

Apply to be a



PEER EDUCATOR

RECOMMENDATION FORM

- Receive training and work with licensed mental health professionals
- Provide psychoeducational outreach services to UCI students
- Gain practical experience valued by many graduate schools
- Qualifies as S.E. 195 Field Study (Winter or Spring)
- Receive three units of academic credit each quarter

For further information, check out the Counseling Center website:
<https://counseling.uci.edu/peer-programs/peer-educator-program/>.

If you have questions, please email: ucipeereducators@gmail.com

Timeline for the selection process:

April 11th, 2025 - Deadline by 5PM

(Applications and recommendation forms must be received by this date)
Only one recommendation form is required, but two are preferred.

May 10th, 2025 - Interviews

(For further inquiries, please contact us)

APPLICATION DEADLINE

April 11th, 2025. To be turned in electronically to ucipeereducators@gmail.com with Subject Line “Peer Educator Program Application” or in-person at the Counseling Center (Across from the Starbucks at The Hill)

WORKING TITLE - Counseling Center Peer Educator

TIME COMMITMENT 7-10 hrs/week for the 2025-2026 academic year Some evening/weekend hours

ACADEMIC CREDIT - School: Social Ecology

- 198 Directed Studies (Fall, Winter, Spring) 3 units, P/NP

- 195 Field Study Site (Winter or Spring)

CLASS TIME Wednesday, 3-5pm

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS Minimum GPA of 2.5

MISSION

As a component of the Counseling Center's Consultation and Outreach Program, the Peer Educator Program trains undergraduate students to provide psychoeducational (primary prevention) services to the UCI student body.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

- Participate in weekly training/supervision sessions
- Collaborate with fellow Peers Educators to create and present interactive psychoeducational workshops to various student groups
- Meet with Counseling Center Staff to better understand Counseling Center services and to gain insight into potential future careers
- Assist staff with primary prevention outreach events
- Market the services of the Counseling Center and the Peer Program through flyering, tabling, poster-making, in-class announcements, and other creative outreach methods
- Raise funds to support the program
- Complete assignments relevant to development as both a Peer Educator and an individual
- Create a special project to improve the program for future Peer Educators

****SKILLS TO BE ACQUIRED**

- Understanding the mental health needs of university students
- Workshop design and presentation skills
- Knowledge of primary prevention content areas (e.g. stress reduction)
- Understanding the role of a university counseling center
- Time management skills
- Cultural competency in interaction with a diverse community
- Communication skills and inclusive language
- Ability to recognize signs of distress and make a referral
- Leadership skills and collaboration skills
- Models of college student development

***Listings are not all-inclusive.*

NOTE ABOUT APPLICATION: The recommendation forms must be completed by instructors, advisors, or supervisors from your current or previous place of employment. Recommendations from family members, friends, or students cannot be accepted. All recommendations, in order to be accepted, must clearly state the name, position, and school/business of the recommender and be sent directly to Dr. Thanos in business envelopes. Recommendations can also be emailed to Dr. Thanos at sthanos@uci.edu and CC ucipeereducators@gmail.com. Recommendations delivered by the applicant cannot be accepted.

COUNSELING CENTER PEER EDUCATOR EVALUATION AND ESSAY STATEMENT

Recommendation Form Deadline: April 11th, 2025 at 5pm

Candidate Name:

The Counseling Center trains a small, select group of students to assist the professional staff in providing psychoeducational (primary prevention) outreach services to UCI students. It is expected that applicants will have an interest in making public presentations and in facilitating small group discussions. Students most likely to experience a sense of achievement in the program are those who manifest strong leadership, social skills, assertiveness, good judgment, creativity, initiative, follow-through, and commitment. Counseling Center Peer Educators receive training in, for example, college student development, communication skills, public speaking, group facilitation skills, workshop planning/delivery, and outreach and consultation skills.

1. Please rate the Peer candidate on the following scale. Circle a number 1-7.

	(needs improvement)				(outstanding)		
<u>Organization skills</u>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<u>Communication skills</u>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<u>(public speaking)</u>							
<u>Ability to work as part of a team</u>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<u>Initiative</u>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<u>Follow through</u>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<u>Leadership skills</u>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<u>Maturity</u>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<u>Accepts responsibility</u>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<u>Uses good judgment</u>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<u>Creativity</u>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<u>Time Management Skills</u>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

2. Please describe your working relationship with the candidate:

3. Briefly describe the candidate's strengths:

4. Briefly describe the candidate's area(s) for growth:

5. Overall, would you:

- Highly recommend this candidate
- Recommend
- Recommend with reservations
- Not recommend this candidate

* If more convenient, please feel free to write your brief responses to question 3 and 4 on an attached page.

Signature of Recommender: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Place of Employment: _____

Email form to Dr. Thano at sthano@uci.edu or mail/deliver this form to:

Saimir Thano, Ph.D
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Student Services I, Room 203
Irvine, CA 92697-2200