PATCH @ WNY Rural

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**Teen Educator Job Description**

**PAID ($$$) Position for High School Students**

WHAT IS PATCH?

PATCH stands for Providers and Teens Communicating for Health.

PATCH @WNY Rural, a program run by Western New York Rural Area Health Education Center (WNY R-AHEC), believes that health care practices, programs, and policies should be developed with young people rather than just for them. That’s why we work directly with young people like you to improve health care quality for teens and improve the overall health and wellbeing of your generation! We want to make sure teen voices are included in decisions that affect them.

TEEN EDUCATOR POSITION DESCRIPTION

We believe that for YOU (and other teens) to be your best self, you should be able to have open and honest conversations with a trusted health care professional. For many, this isn’t the case. That’s why PATCH exists! We want to make sure that ALL youth can get the health care they need and deserve, and we think YOU can be part of a team to help make that happen.

In this program, we ask YOU to be the expert and share what you know about being a teen, like:

* What are the biggest concerns you and your peers have about health and health care?
* What makes you comfortable or uncomfortable when accessing health/healthcare services?
* How much do you and your peers know about your health care rights as a teen?
* What information and resources do you and your peers need?
* Plus, so much more!

For more information about the program, please visit www.patchprogram.org.

PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

As a Teen Educator, you will work with other teens to make change in your community.

You will be asked to:

* Commit to an 8-month program from November 2023-June 2024
* Attend and fully participate in a five-day Teen Educator Training, the 20-hour training (4 hours each day) scheduled for **November 2nd, 4th, 9th, 16th, & 18th** at WNY R-AHEC**,** 20 Duncan Street, Warsaw, NY. (Thursday meetings 4:30-8:30 PM; Saturday meetings 9:00 AM-1:00 PM). $200 stipend for completion of 20-hour training.
* Attend and participate in two, 2-hour Enrichment Meetings each month (usually every other **Thursday from 6:30-8:30 PM**). Paid $15 per hour.
* Lead workshops for health care professionals & other teens (at various dates and times). Paid $15 per hour.
* Provide a voice for teens & act as a teen representative at community events and conferences.
* Be a reliable source of information for other youth.
* Advocate for change in your community & health care systems.
* Most Teen Educators work between 4-10 hours each month. The amount of time spent on PATCH each week will depend upon what events you sign up for.
* Actively seek options for a future career in the healthcare field.

QUALIFICATIONS / REQUIREMENTS

You are encouraged to apply if you:

* Live in or attend school in Genesee County, Livingston, Orleans County, or Wyoming County.
* Are considering going into the healthcare field (but not required).
* Will be between 14-18 years old by September 2023 (entering grades 9th – 12th grade).
* Are in high school (or high school equivalent) during the 2023/2024 school year.
* Enjoy being part of a team and can work well with others who are different from you.
* Demonstrate responsibility and reliability. This includes:
  + Practicing effective communication via e-mail, text, and in person.
  + Showing up to all meetings and events on time.
  + Being an active Teen Educator: Signing up for events & participating in enrichment.
  + Being responsible for practicing and preparing for the events you sign up for (public speaking and performing skits in front of small and large groups of peers and healthcare providers).
* Are willing to learn and be open minded.
* Are passionate about making sure ALL youth can get the health care they need and deserve!

WHAT WILL I GAIN FROM PATCH?

You will gain valuable leadership and advocacy experience, become more familiar with important health topics that impact teens, develop communication and presentation skills, and so much more! Being a PATCH Teen Educator is an impressive accomplishment to include on college applications and job resumes.

You will also be paid for your time. You will receive $200 upon full completion of the 20-hour Teen Educator Training and $15 an hour for attending enrichment meetings and leading workshops. The total amount you will receive each month will vary based on the number of events you attend and hours you work (likely between $60-$150/month). You will be paid monthly.

HOW TO APPLY

Follow the QR Code below to complete the application no later than Sunday, September 17, 2023.

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Important Dates

* Sunday, September 17th Applications Due
* Sept. 25th & 28th; Oct. 2nd & 5th In-Person Interviews
* November 2nd, 4th, 9th, 16th, & 18th Teen Educator Training Dates (Required)
* Two Thursday evenings per month Teen Enrichment Meetings (Required)