

Peace Corps Application Tips: Assignment Selection

When applying to the Peace Corps, you need to choose one of two paths – 1) apply directly to the position that best matches your skills and interest or 2) apply to “where you are needed most,” and Peace Corps will consider you for the position which best matches your skills and our needs. If you choose the first option, you will have the opportunity within the application to indicate that you would also like to be considered for other positions if not selected for the one to which you applied.

Regardless of which path you take, you will have the opportunity to indicate which locations and sectors you have interest in. You can have only one active application at a time, so you must indicate all of your selections in a single application. Please remember the following points as you consider your options:

Do your research. Visit www.peacecorps.gov/openings to view current assignment openings. Only apply to a position where you meet the minimum skill and language qualifications as detailed on the web postings. Most applicants end up being interested in more than one assignment after doing research, so look through all the opportunities that suit your skills and preferences. If you are willing to serve where you are needed most, you can apply to that option and we will help you find the right match. Lastly, search the “Featured Openings” for countries that may be less well-known, have a large number of positions to fill, or require specialized skill sets. As with any position, you will need to cater your resume to the qualifications, so reach out to a recruiter for help in making your application stand out.

Utilize the “additional information” section within the application to communicate preferences about the work or region where you might serve. Maybe there are 11 Peace Corps countries all across the world that you’re equally interested in, or you would like to indicate a preference or a necessity that you speak Spanish; you can list those details here. No justification or explanation is needed. Just make sure your preferences and deal-breakers are clearly stated.

Be honest about your flexibility. As Peace Corps is competitive, it is advantageous to be flexible so we can consider you for multiple assignments. Your life-changing experience may be where you’re least expecting it. However, be honest with yourself about where you are open to serving. Don’t indicate regions or sectors where there are assignments you wouldn’t accept. Remember, we will not consider you for any position outside of your indicated preferences.

Please indicate the geographic areas for which you would like to be considered.

Please indicate the sectors for which you would like to be considered.

If you would like to provide additional information regarding your preferences, please do so in the space provided.