

AMERICORPS SERVICE POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

National Park Service AmeriCorps opportunity

Service Position Title: Resource Education AmeriCorps Member

Immediate Supervisor: Julianne Geleynse, Park Ranger

Service Position Summary:

The AmeriCorps member will serve 40 hours per week on a Monday through Friday schedule. Primary duties include researching, developing, presenting, and evaluating environmental education programs offered on the Tennessee side of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The programs occur at several locations in the park on a variety of natural and cultural resources topics and use a variety of techniques that are interactive, placed-based and hands-on. Lessons are guided by Tennessee and North Carolina state and national standards and emphasize science and cultural history education. Lessons and field trips are provided at no cost to the schools and teachers. The AmeriCorps supervisor and the Education Staff will provide coaching and training throughout the service year, allowing member the chance for continuous improvement.

The member will also assist park staff in reaching out to new audiences especially focusing on local schools that aren't currently participating in programs. The member will also assist with the research, development, and presentation of MS/HS initiatives such as Student Volunteer Days, Career Days, citizen science field-based programs, and technology-based education products. During the winter months, the AmeriCorps member will organize a program called "Parks in Classrooms" which includes visits to schools doing curriculum-based activities that relate to the park.

Primary Functions of Position:

- 1) Presenting K -12 grade field programs based out of Headquarters & Twin Creeks areas.
- 2) Assisting with the research and development of educational material/content for Resource Protection and Education. Example: Social Media content, signage, print and web based media, website management, video production etc.
- 3) Assisting with student volunteer days, citizen science based field programs.
- 4) Coordinating the winter Parks in Classrooms program to local schools. Includes recruiting and scheduling programs, organizing materials, scheduling with park staff and presenting programs in the classroom.

Position Seasonal Breakdown:

Fall:

Initial training will include information about park resources and education techniques

The member will observe all K-12 Parks As Classroom (PaC) programs and begin teaching them when ready

Projects will be added after member is comfortable with PaC programs

Winter:

Member will observe, coordinate, and teach the winter K-8 Parks in Classrooms (PiC) programs

Member will assist in development of educational material/content for Resource Protection and Education.

Spring:

Member will teach K-12 Parks As Classroom programs

Member will assist with the research, development, and presentation of MS/HS initiatives such as

Assisting with the research and development of educational material/content for Resource Protection and Education. Example: Social Media content, signage, print and web based media, website management, video production etc.

Assisting with student volunteer days, citizen science based field programs.

Required Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

Must have own transportation & a valid driving license (*no moving violations allowed)

Paid or unpaid experience with teaching or working in other educational institutions

Paid or unpaid experience in outdoor environmental education

Strong interest in environmental education and resource conservation

Must be able to work as a team for education programs and projects

Able to work independently

Capable of working with people from diverse backgrounds

Solid organization and leadership skills

Commitment to honesty, excellence and professionalism

Comfortable making presentations to large groups (20 to 100+ people)

Able to motivate others to change habits and behaviors

Desired Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

Excellent computer skills and experience with word, excel, InDesign, photo shop, video editing, graphic design

Experience with website management and social networking tools (Facebook and Twitter)

Service Conditions:

AmeriCorps member will primarily work outdoors in a mountainous and ever-changing environment. Outdoor work and exposure to all weather conditions (sun, rain, heat, cold, etc.) will be required. Occasional evening/weekend hours may be necessary.

Physical Demands: Sitting; standing; walking; lifting, pushing, pulling and carrying (up to 25 lbs.); kneeling; stooping; bending; squatting; close vision; use of hands to finger, handle, or feel objects, tools or controls; exposure to various colognes/perfumes, fumes from printing cartridges and dust from stored supplies;

Special Conditions:

CAC AmeriCorps will provide recruitment and placement of qualified candidate for the project.

CAC AmeriCorps will provide programmatic support to GRSM & GSMA whenever necessary to assure that the project and service year successful.

CAC AmeriCorps will provide bi-weekly living allowance.

CAC AmeriCorps will provide an Education Award at the completion of the service year.

CAC AmeriCorps will provide required uniform pieces and/or money to purchase necessary clothing.

GRSM will provide transportation between project sites (as long as member has a valid driving license & no moving violations)

GRSM will provide housing (member will pay for housing out of their living allowance).

GRSM will provide a first aid kit and personal protective equipment when necessary.

GRSM will provide initial instruction and orientation as well as oversight during the service year.