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Live, learn, and work  
in a community overseas.

**Be a Volunteer.**





## Mission and Goals

Peace Corps promotes world peace and friendship by:

- 1** Helping the people of interested countries in meeting their need for trained men and women
- 2** Promoting a better understanding of Americans on the part of the people served
- 3** Promoting a better understanding of others on the part of Americans

For over 50 years, Peace Corps has remained true to its service mission, established in 1961.



# 50 Years of the Peace Corps

- **Began in 1961**
- **~ 200,000 Volunteers served / ~ 9,000 currently overseas**
- **Currently in 76 countries**
- **6 program areas/ 12month application process**

peacecorps.gov



# Peace Corps and the University of Arizona

- 71 U of A alumni currently serving in the Peace Corps
- U of A ranks 13<sup>th</sup> on Peace Corps' annual list of "Top Colleges and Universities"
- Since 1961, 1,456 U of A alumni have served in the Peace Corps, ranking 15<sup>th</sup> in the nation





# Volunteer Overview

Peace Corps is a life-defining leadership experience. Volunteers:

- Live, learn, and work with a community overseas for 27 months
- Work in six program areas: Health, Education, Agriculture, Environment, Youth and Community Development, Information & Communication Technology, and Business Development
- Are prepared with intensive language, cross-cultural, and technical training

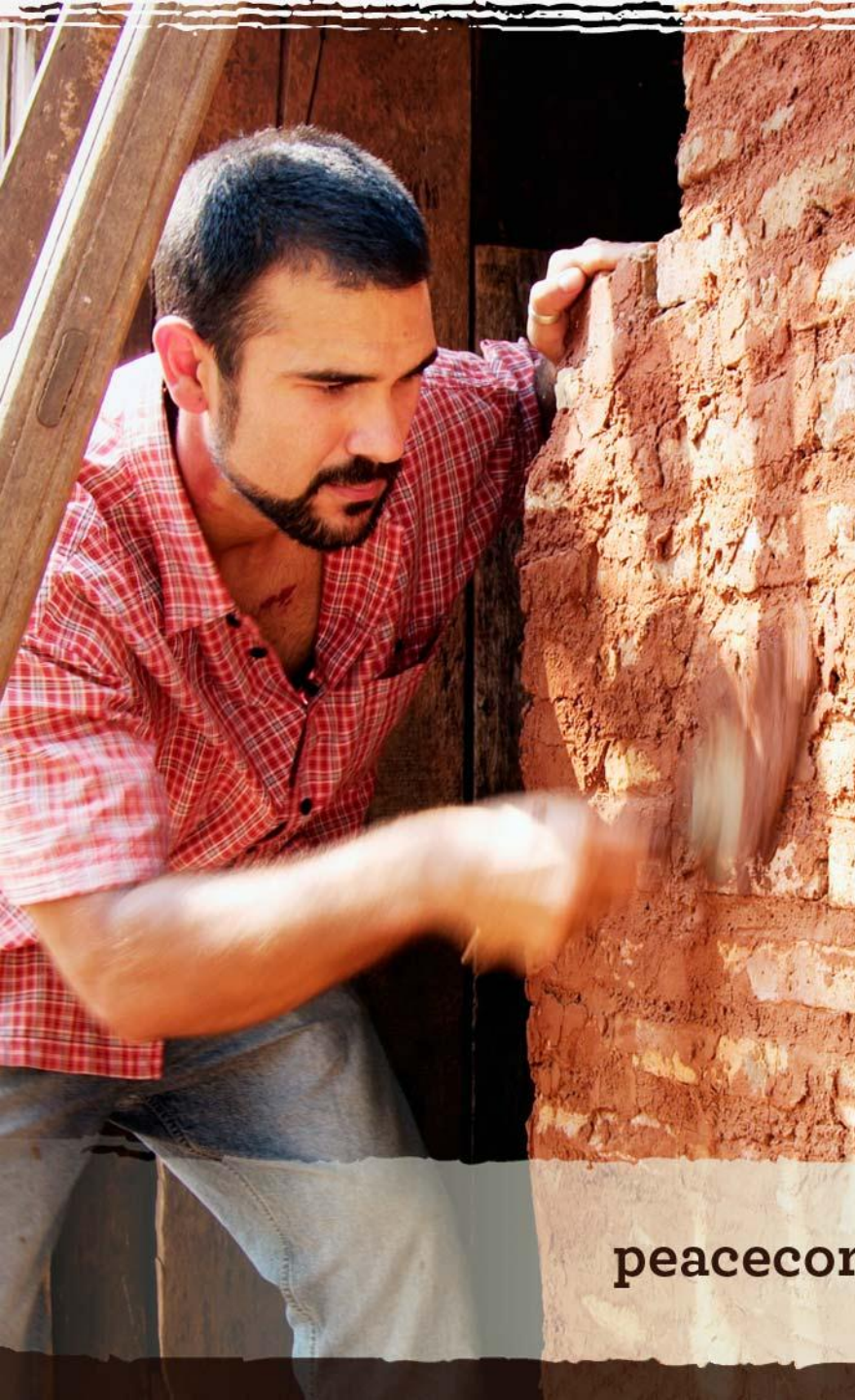
[peacecorps.gov/apply](https://peacecorps.gov/apply)





## Volunteer Facts





## Who Volunteers

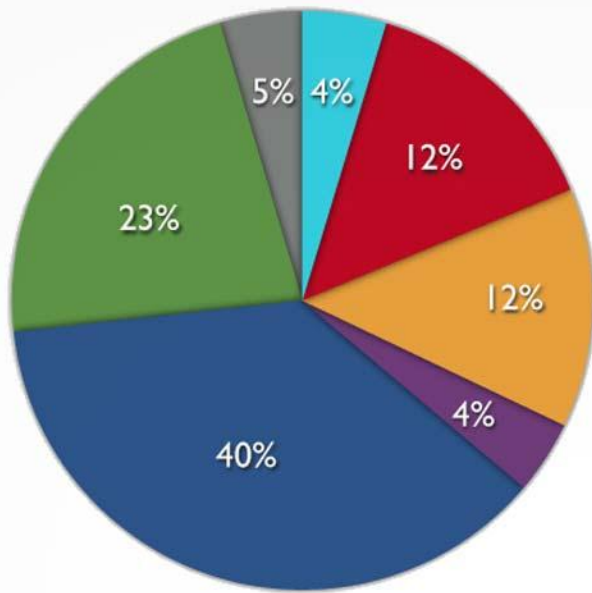
- Average age: 28 years
- Age 50 and over: 7%
- Have a college degree: 90%
- Minorities: 20%
- Gender: 61% women, 39% men
- Marital status: 93% single, 7% married

*As of 9/30/2011*

[peacecorps.gov/whovolunteers](http://peacecorps.gov/whovolunteers)



# What Volunteers Do



- Education..... 40%
- Health and HIV/AIDS..... 23%
- Business and ICT..... 12%
- Environment..... 12%
- Youth Development..... 5%
- Agriculture..... 4%
- Other\*..... 4%

*Figures are based on data as of September 30, 2011*

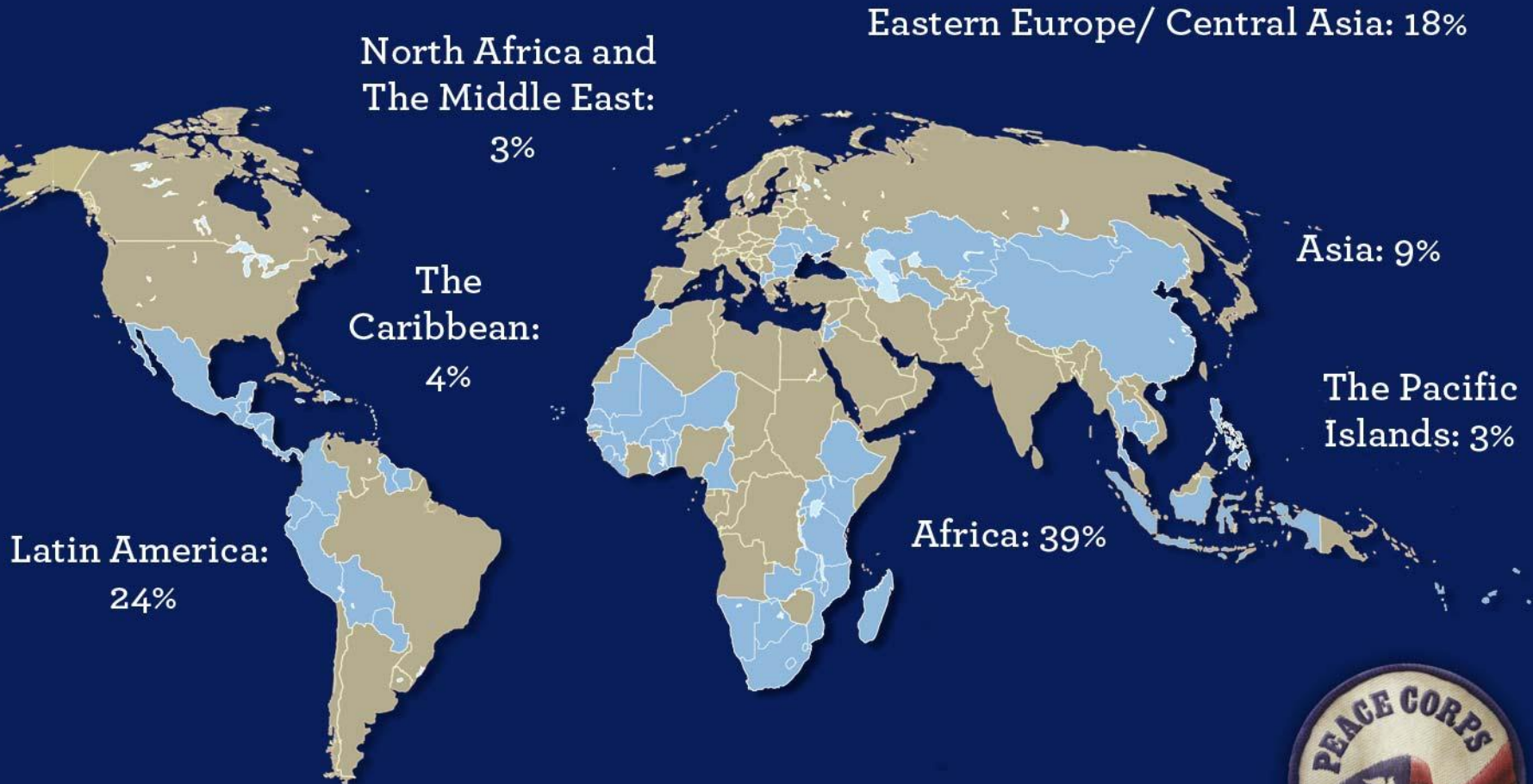
*\* This category includes Peace Corps Response Volunteers and Volunteers working across sectors*



[peacecorps.gov/assignments](http://peacecorps.gov/assignments)



# Where Volunteers Go



% Percentage of total Volunteers serving by geographic region in 2011.

# Volunteer Safety and Security

- The health and safety of Volunteers is the number one priority of the Peace Corps
- Each Peace Corps country has security and medical officers on staff
- Volunteers receive intensive training to mitigate risks of serving overseas
- Building relationships and integrating into the community is the cornerstone of Volunteer safety



[peacecorps.gov/safety](https://peacecorps.gov/safety)





# Benefits of Service



# Benefits During Service

 Student Loans.....	>Some are eligible for deferment and/or partial cancellation
 International Travel..	>Paid travel expenses to and from country of service
 Living Allowance.....	>A monthly stipend to cover housing and living expenses
 Vacation.....	>Earn two vacation days per month of service
 Medical and Dental....	>Receive complete medical and dental care while serving
 Training.....	>Language, cross-cultural, and technical training provided
 No Fee.....	>Unlike other international volunteer programs, there is no fee to participate in the Peace Corps



[peacecorps.gov/benefits](http://peacecorps.gov/benefits)

# Benefits After Service

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Transition Funds.....            | >Receive \$7,425 (pre-tax after 27 months of service)        |
| Job Placement Support.....       | >Access to Peace Corps career resources                      |
| Edge for Federal Employment..... | >Get one year of noncompetitive eligibility for federal jobs |
| Health Insurance.....            | >Access to an affordable 18-month plan                       |
| Vibrant Alumni Network.....      | >Be part of over 200,000 returned Volunteers worldwide       |
| Career Enhancement.....          | >Gain new marketable skills and experience                   |



[peacecorps.gov/benefits](https://peacecorps.gov/benefits)



# Graduate School Benefits

Scholarships, assistantships, academic credits, and stipends are available through Peace Corps programs at over 140 schools.

## BEFORE SERVICE

- Master's International combines graduate school with Peace Corps service
- Begin your studies on campus, serve overseas with Peace Corps while earning academic credit, and return to finish your graduate work
- Apply to graduate school first and when accepted, submit your Peace Corps application

## AFTER SERVICE

- Paul D. Coverdell Fellows Program offers financial benefits for returned Peace Corps Volunteers who wish to pursue graduate-level studies
- Lifetime eligibility is offered to those who satisfactorily complete service

[peacecorps.gov/gradschool](https://peacecorps.gov/gradschool)





How Do I Become a Volunteer?





# Application Process

Plan ahead and apply 9-12 months in advance of your target departure date. The application process entails:

- Evaluating if Peace Corps is right for you
- Application
- Interview
- Nomination of competitive candidates
- Medical and legal review
- Invitation of selected candidates
- Preparation for departure

[peacecorps.gov/apply](https://peacecorps.gov/apply)



# Application Timeframe

**If you.....**

**Now**

**Spring 2012**

**Spring 2013**

Have a degree in agriculture, forestry, or environment and Spanish or French language skills

**Apply Now!**

**Serve!**

Want to serve in 2013

**Bolster your qualifications: tutor ESL; HIV Outreach; learn French or Spanish**

**Apply by spring/summer 2012**

**Serve!**

Want to serve in 2014 and beyond

**Keep in touch.....learn Spanish or French.....bolster qualifications**

[peacecorps.gov/apply](http://peacecorps.gov/apply)





# What Makes a Successful Volunteer

From the application process through the completion of service, successful Peace Corps Volunteers demonstrate:

- Commitment to service
- Leadership
- Cultural sensitivity
- Flexibility
- Curiosity
- Dedication

[peacecorps.gov/expect](https://peacecorps.gov/expect)





## How to Be a More Competitive Candidate

The application process is competitive. If you don't have a specialized degree, strengthen your application with:

- 3-6 months tutoring English to age 12+
- 3-6 months of HIV/AIDS outreach or health education experience
- 3 months of full-time work in agriculture

[peacecorps.gov/competitive](https://peacecorps.gov/competitive)





For 2012, the following skills are in high demand by host countries:

- Forestry with French
- Environment with Spanish
- Agriculture with Spanish or French
- Agriculture economics/ agribusiness
- University English teaching
- English teacher trainer
- TEFL/TESL with classroom teaching

[peacecorps.gov/2012](http://peacecorps.gov/2012)



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A group of African children and a woman are smiling and reaching out towards the camera. The children are of various ages and are dressed in simple clothing. The woman is in the center, wearing a red shirt. The background is a bright, cloudy sky.

Apply today  
to be part of the  
Peace Corps legacy.

[peacecorps.gov/apply](http://peacecorps.gov/apply)

