



AmeriCorps Position Description

Position Title: Farm Educator

Project Sponsor: Friends of Zenger Farm www.zengerfarm.org

NWSA Mission: This position is in partnership with the Northwest Service Academy (NWSA), an AmeriCorps program of ESD112. NWSA's mission is: To preserve and restore the natural environment, and to develop community leaders through service and community partnerships.
www.nwserviceacademy.org

Project Location: 11741 SE Foster Road, Portland OR 97266

Position Summary: The Farmer in the Classroom Coordinator will work with the Zenger Education Director to develop and implement all aspects of the Farmer in the Classroom. The Coordinator will design curriculum, offer it to at least 12 elementary school classrooms and evaluate the success of the program. The Coordinator will also provide field trips to the same classrooms at Zenger Farm and assist with Zenger Farm Summer Camp. The Coordinator can expect to spend 10% of time developing curriculum, 30% of time offering farm field trips, 10% of time teaching off-site in classrooms and communicating with teachers, 10% of time developing and implementing program evaluation, 10% of time recruiting and training volunteers, and 30% of time assisting with Zenger Farm Summer Camp.

Essential Functions (to include, but not limited to):

- Collaborate with Zenger Farm Education Director to offer farm field trips.
- Communicate with schools to organize farm visits and classroom visits.
- Serve with Zenger Farm Education Director to develop Farmer in the Classroom curriculum.
- Teach Farmer in the Classroom curriculum to at least 9 classrooms.
- Develop and implement program evaluation.
- Assist with recruitment, planning and implementation of Zenger Farm Summer Camp.
- Recruit and train volunteer farm educators.
- Assist in the planning and maintenance of the Children's Garden
- Complete and submit all necessary NWSA/AmeriCorps paperwork and reports in a timely manner.
- Attend and complete all NWSA/AmeriCorps training and service requirements including orientation, training's, team meetings and national service days.
- Wear an NWSA uniform and/or appropriate identifiers and required safety gear while performing service or attending official events.

Position Requirements:

- Ability to work independently on projects and as a team.
- Ability to work with diverse populations.
- 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 an education 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 NWSA and/or Project Sponsor Agency.
- Regular and reliable attendance.
- Have not previously served two terms in an AmeriCorps*State or National program. Members may serve up to three terms in a National Service Program, but only two terms may be within an

AmeriCorps*State or National program. Members are only eligible for an education award for their first two terms of service, regardless of the type of term (full or part-time) and regardless of the successful completion of that term.

- Personal vehicle to drive to schools, mileage will be reimbursed
- Ability to carry out basic gardening and farming tasks, shoveling, planting, digging, etc.

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience farming or gardening
- Experience assisting and leading environmental education programs for youth
- Personal vehicle to travel to schools

Member Benefits Include:

- A taxable, monthly living allowance (before taxes, approximately \$1,072).
- Upon successful completion of a term of service, eligible members/leaders receive an education award of \$5,350. 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 (covers members only, not dependents; vision and dental not included).
- Child care allowance for those who qualify.
- Professional development, trainings and networking opportunities.

Transportation Information:

- Project site is accessible by public transportation.
- Personal vehicle is recommended to travel to schools.

Application Deadline: July 22, 2010.

Interviews: July 26 – 30, 2010

Service Dates: September 20, 2010 - August 12, 2011

NWSA Center: Lower Columbia Center

Type of Position: Individual Placement

Length of Term: 1700 hours (11-months)

How to apply:

Step 1 - Email the following items to the Project Sponsor for this position – Alice Froehlich at alice@zengerfarm.org:

- **résumé**
- **cover letter**
- **contact information for three references**

The Project Sponsor will conduct all initial interviews and recommend a candidate for this position. All recommended candidates will also interview with Northwest Service Academy.

Step 2 - Complete your application to NWSA:

Application materials can either be completed online at the [AmeriCorps website](#) (preferred) and submitted to an NWSA position or downloaded from the NWSA website "[How to Apply](#)" page and submitted to Sherrie Jackson via email, mail or fax. A complete Member application includes the following:

- **AmeriCorps Application**
- **Two Written References** – These are included in the AmeriCorps online application or a form is available on our website.
- **Certification Form** - This document must be mailed or delivered to our office with an original signature (no fax).

Questions about the position? Contact: Alice Froehlich, alice@zengerfarm.org, 503.282.4245

General questions about AmeriCorps, NWSA or our recruitment process? Contact:

Sherrie Jackson
Recruitment Coordinator
NWSA Lower Columbia Center
55 SE Main Street
Portland, OR 97214
(503) 234-2383 ext 108
(503) 232-0166 (fax)
sherrie.jackson@esd112.org

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