



Outdoor Education Program

Job Description: Outdoor Education Instructor

General Info:

Explorer West Middle School, a small independent middle school in southwest Seattle, seeks qualified Outdoor Educators for our fall programs. Our fall program trips themselves will run overnight September 9th-11th, with additional prep days as follows: Leader Orientation Day on Wednesday roughly August 27th 8:30-5pm and prep day with students on Monday September 8th from roughly 7:30am to 5pm. The programs will see our 6-8th grade student population experiencing nature through backpacking, camping, hiking, trail work, and other experiences that will take students to locations including The Olympic Peninsula, The North Cascades, and Mt Rainier. Additional work opportunities may be available for exceptional educators in the winter and spring in Outdoor Education and throughout the year as substitute teachers.

Position Descriptions:

Adventure is inherently risky, but when properly managed, it can open up a world of confidence-building and self-reliance. The top priority for any outdoor adventure educator is always the safety of the participants with risk assessment, management, and prevention. Some of the skills you will have the opportunity to work with students on include communication and teamwork, navigation, the art of camping, decision-making skills, LNT/backcountry ethics, assisting with outdoor service projects, following an itinerary, and implementing brief integrated curriculum lessons with a faculty co-leader. In-depth knowledge of all these skills is optional, but understanding basic camping routines and team/group dynamics is necessary.

Required Qualifications:

- Field Dates:
 - Leader Orientation Day: Wednesday August 27th from 8:30 to 5pm
 - Trip Prep Day with Students: Monday September 8th from roughly 7:30 to 5pm
 - Trip Days (Tuesday through Thursday) September 9-11th (Overnight trips must be available for the whole date range)
- First Aid and CPR certifications (minimum)
- Experience working with youth (preferably middle school age)
- Diverse outdoor experience
- Pass Washington State Patrol and OSPI fingerprint background checks

Preferred Qualifications:

- WFA, WFR, or higher medical certification
- Experience teaching LNT and/or other wilderness outdoor skills
- Experience leading overnight trips in the above regions
- Experience leading overnight trips with middle school-age populations
- Provide a driving record (at the school's expense) and willingness to drive a 7, 12, or 15-passenger van

Pay for the fall program ranges from \$220 – \$295 per day, depending on experience for three field days, and \$150 each for orientation and prep days. All outdoor educator positions are open until filled. **All outdoor educators are paid immediately upon successful completion of trips or camps.**

You can learn more about Explorer West and our Outdoor Education Program at www.explorer-west.org.

If interested, please send a resume to:

Matt Kostle

Outdoor Education Coordinator

mattk@explorer-west.org

Explorer West Middle School does not discriminate on any basis that is protected under federal, state, or municipal law. This policy applies to all areas of student and family concerns (admissions, athletics, educational policies, financial aid, and other school-administered programs) and all areas of employee and volunteer concerns. Explorer West is an Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE).

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