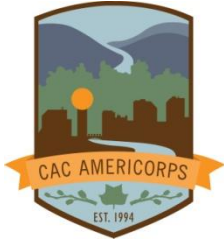


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CAC AmeriCorps
Position Description



Resource Education AmeriCorps Member

Dates of Service: August 5, 2019 – June 26, 2020

Partner: National Park Service

Location of Service: Great Smoky Mountains National Park
107 Park Headquarters Rd
Gatlinburg, TN 37738

Supervisor: Park Ranger (Member Supervisor)

About CAC AmeriCorps:

Established in 1994, CAC AmeriCorps is a national service program that combines elements of traditional conservation practice with community action that informs our work and places it in the broader context of the region. CAC AmeriCorps members serve to improve public lands, streams and greenways, educate the public, meet immediate human needs, eliminate barriers to employment, contribute to healthier lifestyles, and build volunteer capacity to enhance the ability of our partners to get things done. We are committed to human and environmental justice in our communities through enduring acts of 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:

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- 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

Minimum Qualifications:

Qualifications: Applicants for the position will hold a minimum of a bachelor's degree and/or experience in environmental education, interpretation, biological sciences, natural resource management, education, park management, or a related discipline. The member will be resourceful, adaptable, and able to serve comfortably alone or in a group. The NPS GRSM member must be willing and able to represent CAC AmeriCorps and the NPS in a professional, positive, and enthusiastic manner. This is a drug-free workplace opportunity.

Required:

- Must be a US Citizen or Permanent Resident.
- Must be 18 to 35 years old.
- 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

Service Conditions:

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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;

Member Benefits Include:

- A modest living allowance of \$14,000, or, \$595.74 bi-weekly (pre-tax), paid over 47 weeks.
- Education Award of \$6,095 that can be applied to student loans and/or future education expenses.
- Health insurance is available for members who are not already covered independently or by a parent.
- Worker's Compensation
- Child Care Reimbursement
- May be eligible for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). In-house SNAP benefits specialist available to provide assistance in determining eligibility.
- May be eligible for utility bill assistance. In house specialists available to provide assistance with determining eligibility.
- Staff assistance with identifying housing. Housing, inclusive of utilities, is generally between \$300-\$450 in a share house/apartment scenario.
- Professional development and networking opportunities.

Equity and Inclusion:

The Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee (CAC) is an Equal Opportunity Employer and will take action to ensure that employees are treated equally without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, handicap, cultural or religious convictions. CAC AmeriCorps provides reasonable accommodations to applicants and employees. Applicants with disabilities may request reasonable accommodation at any point in the employment process.

