



Peace
Corps **PREP**

VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY



APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Thank you for your interest in the Peace Corps Prep Program at Virginia State University. A completed application package will include the following items.

- **Peace Corps Prep Application form** located on this web site. Provide the requested information and then print the form, including the Personal Statement described below.
- **Personal Statement:** Write an essay on the assigned topic. You should compose the essay in MS Word and then copy and paste the final draft of your essay into the text box in Part II of the application.
- **One Academic Reference from one of your professors or your academic advisor.** Complete Part I and then print the form. Be sure to sign the form before taking it to the faculty member, who will complete Part II.

The completed application package should be submitted to the **OFFICE FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION, located in Trinkle Hall, Room 205, Virginia State University.** If you need assistance with the application, please contact the Peace Corps Prep Program Director: Dr. Maxine Sample (msample@vsu.edu or 804-524-5986).



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Part I: STUDENT APPLICATION

Name: _____ Student ID: _____ Date: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Major(s): _____ Minors(s): _____

Expected Graduation (month and year): _____ Cumulative GPA: _____

1. Training and experience in a specific work sector

Please check the box of the sector in which you would like to serve:

- [Education](#) [Environment](#) [Youth in Development](#)
- [Health](#) [Agriculture](#) [Community Economic Development](#)

Note: Actual Peace Corps assignments are based on local needs, and thus may or may not align seamlessly with your qualifications. Flexibility is key to the Peace Corps experience!

(1) Coursework. List the number and name of 3 courses in this same sector that you plan to take, and the semester in which you plan to take them (it is fine if you've already taken them).

Note: The courses you include on this application may change, but it's good to have a plan.

1. Course: _____ Semester and year: _____
2. Course: _____ Semester and year: _____
3. Course: _____ Semester and year: _____

(2) Hands-on experience in that same sector (must total at least 50 hours).

Describe what you plan to do:

2. Foreign language skills

Requirements depend upon desired Peace Corps volunteer placement site. (1) *Spanish-speaking countries* → two 200-level courses. (2) *French-speaking countries* → one 200-level course in any Romance Language. (3) *Everywhere else* → no explicit requirements, but language skills are a plus.

If you intend to learn a foreign language, please list which one: _____

List the top 2 foreign language courses you plan to take:

Course 1: _____ Semester and year: _____

Course 2: _____ Semester and year: _____

Or describe your alternative learning process (e.g., native speaker):

3. Intercultural competence

List the core course and two approved electives you plan to take:

Core course: _____ Semester and year: _____

Elective 1: _____ Semester and year: _____

Elective 2: _____ Semester and year: _____

4. Professional and leadership development

1. **Professional resume feedback:** When do you plan to meet with Career Services for a one-on-one resume review? Month and year: _____
2. **Professional interview prep:** When do you plan to meet with Career Services for an interview workshop? Month and year: _____
3. **Describe a leadership experience that you intend to pursue:**
For example, leading a work or volunteer project, serving on the executive board of a student organization, or organizing a big campus event.

Signature of Student

Date

Signature of Peace Corps Prep Coordinator

Date



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PART II: PERSONAL STATEMENT

Instructions: Write an essay (500-600 words) that discusses how you believe an intercultural field experience with the Peace Corps will benefit your academic and professional goals.

Note: It is recommended that you compose the essay in MS Word and then copy and paste the final draft of your essay into the text box below.

Personal Statement Continued



VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY PEACE CORPS PREP PROGRAM * ACADEMIC REFERENCE FORM

Your application for admission to the Peace Corps Prep program must be accompanied by an academic reference. Please complete **Part I** and then have the Virginia State University faculty member complete and sign **Part II**. The form should be returned in a **SEALED** envelope with the faculty member's signature across the flap. Additional comments may also be attached to this form.

PART I: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT

Applicant Name _____

Student ID Number _____ Classification (check ONE) ___FR ___SO ___JR ___SR

Local Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Email _____

I hereby (check one) **Waive** ___ / **Do Not Waive** ___ my right of access to this reference information.

Applicant's signature _____ Date _____

PART II: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE FACULTY REFEREE

The above named student is applying for admission to the Peace Corps Prep program. Please supply an assessment of the applicant by responding to the following items. Sign the form below and return it to the student in a sealed envelope. Please provide comments requested below.

ACQUAINTANCE WITH THE APPLICANT

How long have you known the applicant? _____

In what capacity have you known the applicant? _____

ACADEMIC ATTRIBUTES

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Not Observed
Competence in major/specialization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Academic interest and motivation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to work independently	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Responsibility (completes assignments)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUITABILITY FOR PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Ability to adapt to new circumstances	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to work with others from diverse backgrounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emotional maturity and stability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal integrity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Self-reliance/independence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leadership potential	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Based on your knowledge of this student, please comment on the student's capacity for international development work.

Name (Print) _____ Title/Position _____

Department _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Signature _____ Date _____