

Job Description for PATCH La Crosse Teen Educators

PAID Position for High School Students in the La Crosse WI area



WHAT IS PATCH?

PATCH stands for Providers And Teens Communicating for Health. Our mission is to improve adolescent health alongside, and in true partnership with youth, like you! We envision a world in which all young people are healthy, connected, and thriving, and we work toward that goal in all our programming.

WHAT IS THE TEEN EDUCATOR PROGRAM?

At PATCH, we want all youth to get the high-quality, youth-friendly health care they need and deserve. We know that being able to have open, honest, safe, and supported conversations with trusted health professionals is a key part of getting that care – but for many, this isn't the case! That's why the Teen Educator Program exists. We want to make sure YOUR voice is included in conversations about what teens want and need in health care.

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 are things that make you comfortable or uncomfortable accessing health and healthcare services?
- How much do you and your peers know about your healthcare rights as a teen?
- What information and resources do you and your peers need?

Together, as a team of 12 Teen Educators, we will explore a variety of adolescent health topics and learn from expert guest speakers. We will use the gained knowledge to create change for our peers by leading two types of in-person workshops in our community. In the PATCH for Providers Workshop, you will help healthcare professionals learn how to better serve their teen patients. In the PATCH for Teens: Peer-to-Peer Workshop, you will empower other teens to start managing their own health and health care. You will be encouraged to share your own stories and experiences in both workshops.

For more information about the program, please visit www.gruw.org/patch.

QUALIFICATIONS

- You must be between 14-18 years old at Teen Educator Training in August 2026
- You must be in high school (or high school equivalent) during the entire 2026-27 school year
- You must live in La Crosse County **or** the surrounding areas/counties
- You must enjoy being part of a team and working with others who are different from you
- You must be open-minded and willing to learn
- You must be passionate about ensuring ALL youth get the health care they need and deserve!

[APPLY ONLINE TODAY!](#)

Applications must be completed by **June 1, 2026**.

If you have any questions, please contact Danielle, PATCH La Crosse Coordinator; at:
(608) 796-1400, ext. 115, or patch@gruw.org.

EXPECTATIONS

- Arrive on time and ready to participate in all in-person meetings and events
- Demonstrate responsible and reliable communication, including checking email at least once per day
- Maintain a strong relationship with your PATCH Coordinator, including consistent communication
- Act as a PATCH representative at various community events and conferences
- Be a reliable source of information for other teens
- Public speaking and social media promotion is a part of this role

REQUIREMENTS

As a Teen Educator, you will be required to:

- Commit to a 9-month program from August 2026 through May 2027.
- Attend and fully participate in a five-day Teen Educator Training. Our 20-hour training (4 hours each day) is scheduled for **August 4, 5, 6, 11, and 12, at Great Rivers United Way in Onalaska, WI.**
- Attend and fully participate in two 2-hour Enrichment Meetings each month. Our meetings are scheduled on **Mondays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. August 31 will be our first meeting. Meetings will take place every other Monday from there, at Great Rivers United Way in Onalaska.**
- Lead a minimum of four workshops throughout our community for health care professionals and other teens (at various dates and times that work with your schedule).

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.

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 \$125 upon full completion of the 20-hour Teen Educator Training and \$15/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 \$30-\$150/month).

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, June 1, 2026

Applications due by 11:59 p.m.

June 22 -July 2, 2026

In-Person Interviews

August 4, 5, 6, 11, and 12, 2026

Teen Educator Training Dates (ALL required)

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HOW TO APPLY

[Apply online](#) by June 1, 2026. Accommodations, including submitting application answers verbally in person or via video, are available if needed; please reach out to site coordinator for more information. See the application online for more details.

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