

## Position Description - Lead Educator



**Classification:** Full-time seasonal, Non-exempt

**Reports to:** Program Director

**Job Duration:** Mid-March through Mid-September. Dates will be mutually agreed upon by The Denali Education Center and employee.

### DEC Overview:

Denali Education Center (DEC) is a non-advocacy, for-purpose organization and partner of Denali National Park and Preserve. Our mission is to promote understanding and appreciation of Denali through fun, informative, and inspiring programs. Our 10-acre campus is home to 12 guest cabins, a combined classroom and dining hall, a yurt, and a community events building. We operate week-long adult learning vacations in cooperation with numerous educational groups and organizations, primarily Road Scholar. In addition, we offer a suite of youth programs, evening lectures, and community events.

### Position Overview:

The Lead Educator is a new position in 2025. The Lead Educator will work closely with the Program Director to ensure DEC's educational programs and content are accurate, engaging, and meet current best practice educational standards. Throughout the summer, the Lead Educator duties will be split between management, facilitation, and administration. The Lead Educator will help train field educators, provide check-ins and feedback throughout the summer, and deliver lectures and lead hikes as necessary.

### Main Position Responsibilities:

- Assist Program Director in finalizing and facilitating training.
- Directly supervise full-time and fill-in field educators; goal setting, regular check-ins throughout the summer, shadowing programs, and providing feedback to ensure growth.
- Manage the Field Educator and staff schedule ensuring educator shifts are clearly communicated.
- Leading guided hikes on Denali's front-country trails, teaching interactive and educational classes.
- Assist with DEC's sustainability efforts by actively recycling. Use environmentally friendly products when possible. Help educate guests about DEC's efforts to recycle and compost, encouraging them to participate.

### Qualifications:

- Must have working knowledge of the boreal forest, subarctic ecosystems, and history of Denali.
- Assist in tracking, scheduling and managing programs happening simultaneously in multiple locations.
- Excellent time management skills, with the ability to selectively switch between tasks.
- Desire to work with the Program Director to develop, establish, and refine this new position within DEC's educational staff.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills with experience in risk management and group dynamics in outdoor settings.
- Solid understanding of multifaceted scientific processes and the ability to quickly familiarize yourself with information specific to Denali, Alaska, and the subarctic.
- Have fun, be flexible, and maintain a positive attitude during a fast-paced summer season.
- Possession of current CPR and First Aid Certification or willingness to obtain.
- Desire to live and work as a productive member of a small remote community in Denali.

**Preferred Knowledge and Skills:**

- Previous experience working in environmental interpretation or education.
- Previous management experience.
- Familiar with wildlife etiquette including but not limited to hiking in bear country and LNT practices.
- Familiar with Denali National Park, its trails, and infrastructure.

**Working Conditions & Physical Demands:**

- Lead Educator will split their time between administrative duties, classroom time, and field work
- Hikes typically range from 3-5 miles in length with 800 feet of elevation change. Hikes are on established trails that may contain a variety of conditions- roots, rocks, switchbacks, etc.
- Be prepared to hike in all weather conditions including but not limited to wind, rain, snow, sleet, freezing temperatures, high elevations, and mountainous terrain- often all in one day!
- Able to lift 50lbs and hike comfortably throughout the day with a pack that could weigh up to 25lbs

**Compensation:**

Pay is made bi-weekly and is commensurate with experience. The starting wage for the Lead Educator is \$25.00/hour and is negotiable based on previous experience. Work schedules will vary based on need. The Lead Educator is projected to work between 35-40 hours/week over 5 days. End-of-season tips will be pooled and offered upon completion of the summer work agreement. Housing may be available for a nominal fee (\$200/month). Employee kitchen, laundry, and shower facilities are shared and jointly maintained with other employees

**Disclaimer:**

This position description reflects Denali Education Center's best effort to describe the essential functions and qualifications of this job. It is neither an exhaustive statement of duties nor a contract. Denali Education Center is an Equal Opportunity employer. Personnel is chosen on the basis of ability without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, marital status, or sexual orientation in accordance with federal and state law and in conjunction with the culture of our organization.

**To Apply:** Candidates should email their cover letter, resume, and three professional references to keith@denali.org. Inquiries and questions can be addressed to Keith Reimink, Program Director. Please include the position title or titles for which you are applying in the subject line of your email.