

## **2021 Fall Schoodic Teaching Assistant**

Fall - Season: Aug 30-Nov 12, 2021

Acadia National Park - Schoodic Education District

**Contact:** sea\_acad\_education@nps.gov

### **Description Schoodic Education and Research Center (SERC)**

SERC is operated by a cooperative partnership between Acadia National Park (government organization), the Schoodic Institute (non-profit). The Schoodic Campus is located in Acadia National Park on the Schoodic Peninsula, Winter Harbor, Maine.

Situated on Big Moose Island at the tip of the Schoodic Peninsula, the campus has direct access to a variety of habitats. A short walk along the shore provides a substantial view of coastal geological processes, exposed cliff, cobble, mudflat, and marsh habitats. The impressive shoreline encompasses spruce/fir woodlands, stands of jack pine and mountain habitats which are home to numerous migratory species. This Gulf of Maine setting offers a unique place to study natural sciences as well as human history spanning over 4,000 years.

### **Education Programming**

Education Interns at Schoodic work with the middle school residential education program known as the Schoodic Education Adventure program (SEA), Day Program field trips from local schools and general Public Interpretation Programming. Additional duties as assigned include assisting with group meetings and general interpretive roving.

The bulk of the internship works with the SEA program, which offers a curriculum-based residential education program for 5th through 8th grade students. The three and four-day programs combine hands-on field experiences with some classroom activities. Students are introduced to the concept of stewardship and explore the relationship between preserving public lands and monitoring their resources. With a strong environmental education curriculum based in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) students participate in field based activities.

The Schoodic District offers public programming focusing on the natural and cultural history of Acadia National Park. Interns assist with evening campground programs and hikes, leading interpretive table talks, developing children's activities, and roving.

### **Intern Duties**

Education Interns spend approximately 70 % of their time leading field programs. The core curriculum of the SEA program includes exploring forest and marine ecology, geology, soil science, citizen science, weather and climate science, instructing map, compass, and GPS techniques while learning about landscape change over time. The programming also includes evening activities that include night hike (focusing on nocturnal animal adaptations), campfire program and art. Students use a wide array of tools for investigation including journals, scientific equipment, computers, graphs, maps, data synthesis, and the arts.

Education interns spend approximately 10% of their time in training and program preparation. Another 10% is involved with facility set up, light maintenance like vacuuming, and group management duties such as meeting the bus, dorm check in and check-out, etc. The remaining 10% of the job includes new activity development, creating props, data entry, program research, and assisting with auxiliary programs.

**Intern responsibilities**

- Working 40 hours per 4/5-day work week. Schedules occasionally include working weekends and shifts vary.
- Must participate in pre-program training, work as a member of an education team, and attend weekly staff development/logistical meetings.
- Lead morning, afternoon, and evening programs. Interns are not responsible for students after the conclusion of evening programs, but may be on call to assist in the advent of an emergency. Supervisory duties are shared at all times with the student's teachers.
- Contribute to all aspects of the operation of the Education District through other duties as assigned.
- Positively represent the National Park Service as a member of the education staff.

**Benefits:**

- \$12.15/hour
- Uniform shirts and jackets provided.
- Fully furnished shared apartment and utilities are provided on campus in a separate location from the student dormitory.
- Free laundry facilities are available on campus.
- College credit can be arranged through most universities prior to internship season. Interns are responsible for arranging credits with their schools.

**How to Apply:**

E-mail a resume, cover letter, and 3 references with phone and email contact info to:

[sea\\_acad\\_education@nps.gov](mailto:sea_acad_education@nps.gov)