



KENAI MOUNTAINS-TURNAGAIN ARM
NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

COASTAL CONNECTIONS CAMP INSTRUCTOR

Position Title: Coastal Connections Camp (CCC) Instructor

Reports: Education Programs Manager

Compensation: \$25/hour, 40-50 hours/week

Dates: May 29th - end of July 2024 (selected candidates must work a minimum of 1 week of training + 2 weeks of camp, but may work up to all 4 weeks of camp if interested)

Status: Summer Seasonal

Location: Seward, AK

Organization Overview: The Kenai Mountains-Turnagain Arm National Heritage Area (KMTA) is Alaska's only National Heritage Area (NHA), dedicated to preserving the culture and wild landscape of a historic part of Southcentral Alaska and the Eastern Kenai Peninsula. When the NHA was established, a nonprofit was also created to manage it: the KMTA National Heritage Corridor Communities Association (KMTA CCA). For much of the organization's history, KMTA CCA supported the small communities throughout this region (from Indian to Seward) through federal sub-grants. But a lot has changed since our inception, and we've identified key gaps we're uniquely positioned to fill in this present moment. Over the last few years, we've pivoted our focus to expanding access to the opportunities this region has to offer through direct and sustainable programs. We've achieved a lot of success through the development of a series of signature recreational events and year-round outdoor learning programs for local Alaskan youth. We are also in the process of wrapping up our next strategic plan, which includes a refreshed mission, vision, and priority areas to guide our work for the next 5 years. We are in the midst of an exciting growth phase for our organization and are ready to expand our reach!

Job Description: In 2023, KMTA CCA partnered with Alaska Sea Grant and the NPS Ocean Alaska Science and Learning Center (OASLC) to pilot two 5-day Coastal Connections Camps (CCC) in Seward. The CCC is designed to provide middle school students with summer experiences that nurture their cognitive, social, emotional, and physical needs while giving them opportunities to explore and learn about their local coastal environments. Days include outdoor outings, team building activities, emotional intelligence, hands-on science, art, and cultural connections. The CCC is based on a Whole Being Teaching framework that is designed as a guide for integrated learning. The Framework provides daily themes in several key areas. Group themes support each stage of team development. Personal themes scaffold personal resilience skills. Scientific and art themes develop observation and scientific skills that align with the opportunities of local explorations and culture. The themes scaffold the week into a successful experience.

This year, we are expanding Coastal Connections in the KMTA from two to four weeks! As part of this growth, we seek to train and employ Seward-based educators as CCC instructors, with the hope that you are equipped with tools and experiences you can integrate back into your classrooms during the school year. During CCC training, you'll have the opportunity to experience the Whole Being Teaching Framework model firsthand and learn about its philosophy. During your camp weeks, you'll have examples and materials to implement the full framework as is. However, CCC is not a canned curriculum, it is a guide. You can also plug in any activity that cultivates the theme for the day.

Coastal Connections Camp Leader Training is May 29 - June 1, 2024. To be eligible for employment with KMTA CCA, applicants must be available for training and commit to leading a minimum of 2 weeks of camp. You will be paid a \$25/hour rate for week-long training week as well as the weeks you lead camps.

2024 CCC program dates are Monday – Friday June 10 – 14, June 24 – 28, July 8 – 12, and July 22 – 26.

Commitments

- Attend our one-week paid training in Seward May 29-June 1, 2024.
- Co-lead a minimum of 2 weeks of Coastal Connections Camp (CCC) alongside other educators and/or partner staff.

- Camp days are 9:00-4:00 Monday-Friday and will include some preparation and cleanup each day.
- Some additional training and preparation may be required before and after camp.
- Fill out a pre- and post-experience survey and paperwork.
- Participate in CCC cohort post-summer connection calls (Approximately 2 hours).
- Ensure the safety and risk management of education programs in compliance with regulatory standards.
- Maintain a commitment to diversity, inclusion, and cultural awareness in providing accessible education programming to diverse communities and backgrounds.

Qualifications

- Current teacher or professional educator based in Seward, Alaska (or who will be based in Seward May – August 2024).
 - Experience working with youth in outdoor settings.
 - Enjoy working with middle school aged children.
 - Interest in or studies marine science and ecology is a plus but not required.
- Personable and able to build rapport and trust with others.
- Positive attitude, a learning orientation, and a can-do approach to problem solving.
- Excellent interpersonal, communication, and team-building skills.
- Must be able to work independently, but also be comfortable with collaborative working relationships, relating well with people and partners at all levels and from all communities.
- Ability to pass a background check to work with minors.
- First Aid trained (cost for course will be supplemented if not previously trained).
- Able to comfortably hike 6 miles over varied terrain.
- Able to comfortably walk on slippery, uneven terrain.
- Able to comfortably participate in guided water activities such as sea kayaking and SUP. No prior experience necessary, but ability to participate required.
- Ability to lift and/or move up to 25 pounds.
- Clean driving record.
- Access to a computer.
- Must have reliable transportation, valid driver’s license and auto insurance.
- Punctual and reliable.

Compensation:

This is a summer seasonal position with a guaranteed 40 hours of work/week for selected weeks of employment. Some program days may exceed 8 hours/day, in which case the employee will be compensated at 1.5 times their hourly rate for those hours worked in excess. Compensation for this year’s CCC educators is provided by KMTA CCA with support from the NPS Ocean Alaska Science and Learning Center (OASLC). We anticipate opening additional contract/seasonal employment opportunities for instructors for our school year programs (Fresh Air Fridays, Outdoor School, and SnowSchool) for interested candidates pending additional funding.

How to Apply:

Please send via email the following items:

1. Your resume
2. In the body of your email, a quick note indicating which of the following camp weeks you are available to work:
 - May 29 - June 1, 2024 (required training week); 9am-4pm
 - June 10 – 14; 9am-4pm
 - June 24 – 28; 9am- 4pm
 - July 8 – 12; 9am-4pm
 - July 22 – 26; 9am-4pm

Please send your email with the subject line “Coastal Connections Instructor_Your Name” to: Sarah Schuh, Education Programs Manager at sarahschuh@kmtacorridor.org

Priority given to applications submitted by April 5th, 2024.