



## **Internship opportunities in public health research and practice PeerCorps Trust Fund (Tanzania)**

The PeerCorps Trust Fund ([www.peercorpstrust.org](http://www.peercorpstrust.org)) offers internships for emerging professionals in the fields of public health and International development. The aims of these internships are to develop cohorts of globally conscious public health practitioners, researchers and policy makers and to equip them with the research and professional skills necessary to develop their careers.

### **What do we offer our interns?**

- The opportunity to work with a grassroots organization that conducts original research at the local level which then informs practice at the local level.
- A strong introduction to the professional life and business of a non-governmental organization; learning to contribute to conduct and contribute to community-based research, practice and administration of the organization.
- An opportunity to define and undertake new research related to PeerCorps programs, and with our guidance, develop this into publishable-quality material.
- An opportunity to meet researchers and activists from across Africa, network and attend conferences, seminars and other events on behalf of the NGO.
- An opportunity to work with a World Health Organization Collaborating Center and other partners from leading organizations.
- At the end of the Internship, we provide a reference for future employers. We are also able to respond to reference requests after interns have completed their term with us.

### **What experience do I need to be a PeerCorps Intern?**

You don't need any professional experience to be a PeerCorps intern. What you do need is relevant training in the health sciences or a development related field. An undergraduate degree (or near completion of one) is a prerequisite, as are interest in research and enthusiasm for working closely with communities in a low-income country setting. A lot of our Interns will have a master's degree in a related field and some are medical, dental, or nursing students - but this is not mandatory. We also expect you to have some knowledge of Africa and African issues. Without exception, prospective interns should be computer savvy and preferably familiar with open source software. We communicate regularly (and promptly) via email and via VOIP.

### **How long does an Internship last?**

The internship can last from six weeks to a year, depending on the nature of the internship project and upon negotiation with PeerCorps. Some interns have stayed on in the past for more than a year for extended practicums.

### **What does it cost to be an intern?**

Unlike other organizations, there are no fees associated with being supervised as a PeerCorps Intern. We do however ask for a modest application fee which helps us to cover the costs of international communication and placement tasks. This fee can be waived if the applicant provides a written statement detailing a financial hardship or any other circumstance at the time of the application.

### **Where is the internship based?**

On-site internships are based in Dar es Salaam or in other areas of Tanzania. Other arrangements may be possible depending on the type and scope of the experience sought.

### **When do you receive interns?**

We receive interns during the months of May-October. Applications are asked to be submitted at least eight

months in advance of the start of an internship. This is to ensure that adequate preparations have been made on the ground and that all medical clearances, vaccinations and interviews have been conducted.

### **Are all applications accepted?**

No. This depends on the demand for placements, which vary considerably each year. The demand will be highest for the summer (global north) places or May-July. If we have more applications than places, we reserve the right to offer internships to the most suitable candidates.

### **Do you pay your interns?**

Unfortunately, our funding does not allow us to pay our interns. We can suggest a list of potential sponsors or grant sources which might be able to cover flights and/or living expenses. However, we suggest starting your application at least **12 months early** if you wish to simultaneously apply to these funding sources. If you were to undertake any travel on our behalf after the internship period, such as to attend a conference or meeting, we would be able to reimburse you. Unfortunately, PeerCorps cannot cover accommodation, travel or living costs in country. Most interns are self-funded.

### **Am I too old or young to be an intern?**

You should have completed at least a significant portion of a bachelor's degree in a relevant field regardless of age. We have no upper age limit.

### **What languages should interns know?**

Kiswahili and English are the two official languages of the United Republic of Tanzania. While we would certainly encourage those interested to apply if they do speak Kiswahili, a good command of spoken and written English is absolutely necessary. We do not ask for language tests, your English language ability will be examined via interview. All of your application materials must be submitted in English as well.

### **Can an internship count as university credit?**

If your university is willing to accept the internship as credit, then you may do so, but this is up to you to arrange. We do not participate in any arrangements where college credit is guaranteed by an internship. We are happy to supply the paperwork that is necessary should your institution require it.

### **How do I apply?**

We have a detailed application process which can be found on our website:

<http://peercorpstrust.org/Internships/iresources/iresources.html> but first we invite you to contact us to describe your interest in an internship with us. This can be accomplished by sending an email to the Project Coordinator at: [ipc@peercorpstrust.org](mailto:ipc@peercorpstrust.org) or discussing live with us via secure live voice/video/chat via [peercorps@jit.si](mailto:peercorps@jit.si) (Jitsi Internet Phone<sup>1</sup>).

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<sup>1</sup> For instructions on setting up a Jitsi softphone account please refer to the PeerCorps document entitled “*A simple user guide for installing and setting up an Internet phone using Jitsi*”.