

## **PCEI AmeriCorps Program Position Description**

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PCEI provides leadership and professional experiences to AmeriCorps members by partnering with local organizations that address critical needs in the areas of Environmental Education and At-Risk Ecosystems.

**AmeriCorps Position:** Environmental Education and Stewardship Assistant

**Project Sponsor:** Bogus Basin Recreational Association, Inc.

**Project Summary:** Bogus Basin Mountain Recreation Area's 2020 season will mark the 14<sup>th</sup> year of summer and winter environmental education programs. With mountain-wide stewardship added to the responsibilities of the department, this service position will offer a range of fun and engaging experiences. The winter months will be dominated by Snow School instruction where members will provide 'snowshoes-on' learning in an outdoor setting.

Summer months will be spent instructing our *Ecosystem Explorers* and *Public Lands Stewards* 5-day camps. Campers' range in age from 8-15 depending on the week. Campers will participate in a variety of activities from hiking to mountain biking, plant identification to soil sampling. Each camp will be designed to provide a safe environment where each child will have the chance to learn while having fun.

Sustainability and stewardship initiatives at Bogus Basin will include, but are not limited to, recycling programs, hillside stabilization, wetland planting, etc. AmeriCorps members will have the freedom to create and pilot projects they are interested in.

### **Essential Functions:**

- Lead outdoor environmental education programs/lessons/camps for audiences of varying ages on varying terrain in the Boise National Forest through all types of weather.
- Represent Bogus Basin at community outreach events (i.e. conferences, expos, STEM Nights, etc.)
- Develop, modify and improve new and existing lessons and presentations.
- Assist with the recruitment, training and supervision of volunteers (both for educational and stewardship related activities).
- Assist in creating, organizing and executing mountain wide stewardship projects (i.e. trash cleanups, restoration projects, etc.)

- Work with Food & Beverage staff on a recycling initiative to help reduce waste going into the landfill. Responsibilities will include gathering and hauling recyclables off the mountain to the corresponding centers. All revenue generated off aluminum recycling will help fund future EE programs.
- Perform energy audits and inventories of mountain wide operations. Example of this would be to inventory the total number of night skiing lights on the mountain that still need to be converted to LED bulbs.
- Perform some administrative duties related to scheduling, organizing and planning for educational and stewardship activities. Must be proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.

### **Position Requirements**

- 18 years of age or older, at 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 award.
- Ability to commit to the full term of service for which they are applying.
- Must successfully pass a fingerprint criminal history background check provided through PCEI, and an additional background check through Bogus Basin.
- Complete and submit all necessary PCEI AmeriCorps paperwork and reports in a timely manner.
- Attend and complete all PCEI AmeriCorps training and service requirements including orientation, trainings, team meetings and national service days.
- Wear PCEI uniform and/or appropriate identifiers and required safety gear while performing service or attending official events.
- A cooperative manner and the ability to serve as part of a diverse team.
- Regular and reliable attendance and dependability.

AmeriCorps members can enroll in multiple terms of service that add up to the value of two full-time education awards. In other words, you can blend summer, part-time and full-time service positions and receive awards as long as the combined service terms don't exceed two full terms. You can also serve additional terms but will not receive an additional education award.

### **Member Qualifications**

- Must have a passion for the outdoors and be supportive of environmental and sustainable practices.
- Able to hike/snowshoe up to 6 miles per day with packs of gear on uneven terrain at elevations above 6,000 feet.
- Willing to work some nights and weekends.
- Have a valid driver's license.

- Possesses a CPR/First Aid or Wilderness First Responder certificate (not required, but a plus)

**Member Benefits Include**

- Bogus Basin Employee Season Pass (Summer and Winter)
- Discounts on Food and Beverage at Lodges (50% off- excludes alcohol)
- Discounted equipment rentals, ski/snowboard lessons, and retail shop merchandise
- A taxable, monthly living allowance (\$10,176 for a 3/4 time member, paid over the term of service).
- Upon successful completion of a term of service, eligible members receive an education award of \$4,336 for a ¾ time position. The education award 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.
- Loan forbearance (after successful completion of a term of service, AmeriCorps will pay the accrued interest on qualified loans, which is taxable.)
- Basic medical insurance for those who qualify.
- Childcare allowance for those who qualify.
- Professional development, trainings and networking opportunities.
- Qualified individuals with disabilities and those from diverse backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply. We provide reasonable accommodation for qualified individuals and conduct all activities in full accessible settings.

**Project Location and/or Transportation Needs:**

Most instruction (with the exception of outreach lessons) will take place on the mountain at Bogus Basin (16 miles north of Boise, ID). Transportation will be available daily depending on time of day. Office space will be provided at our Downtown Office at 2600 N. Bogus Basin Rd.

**Dates of Service:** Full-time: 8 months, completing in August 2020.