



UNITED COMMUNITIES AMERICORPS

United Communities AmeriCorps (UCA) members engage in meaningful service that meets critical community needs throughout Southwest Oregon. UCA projects improve access to social services by bridging barriers to educational opportunities, mentoring, job skills development, employment resources, family stability, and having healthy futures. Our members engage clients in their dedicated service project, and then use their experience to recruit, retain, and support community volunteers in their project and host site. Our positions are a dynamic combination of serving in a dedicated project (85%) and engaging in civic and professional development opportunities, alongside our AmeriCorps cohort (15%).

SERVICE TERM

August 31, 2022 – July 31, 2023

(full-time; 11 months - 1700 hours)

POSITION TITLE

Estuary Explorers Educator

PROJECT HOST SITE

South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve | www.southsloughestuary.org

Visitor Center

61907 Seven Devils Rd.

Charleston OR 97420

PROJECT LOCATION

Charleston, Oregon

POSITION SUMMARY

The Estuary Explorers Educator designs and implements a program that provides extracurricular science, technology, engineering, art & math (STEAM) activities from the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve (Reserve) to children in the community that cannot regularly access the estuary. The Educator will work with guidance from the Reserve education team and a framework established by previous members to secure program sites, partners and volunteers. The Educator will build the relationships necessary to continue operating the program and expand the opportunity to more local elementary schools. The Educator supports and learns from other Reserve education and science programs.

ESSENTIAL RESPONSIBILITIES (to include, but not limited to)

- Pursue additional school sites to expand program reach to other school districts.
- Recruit and retain volunteers from the local community to deliver activities.
- Continue working with the local high schools to better secure associated high school internships.
- Research and analyze obstacles to long-term sustainability for the program.
- Assist with other Reserve education objectives.
- Complete all state and federal trainings by required deadlines.
- Formative and summative evaluation of program success.

- Implement and/or develop systems to inform Effective Volunteer Management Practices (EVMPs).
- Complete and submit all necessary UCA paperwork and reports in a timely manner.
- Attend and complete all UCA training and service requirements including orientation, trainings, team meetings, and National Days of Service (Make a Difference Day, MLK Jr. Day, and a June Service Event).
- Wear AmeriCorps apparel and/or appropriate identifiers while performing service or attending official events.

MARGINAL RESPONSIBILITIES (to include, but not limited to)

- Develop lessons and activities that contribute to Reserve education.
- Pursue funding or other support opportunities for high school interns, such as transportation, school credit, etc.
- Identify other methods to provide estuary programming to audiences currently not participating.
- Assist with research, monitoring and stewardship work at the Reserve.
- Collaborate with partners.

POSITION REQUIREMENTS

- Ability to read, write and communicate effectively at an 8th grade level or above.
- Willingness to work closely with children and adults, and speak in front of groups of various sizes.
- Ability to work independently and meet deadlines.
- Creativity, flexibility and critical thinking skills.
- Driver's license
- Leadership skills, or an interest and willingness to build those skills.
- 17 years of age or older, at the beginning of service term.
- U.S. citizen, national or lawful permanent resident.
- Possession of a high school diploma or equivalent, or commit to earning one prior to receiving an education award.
- Ability to commit to the full term of service for which they are applying.
- Must successfully pass a National Service Criminal History Check provided through UCAN and/or Project Host Site.
- Regular and reliable attendance.
- Have not previously served four terms in an AmeriCorps*State or National program. Members are only eligible for the equivalent of two full-time education awards in their lifetime. Applicants must disclose if they have ever been removed for cause from any national service program.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- 4 years of study in environmental science, education, or related degree
- Experience working with children, especially in outdoor settings
- Ability to walk unassisted up to 5 miles over uneven terrain such as unpaved trails, mudflats and marshes
- Ability to lift up to 50 lbs
- Experience working with or coordinating volunteers
- Strong problem solving skills.
- Familiarity with computers, including Microsoft Office programs

SERVICE CONDITIONS

- Office, visitor center, schools or other community buildings
- Paved and unpaved trails

- Field sites in forested uplands, wetlands and bay habitats including boat channels, mudflats, and marshes.

PHYSICAL & INTELLECTUAL DEMANDS

- Walking or standing for extended periods of time, sometimes on unstable surfaces
- Working outdoors in varying weather conditions
- Ability to work well independently and as a part of a team.
- Patience and resilience in the face of multi-faceted problems
- Capacity to receive and process lots of new information quickly.

EQUIPMENT USED

- Computers and tablets, standard software programs, cameras, microscopes, spotting scopes, GPS units, field equipment such as measuring tapes, quadrats, nets, yard tools, 12-passanger van, minivan, kayaks, multi-passenger canoes.

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

- Reserve vehicles are available for work-related activities.
- Personal vehicle is essential as public transportation is not an option.

MEMBER BENEFITS INCLUDE

- \$16,502* living allowance paid over the 11-month service term (approx. \$1,500 monthly, before taxes).
- \$6,495.00 education award upon successful completion of the term of service which can be used to repay qualified student loans or for further education in an accredited institution of higher learning, vocational or trade schools. The education award is taxed in the year that it is used. Members that are 55 and older may transfer the award to one child or grandchild.
- May be eligible for Loan Forbearance & Interest Accrual Repayment on qualified loans (after successful completion of a term of service, AmeriCorps will pay the accrued interest on qualified loans, which is taxable).
- Basic medical insurance (covers members only, not dependents; vision and dental not included).
- Child care allowance for those who qualify.
- Professional development, trainings and networking opportunities

* Member living allowance rates are determined by federal funding and may change prior to member's start date

EQUITY & INCLUSION

UCA values diversity and seeks to provide an inclusive space that rejects intolerance. Qualified individuals with disabilities and those from diverse backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply. UCA is an AA/EEO employer. UCA provides reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals and conducts all activities in fully accessible settings.

HOW TO APPLY

Application Deadline: August 12, 2022

Interviews are conducted on a rolling basis as qualified candidates are identified, so early application is

strongly encouraged as member selection may be made prior to the application deadline.

STEP 1: Apply to United Communities AmeriCorps:

- Submit [AmeriCorps Application](#)
- To find this position, click on “Advanced Opportunity Search” and search “UCA” in Program Name
- Submit application, UCA will then forward it to site supervisor for review who then waits for items in Step 2

STEP 2: Apply to Project Site Supervisor:

Conducts first round interviews on a rolling basis and recommends top candidates to UCA

Email the following items to _____ :

- Resume
- Cover Letter (1 page)
- Contact information for three References (name, title, relationship, email, & phone)

STEP 3: The Project Site Supervisor submits top applicants to UCA for a second interview. Once top applicant interviews are complete, applicants will be notified of selection decision.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS POSITION? CONTACT:

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QUESTIONS ABOUT AMERICORPS? CONTACT:

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