

Why did you choose to be a Peer Advisor?

- ? It sounded like a rewarding job that would fit in well with my school schedule.
- ? Because I know how frustrating it is to get the “run around” when you need help. I wanted to help my peers get the information they need.
- ? I wanted to be a peer advisor because I needed a job and thought it would be great to work for the HENV Dept. and with students.
- ? To learn more about the advising process. I needed some money for school and I wanted to get to know my advisor better.
- ? To get to know people in my department, student and faculty.
- ? I had a ton of bad experiences with advisors. I also had researched different majors so I know a lot about different colleges.
- ? I saw it as a good opportunity to help fellow students. My friend was a peer advisor and only had good things to say about it. It relates to my major.
- ? Because I enjoy working with people and being able to help students avoid the problems and mistakes I encountered previously.
- ? I needed a little extra money to get through the year. I have enjoyed my education here and wanted to help other students enjoy theirs.
- ? Because I saw it as a good chance to practice skills I will use in my career as an educator.
- ? I just needed a job.
- ? I felt like I knew so much, as a senior, about my major. I wanted to help other students on their way.
- ? I wanted to help my peers make good decisions in their degree programs.
- ? I thought it would be a good way to improve my communication skills, making me a more competitive applicant to professional school. I wanted to get to know people in the department better.
- ? To become more involved in my program.
- ? I originally had work study. I didn't get it this year so she hired me as her peer advisor.
- ? I needed a job. I enjoy working with peers, like counseling, wanted to help the advisor and those in my major to know of changes and updates they should be aware of.
- ? To get involved with my program.
- ? I enjoy working with other students.
- ? For the experience and the opportunity to help students.
- ? I wanted to be able to help students directly. I wanted to help them feel welcome and like they belong here at USU.
- ? I have been very involved in the CNR and it has been a good way to use the knowledge I have.
- ? To help students make good academic decisions and avoid some of the mistakes I made.

How would you describe the value of being a peer advisor?

- ? It has been wonderful! I love what I do and it works great as my part-time job.
- ? It is a great value to me. I'm learning a lot about the requirements and common problems – I love it.
- ? I think it is so important to meet with an advisor whether it be an advisor or peer advisor. Peer advisors can offer insights to students that an advisor couldn't. I think it is a very valuable program.
- ? High.
- ? Extremely worthwhile and worth the time and effort.
- ? I think it's great that I get to talk directly to students in need.
- ? Peer Advising gives you a totally different outlook on what students need and also how best to help them. It also gives you better communication skills and makes you more sensitive to others' feelings, frustrations, etc.
- ? The value to other students: invaluable, peer advisors are much more approachable, easier to get in touch with, not as rushed and can provide peer level understanding. The value to myself: fulfilling because there are students that I know I truly made a difference in their life and academic career.
- ? I've thoroughly enjoyed helping students and serving the departmental advisor. I've learned a lot over the year about the school system, but even more importantly how to deal with people and best meet their needs.

- ? Sometimes you can get in doors as a peer that would otherwise be difficult to access for advisors.
- ? I've learned more interpersonal skills, looks good on a resume.
- ? It helped me decide on a masters program. I will be going into Psychology and school counseling.
- ? I have enjoyed the experience, I feel that I get to help my peers plan for their future, recruit, serve my college, etc.
- ? It's really good for students to be able to talk to someone like themselves. Sometimes faculty can be very intimidating.
- ? Great. Very educational. I learned a lot about the program, the professors, and how to present Anthropology to people.
- ? It has been a very rewarding experience. Good for my communication skills.
- ? Great, it's fun and it is great to interact with students and professors.
- ? It is a rewarding job that creates opportunities to make new friends and acquaintances.
- ? It has been great because I've had an excellent chance to help my peers and myself.
- ? It really helped me understand the department. It helps you reach out to students and get questions answered.
- ? I have learned a lot about how the CNR works and I have been able to help my fellow students/friends.
- ? High- it is a great service and opportunity.

Advice for new Peer Advisors.

- ? Get outside of your box and get to know the students. Remember names, be outgoing and build trusting supportive relationships so students feel comfortable coming to ask questions of you.
- ? Be aware of and familiar with the resources available. I have used the advising manual a lot and research web sites of other schools to know what classes will transfer for our department's students. It has also been very helpful for me to print information from the advising web page and use as a reference (especially the ACT scores to waive classes).
- ? Tip for the future: this is one of the BEST jobs on campus – enjoy it!
- ? I would tell students to listen and try to grasp the needs of the student. Explain what they need and write down important info for them. Ask them their name and not only advise them but become their friend so they feel confident in coming in again.
- ? Advice: Just listen to the students and help make them comfortable so they will open up to you more.
- ? Always put a name behind every person you advise. As a result you will become much more interested in what the advisee wants out of his/her education.
- ? Know the University Studies Requirements. Know a little about transfer credits and how they work.
- ? Try to stay organized and always be open and available for students. Listen to people.
- ? Be patient and have fun. You need to know your stuff but if you don't, ask.
- ? Be confident. You were hired for a reason.
- ? Listen! Don't just dictate, listen to what the student wants to do.
- ? Schedule your total weekly hours so that you get the maximum number of hours possible. When you don't schedule them properly you won't be able to get them all within the month, thus you'll lose money that could be yours.
- ? Know your major requirement sheet and learn all you can about university requirements. Be thorough in your advising.
- ? Get to know students who come in by name and say "hi" to them when you see them around campus. Always refer to everyone in Administration and Faculty as Dr., Professor, Dean, etc., even if everyone else doesn't.
- ? Familiarize yourself with the office and its procedures as soon as possible.
- ? Don't be afraid to ask your supervisor questions. They are there to help you. Do a great job.