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## Job Description

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**POSITION TITLE:** Naturalist Apprentice #4053  
(Apprentice Non-Classified)  
Sky Mountain Outdoor Educational Center  
STEM/Educational Services

**SALARY PLACEMENT:** Naturalist Apprentice Hourly Salary Schedule  
Range 01, Step A

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### **SUMMARY OF POSITION:**

Under the direction of Sky Mountain Outdoor Educational Center Management, provide learning experiences for participants in the outdoor education program. Assists in developing class programs, enhances curriculum, supports facilities, and exercises supervision over Sky Mountain classes and special programs. Does related work as required. Required to live onsite in a shared room. Meals are included when the program is in operation. Commit to the entire length of the season with an opportunity to continue into the next season (Summer: End of May – First week of August; Fall: First week of August – Mid December; Winter: Mid December – End of May)

### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS – EDUCATION, TRAINING AND/OR EXPERIENCE:**

Possess a High School diploma or equivalent. Possess a valid Food Handlers certification or commit to obtaining in within the first month of hire date. Possess a valid Wilderness First Aid certification or able to obtain through SJCOE provided training within the first month of the hire date. Have an interest in fostering student social emotional wellness and building a collaborative community. Experience with student-activity and curriculum development.

### **DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS – EDUCATION, TRAINING AND/OR EXPERIENCE:**

Possess a Bachelor's Degree with a science/environmental or teaching/education related work background or any equivalent combination of education, training, or experience. Possess a lifeguard (open water) certification. Bilingual in English/Spanish. Naturalist experience or other outdoor education experience. Able to play a musical instrument. Possess a Wilderness First Responder certification.

### **CREDENTIALS AND/OR SKILLS AND ABILITIES:**

#### *Knowledge of:*

- environmental sciences and curriculum, history of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and other related subjects

#### *Ability to:*

- make decisions and solve problems effectively and efficiently
- be flexible and receptive to change
- be a team player and create a positive work environment
- provide instruction, leadership, and guidance to participating teachers and students
- recognize and work within the limitations of special needs students
- plan and coordinate, outdoor education programs designed for students in grades K-12
- speak and make presentations before large groups of people

#### *Possess:*

- some combination of fine arts skills such as guitar playing, song leading, and storytelling

- strong interpersonal skills
- an acceptable driving record pursuant to SJCOE policy; and proof of liability insurance coverage in the minimum amount required by SJCOE policy; and must be insurable by the SJCOE carrier. Must furnish own transportation as required to fulfill job duties.

**ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:**

Essential functions may include, but are not limited to:

1. Provide engaging environmental education experiences.
2. Direct, assist with or supervise recreational and social experiences.
3. Train and support cabin leaders.
4. May administer medications according to physician instructions.
5. Care for sick or injured students or guests.
6. Assist in the health and safety activities of guests.
7. Organize and supervise indoor and outdoor meals.
8. Monitor campfire and other camp programs and activities.
9. Operate necessary equipment needed for all weather conditions (including snow).
10. Prepare, present, or participate in weekend workshops or events when needed.
11. Attend scheduled staff meetings.
12. Maintain cooperative relationships with those contacted in the course of work.
13. Assist in operation of kitchen and dining when needed, such as, but not limited to: prepping, serving, washing dishes.
14. Be on call one night a week.
15. Willingness to work a flexible work week.
16. All other duties as assigned.

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Sit, stand, and walk for extended periods.
2. See and read printed matter, with or without visual aids, distinguish colors, read, and understand rules and policies, labels, and instructions.
3. Verbal communication including the ability to speak and hear at normal room levels.
4. Stand, walk, and bend over, reach overhead, grasp, pull and move, lift and/or carry up to 50 pounds to waist height.
5. Work outside in inclement weather.
6. Capable of digging snow from vehicles and entrances/exits of buildings.
7. Hike over uneven terrain for up to five miles in inclement weather conditions.
8. Ability to use telephones, office equipment and computer.

**WORK ENVIRONMENT:**

Employees in this position will be required to work mainly outdoors in an educational and standard work environment located in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Employees may come in direct contact with students, parents, SJCOE and school district staff, outside agency staff, and the public.