps Service. The longest section of your résumé might not be the job you spent the longest amount of time with. Give more bullets to the jobs where you gained skills you might use in a Peace Corps assignment, even if you didn’t spend that long doing it.

Quantify your experiences. Be specific and use numbers to describe your experiences. Include the number of hours you worked/volunteered (full time, 10 hrs/wk), the specific field or category (after-school English 3rd grade tutoring, organic permaculture farming on a 5 acre field), the number of individuals you supervised or worked with (one-on-one, supervised a group of 20), their ages, etc.

Include certifications. Be sure to list any and all certifications you may have such as TEFL, First Aid, CPR, etc.

Highlight language training. Indicate what languages you have a background in, how many quarters or semesters in college you have taken for each, how many years in High School, and/or your fluency level independent of coursework. If you lived or taught abroad in a foreign language, note that as well.

Keep it updated. If you want to improve your résumé to better highlight your qualifications, or if you gain skills after you apply, be sure to upload an updated version by going to your portal on the Peace Corps application page.