

ABOUT Top DAWGS PEER EDUCATORS

Goals:

The goal of Top Dawg Peer Educators is to provide their peers with information and support to encourage healthy lifestyle choices. This is achieved through the planning and implementation of informal and interactive programs, workshops, and displays relating to various healthcare initiatives.

Purpose of Top Dawg Peer Educators:

To increase students' knowledge about making healthy lifestyle choices.

To increase students' knowledge about legal and ethical issues pertaining to drug/alcohol use.

To educate students on how to recognize and respond to drug/alcohol related problems.

To encourage fellow peers to evaluate and change negative attitudes, values and beliefs about drug/alcohol use.

To address issues faced by college students pertaining to sexual health, physical health and psychological health.

Qualifications:

Students must exhibit the following qualifications to be a Top Dawg Peer Educator:

Student must be a full-time MSU undergraduate student at the time of application.

Cumulative G.P.A. of 2.5 or higher

Characteristics of Top Dawg Peer Educators

1. Student displays a genuine interest in health education, prevention, and promotion
2. Student has a genuine desire to help others
3. Student has ability to lead by example
4. Student has the ability to listen and communicate effectively
5. Student has an appreciation for working with diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds.
6. Student displays good leadership skills.
7. Student is nonjudgmental and open-minded
8. Student has the ability to form relationships
9. Student has personal or social experience with health related issues
10. Student is influential and credible

Advantages to being a Top Dawg Peer Educator

1. Increased knowledge about health related issues.
2. Opportunity to meet new people.
3. Opportunity to build solid friendships.
4. Increase self-esteem.
5. Development of planning and presentation skills.
6. Development of leadership skills such as working in teams, delegating, active listening, confrontation, problem-solving, and conflict resolution.
7. Service Opportunity
8. Resume Builder
9. FUN! FUN! FUN!