



THE FIELD ACADEMY

www.fieldacademy.org

The Field Academy Summer Educator Application

Open until filled. Priority given to applications submitted by March 15.

The Field Academy is seeking educators to join our team for the 2019 summer expedition in the Upper Midwest. The dates of this commitment (including staff training and debrief) are from **June 27th - July 29th**. Our educators' responsibilities fall into three categories: general trip leading, daily logistics, and academics.

Trip Responsibilities include:

- Mentoring, leading, teaching, and hanging out with 10-13 incredible high school students;
- Facilitating community building within this group: encouraging and supporting dialogue around issues of group living as well as questions of race, class, gender, and difference;
- Structuring daily opportunities for students to discuss and debrief the experiences that they are having on the trip;
- Learning from experiences alongside students, sharing questions and learnings with students;
- Facilitating interactions between our student group and community partners, sharing curiosity and deep engagement;
- Being an active member of a dynamic staff team (providing each other active support, feedback, encouragement, and good humor);
- Building and maintaining strong relationships to hosts communities.
- Laughing a lot, seizing spontaneous opportunities, sharing adventure, dressing up, doing skits, etcetera, etcetera, etcetera

Logistical Responsibilities include:

- Risk management for all activities (backpacking, camping, site visits, etc.);
- Food organization and preparation;
- Transportation details, packing and driving the van, navigating;
- Managing, packing, and organizing group gear;
- Maintaining organized on-trip accounting and budgeting.

Academic Responsibilities include:

- Design of subject area curriculum specific to the region in which the group is traveling;
- Compilation of resources, readings, contacts, activities, and discussions;

- Teaching class/facilitating discussions in given subject area (~2 hours/week on the expedition plus subject related activities and experiences);
- Reading and responding to student work with specific attention to strengthening of student voice;
- Utilizing activities and experiences as learning moments contextualized by academic work.

Position Qualifications

Required:

- Wilderness First Aid Certification (*if an applicant does not currently possess this, they may still apply if willing to go through the certification between now and the trip's start*);
- Valid driver's license

Preference given to educators with:

- Experience with educational travel and trip leading;
- Lived experience in the Upper Midwest (MN, WI, IA);
- Experience with group facilitation, particularly with diverse groups;
- Specific experience with or demonstrated interest in food justice and the intersection of racial, economic, and environmental justice;
- Risk management/emergency medical experience;
- Please note: while we encourage people under age 25 to apply to our educator positions, rental vehicle policies require our drivers to be age 25 or over – meaning that we are limited in our ability to hire staff younger than age 25

We seek to bring together a staff team whose lived experiences in the world are diverse because we bring together a student body whose lived experiences in the world are diverse. We consciously seek a diversity of geographic, racial, ethnic, religious, sex, gender, sexuality, socioeconomic, educational, and ability backgrounds and identities in our staff. We value this diversity to bring a richness of perspective and experience to the staff, and an increased capacity to mentor and support students.

Skills & Qualities

- A deep passion for working with high school students;
- Strong leadership skills;
- Strong communication skills;
- Deep understanding of group dynamics and community living;
- Willingness and capacity to work long hours in a demanding and intensive work environment;
- Outdoor skills and experience;
- Flexibility and the ability to respond confidently to stressful and dynamic situations;
- Strong organizational skills;
- Capacity to assess and manage risk;
- A commitment to exploring questions of privilege, power, and oppression in the United States with young people and a willingness to self-reflect on these questions;
- Willingness to learn alongside students and to share insights, questions, and self-reflection with students as appropriate;
- A good sense of humor;
- A fondness for (or at least, a genial tolerance of) pop music and long van rides;
- Ability to facilitate deep and challenging questioning balanced with ability to laugh, play, and hang out with awesome youth

- Demonstrated interest in alternative and/or experiential education;
- Desire to be part of a close working team.

Compensation

Upper Midwest Expedition (including staff training and debrief): Educator - \$350/week

All food, lodging, and transportation costs are covered by the Field Academy with the exception of any expenses occurring during staff time off. Each staff member is responsible for travel expenses to and from staff orientation and debrief.

The Field Academy will compensate staff additionally for the following:

- Wilderness First Responder, EMT, or Wilderness EMT (WEMT) certification - \$250 (can be paid to subsidize course)
- Lifeguard certification - \$250
- Trip Nurse position (must hold WFR, EMT, or WEMT certification) - \$250
- Continuing Education* - The Field Academy will pay \$150 towards subsidizing continuing education for staff related to topics of:
 - racial, economic, and environmental justice;
 - anti-racism and/or anti-oppression work
 - gender, sex, and sexuality
 - class awareness
 - popular education tools

**We're interested in staff continuing to cultivate their own self-awareness regarding these topics as well as developing and sharing skills, tools, and resources for facilitating diverse groups of youth to have conversations that may be challenging, painful, awkward, or totally new to them. We'll ask any staff that receives this subsidy to plan a session for staff orientation to share with other staff.*

Pre-Trip Work:

In addition, all staff will have 10 paid hours of pre-work on their curriculum to be completed between February and June, 2019. If staff are interested in and available for logistics hours in addition to curriculum design there may be additional hours available.

How to Apply

Positions are open until filled. Please apply online at: (LINK)

- You will need to upload a resume and include contact information for 3 references.
- The application will also ask you to answer the following questions:
 1. Why do you want to work with the Field Academy? How do you feel that our values, principles, and philosophy will be valuable for you as you pursue your own goals?
 2. What do you feel are the most important elements of your identity, of "who you are"? This could include age, gender, ethnic background, socioeconomic status, religion or anything else that feels important to how you see yourself in relation to the world. We ask because it is important to us to bring together people with lots of different identities, and to build a program that strives towards co-creating safe space.
 3. A critical piece of a Field Academy expedition is facilitating connection between people of different backgrounds, identities and experiences: student to student, faculty to student, student group to community partners. Tell us about a time when you were successful at facilitating connection across difference and a time when you were challenged by it.

4. What makes you passionate about working on *this* program specifically?
5. Where are your places of growth with regards to the scope of the program this summer? Where are your places of strength? What are you psyched to learn about?
6. Tell us something else about you that you haven't had the opportunity to share yet!

If you have questions about applying, please reach out to Nat Begej, Program Director, at employment@fieldacademy.org.