

Position Description

Youth Field Instructor



Classification: Full-time Seasonal

Reports to: Youth Program Manager

Job Duration: May-September; dates will be mutually agreed upon

Overview:

Denali Education Center 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. Denali Education Center currently offers five flagship summer youth programs that serve a diverse population and a wide range of ages. These flagship programs include:

Tundra Tots: A one-hour nature-based sensory program for children ages 2-5 years

Denali Discovery Camp: A week-long experiential learning adventure for students in 1st-8th grade

Denali Backcountry Adventures: A week-long backpacking expedition for students in 9th-12th grade

Road Scholar Intergenerational: A week-long residential experience for grandparents and grandchildren ages 9-11 years

Wilderness Intensive Learning Development (WILD) about Denali: A three to four-day wilderness camping experience for underserved populations, both adult and youth.

The Youth Field Instructor will assist the Youth Programs Manager in professional risk management, preparation, logistics, and execution for all Denali Education Center youth programs; including leading youth programs in Denali's front-country and backcountry areas. Successful candidates will be motivated, energetic, flexible, and organized individuals capable of working independently or in a small group setting. Applicants should expect to work in a wide variety of conditions including but not limited to, varied weather patterns, cold temperatures, and remote off-trail areas of Denali's backcountry.

Areas of Responsibilities:

Programs

- Lead youth programs in the front-country and backcountry settings
- Lead and develop curriculum for weekly one-hour Tundra Tots programs
- Work with residential program staff to facilitate intergenerational programs
- Uphold program performance and quality
- Manage, maintain, and work to improve youth program equipment resources
- Work with Youth Programs Manager to prep programs (food purchasing and packing, gear distribution, etc.)
- Foster relationships among the National Park Service, local schools, current program partners, and other youth and education organizations to support Denali Education Center's mission and programming
- Help to facilitate or lead DEC's adult learning programs as YFI's schedule allows
- Assist with equipment maintenance, projects on campus grounds, and program support

Development and Communication

- Be a positive spokesperson for Denali Education Center's youth programs
- Assist in pre-program communication with participants

- Manage youth program photos to be used for marketing purposes

Additional Duties

- This position is required to work all youth program related fundraiser events, and the organization's annual fundraising event

Qualifications

- Two or more seasons of experience leading wilderness trips. Experience backpacking on and off trails in remote settings, as well as good navigation skills.
- Passion for working with youth
- Must be 21+years old
- High School Diploma, Bachelor's preferred
- Required certifications: Wilderness First Responder (WFR) certification

Preferred Knowledge and Skills

- 2+ years of experience working in education or outdoor youth programming
- Willingness to work flexible hours as needed
- Extensive outdoor technical skills (orienting, risk management, etc.)
- In-depth knowledge of Leave No Trace principles
- Curriculum development experience, early childhood preferred
- Ability to prioritize and conduct multiple tasks in a fast-paced and variable work environment
- Team player but with the ability to work independently
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite
- Strong communication skills: oral and written
- Solid interpersonal communication skills with peers, staff, the local community, and program participants
- Culturally sensitive; ability to develop a rapport with individuals from diverse sectors

Compensation

- Starting wage for Youth Field Instructors is \$15/hour
- Program tips are pooled and dispersed upon completion of summer contract
- Private housing may be available for a nominal fee (\$200/month). Employee kitchen and shower facilities are shared and maintained with other employees

Disclaimer:

- This position requires physical fitness capable of, but not limited to: off-trail wilderness travel up to 10 miles a day, on-trail travel up to 15 miles a day, and the ability to lift and carry over 50lbs for an extended period of time.
- This position description reflects the Denali Education Center's best effort to describe the essential functions and qualifications of the Youth Field Instructor position. It is neither an exhaustive statement of duties, responsibilities, or qualifications, nor a contract.

To Apply: Qualified candidates should send a resume, letter of interest, and references to Emily Myhre at: youth@denali.org