



Student Medical Response Peer Helper Position Description

Position Title:	Student Medical Response Peer Helper
Department:	Student Wellness Services
Term:	Fall 2021/Winter 2022
Number of Positions:	Approximately 15
Hours:	4 hours/week or 16 hours/month + 3 hours of training
Length of Position:	September 01, 2021 – April 30, 2022

This is a competitive student leadership volunteer opportunity open to all University of Calgary students.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Student Medical Response (SMR) works in conjunction with the University of Calgary's Student Wellness Services, Campus Security and Risk Department, and community partners to provide on-call emergency medical response to the campus community, and standby services to event participants at UCalgary events. SMR is a registered Medical First Response agency with Alberta Health Services Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

As a volunteer, you will be required to provide emergency medical assistance to the campus community during day to day on call response and at major UCalgary events. This will require you to interact and work in a team with other SMR volunteers, campus security, fire fighters, paramedics, and police. All volunteers are expected to fulfill their responsibilities in a safe manner, while adhering to the professional standards set out by the University procedures, and policies. Please note that this volunteer position requires a reasonable degree of physical fitness such as the ability to lift over 35 pounds and may involve periods of standing and/or sitting.

Experience in medicine, nursing, Athletic Therapy, Emergency services, physiotherapy and other allied health professions are an asset. However, the position is open to students in all programs and career goals and is encouraged.

TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- In conjunction with Campus Security, provide medical first response to medical emergencies on campus
- Provide initial medical care to injured or sick individuals at various UCalgary events
- Attend regular training programs and meetings
- Maintain patient confidentiality and respect
- Minimum shift commitment is 16 hours/month, plus monthly mandatory training
- Other duties as assigned

BENEFITS:

- Free Training in Advanced Medical First Responder and Healthcare Provider CPR (Exceeds Standard First Aid) depending on the year of study entering
- Ability to add experience to official UCalgary co-curricular record
- Develop leadership skills and the abilities to think quickly, and manage stress in emergent settings
- The opportunity to attend major UCalgary events free of cost
- Gain valuable experience towards possible career options in medicine, nursing, and/or medical first responder (firefighting, EMS)
- Develop critical thinking and team work necessary to succeed in any professional environment
- Gain first hand exposure to a wide variety of community resources including EMS, Fire, nursing, medical school
- Opportunity to get involved and give back to your UCalgary community
- Experience unique opportunities such as competing in provincial first responder competitions

COMMITMENT:

The time commitment of this position is on average 4-8 hours per week. Daily coverage and weekly time commitment are subject to change based on needs of SMR operation. Your hourly commitments may include:

- Monthly training meetings required to be attended by all SMR Members
- Time spent on medical standby at special events
- Daily coverage from 0900-1700hrs Monday through Friday

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Demonstrated professionalism, maturity and good judgment;
- Strong ability to work in a team environment
 - Conscientious and dedicated attitude necessary to complete training and practice requirements
 - Professional and respectful demeanor to uphold patient trust and confidentiality at all times
 - Current Standard First Aid, CPR-C Certification from one of the following: Canadian Red Cross, St. John Ambulance, Lifesaving Society of Canada, Heart & Stroke Foundation, or Canadian Ski Patrol
 - Previous experience in nursing, medicine, lifeguarding, ski patrolling, or first aid is helpful, but is not required; all programs and all years considered (Undergrad, Masters, PhD)
- Excellent oral and written communication skills;
- In good academic standing;
- Proficiency in Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint (or Pages and Keynote); and
- Have experience working with student groups.
- As the Peer Helper Program is meant to enhance the student experience and supplement academic learning, all Peer Helpers must demonstrate their ability to balance their academics with their extracurricular commitments, and must be in good academic standing
- All Peer Helpers must be in good standing with the Office of Student Conduct

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS:

As a result of volunteering in this role, students can expect to develop their employability skills in the following focus areas, as outlined by the Conference Board of Canada's Employability Skills:

- **Communication Skills:** Gain public speaking, presentation and group facilitation skills;
- **Teamwork Skills:** Develop skills in understanding group dynamics, engaging in dialogue with others who approach learning, work and world issues differently, and event/project management; and
- **Personal Management Skills:** Learn how your strengths help you succeed, and how to be

adaptable in different settings. You will also have the opportunity to work on learning goals in this position using the SMART model.

As a University of Calgary Peer Helper, you will also have the opportunity to work within a collaborative team environment, expand your network of students, faculty, and staff and have access to specific career development opportunities provided through the Peer Helper Program

PEER HELPER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM:

The Peer Helper Program engages 300 students every year through 17 different on-campus offices. A key part of being a Peer Helper is having the opportunity to develop your employability skills and experiences, and then translate those experiences into strong interview stories. Launched in 2019-2020, the Peer Helper Professional Development (PHPD) Program helps Peer Helpers meet these goals.

- For 2021-2022, Peer Helpers are required to complete their “Skills Portfolio” four times throughout the academic year: once at the beginning and the end of each semester. The Skills Portfolio is a concise self-assessment tool that gauges students’ progress in the 17 skills that they can develop as Peer Helpers, as per Berdrow and Evers’ (2010) [Bases of Competence](#) framework.
- Peer Helpers are also required to attend at least 2 Skills Workshops out of more than 30 that will be available to them. These pertain to the 17 skills mentioned above, and will be a mixture of in-person/synchronous and online/asynchronous workshops. Peer Helpers can choose a combination from either or both types.

APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply, please submit an online Peer Helper application form available on the Peer Helper Program’s [website](#) by 4:30pm on **October 1st, 2021**. If you have any questions, please direct them to php@ucalgary.ca. Candidates selected for an interview should expect to meet on Zoom during August and/or September for an interview, decisions are made in groups of candidates.