



Environmental Education and Stewardship Program Assistant

Location: Kenny Lake, Alaska

Description and Goals of Assignment:

The employee will serve a small nonprofit organization in rural Alaska in developing, planning, and implementing outdoor education programs, and assist with scientific research projects. Wrangell Institute for Science and Environment (WISE) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit founded locally in 2002, with the mission of providing science and environmental education for all ages, resources for learning, and support for scientific research. The location is on the road system in the remote Copper River Valley, near Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. Anchorage is over 200 miles away by road, and the total population of the area is about 2500 year-round residents. The staff is small, so versatility, a can-do attitude and happy personality are essential. The WISE office and staff housing are located 8 miles from the nearest store, so a vehicle is recommended.



WISE's summer programs are designed to provide opportunities for learning, outdoor recreation, skill building, and connection to a sense of place. We seek to instill a stewardship ethic by sharing the wonders of the place we call home. In addition to learning about the local environment, youth are mentored in outdoor skills such as map and compass use, safety, and backcountry camping.

Job Responsibilities:

Shadowing, Co-Teaching, Teaching (25%): Shadow and co-teach (under the supervision of a supervisor) day and overnight programs; co-lead hikes; work with a mentor to evaluate teaching methods; solo lead or teach once approved by a supervisor.

Citizen Science and Stewardship (25%): Shadow and co-teach (under the supervision of a supervisor): aid Willow Creek Research Project in stream surveys.

Curriculum Development (15%): Assist supervisor with the development of lesson plans that could be used with youth, family, and/or adult programs; assist with creation and maintenance of educational materials.

Logistics and Planning (25%): Aid WISE staff in planning, gear maintenance, and logistics for programs.

Training and Evaluation (5%): Attend summer staff training and intern-specific training. Participate in program debrief meetings, weekly check-ins with supervisor, end-of season debrief and exit interview; participate in peer observations and feedback.

Administration and Operations (5%): Assist with facilities operations and administrative tasks.

If desired, this position can be configured as an internship, with the possibility of earning college credit.

Qualifications:*Required:*

- Enthusiasm for mission of Wrangell Institute for Science and Environment
- Keen interest or course work in environmental education, natural sciences, or outdoor studies
- Experience in camping, hiking, and outdoor recreation.
- Enthusiasm and skills for working with youth
- Ability to hike four miles with a backpack
- American Red Cross First Aid/CPR certification
- Pass pre-employment background check
- Familiarity with Microsoft Office
- Valid drivers license

Preferred:

- Wilderness First Aid or Wilderness First Responder certification
- Experience living in a rural community
- Experience teaching environmental or outdoor education programs
- Ability to complete the full term of the internship

Compensation: \$12-\$15 per hour, depending on experience. Housing may be available for \$75 a week. Meals are provided on multi-day programs.

Dates and Work Schedule: Start late May/ early June 2022, end late August. Applicant should be available for at least 10 weeks. Full or part time position with occasional nights, weekends, and holiday work.

Application Deadline:

Applications will be accepted until the end of the day on March 30, 2022. Interviews will be conducted as applications are received, and the position may be filled before the deadline. Potential applicants are encouraged to contact us with questions, or to discuss the opportunity. Email Robin at robin@wise-edu.org, or call (907) 822-3575.

To Apply:

Please send a letter of interest, resume, and the names of three references with current contact information to:

Robin Mayo, Executive Director

Email: robin@wise-edu.org

Wrangell Institute for Science and Environment

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Copper Center, AK 99573

WISE does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, age, national origin, disability, or marital or military status, in any of its activities or operations. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our staff, volunteers, subcontractors, vendors, and program participants.