

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Do Peace Corps Volunteers (PCVs) have to be working in education or be associated with a school to participate in Correspondence Match?

A: No. PCVs in any skill field can participate in the Coverdell World Wise Schools (CWWS) Correspondence Match program. All sectors are represented through our Peace Corps participants. The matches are designed to be between a U.S. classroom and a Volunteer; it is not a student-to-student exchange.

Q: Do PCVs have to know a teacher in the U.S. with whom they would like to be matched?

A: No. We have many teachers enrolled in the program waiting to be matched with a Volunteer. However, if you do have a specific teacher with whom you would like to be matched, you must provide us with a name and contact information for the teacher; we cannot work with just the name of the school or the town.

Q: Can a PCV correspond with multiple educators?

A: Yes. PCVs can write to as many educators as they want through the CWWS Correspondence Match program. PCVs have written to as many as eight different teachers.

Q: When can PCVs sign up for Correspondence Match?

A: Before or during service. Volunteers can sign up for the program any time during their first year of Volunteer service. If you would like to sign up once you are in your country, you can do so online at www.peacecorps.gov/wws, or you can email World Wise Schools at wwsinfo@peacecorps.gov.

Q: Are PCVs reimbursed for correspondence?

A: Yes. Those participating in Correspondence Match should be reimbursed for the cost of one letter per month, per educator with whom they correspond.



Q: What type of educators can PCVs write to?

A: Educators teaching at any type of school (public, private, home school, etc.) and at any grade level (kindergarten, middle school, college, etc.). PCVs can also write to educators who are not in a formal school setting—scout troop leader, after-school program coordinator, international club faculty sponsor, etc.

Q: Do PCVs have to follow a set curriculum while corresponding?

A: No. PCVs and educators share the responsibility for deciding the content of their correspondence. The Match Handbook provided by CWWS offers ideas, tips, and suggestions from previous program participants.

Q: Can the PCV bring host country students into the exchange?

A: Yes. If the PCV and educator wish to make this a student-to-student pen-pal exchange they are free to do so, but it is not required.

Q: If a PCV is corresponding with a U.S. educator already, why should the PCV sign up for Correspondence Match?

A: If the PCV and educator are not formally enrolled in Correspondence Match, they should enroll. If enrolled, the PCV receives a postage reimbursement, while the educator receives additional classroom resources produced by CWWS.

Q: How long do PCVs correspond with an educator?

A: For the duration of their service. When the U.S. school year ends, that does not mean the Correspondence Match partnership has ended. However, if a PCV is not having a positive experience with the match educator, CWWS will be happy to match them to another educator.

Q: Who should PCVs contact with questions or problems?

A: Their CWWS in-country contact (once they are in their country of service) or the CWWS office if there is a problem with their match, if they would like additional matches, or if they would like to join the program.