

WILDERNESS SCHOOL: 2020 SUMMER EMPLOYMENT



The Wilderness School provides intensive experiential programs to Connecticut youth ages thirteen to seventeen and to other children and youth with special needs. The program is supported by the State of Connecticut, Department of Children and Families (DCF). We are currently in our forty-Seventh year of operations.

The Wilderness School base camp is located in East Hartland, Connecticut in the north-central part of the state. The program course area follows the Appalachian Trail corridor of the Taconic and Berkshire Mountain ranges of Connecticut and Massachusetts, as well as the adjoining areas of the Housatonic River Valley. In the summer, students attend 20-Day, 7-Day and 5-Day Expedition courses in groups of ten with two or three Instructors and with the support of several base camp staff. The Wilderness School also conducts numerous 1-3 day programs and summer camp functions for groups seeking adventure education services.

The Wilderness School is a prevention, intervention and transition program intended to assist our students to develop self-esteem, internal locus of control and interpersonal skills. Designed as journey experiences, our programs are considered therapeutic for the participant. Wilderness School activities are not viewed as an end in themselves, however, but as a tool in the service delivery of community youth agencies. Each student must pass through an Orientation phase of the Wilderness School prior to attending an Expedition course. Students who attend 20, 7, or 5-Day courses are then eligible to participate in a fall through spring Follow-Up Program. Those attending 1-3 day programs may elect to apply for Expeditions.

Wilderness School 20-day Expeditions include backpacking, a high ropes course, rock climbing, canoeing, service learning, a solo experience, a "marathon" run, and graduation, as well as small group process and individual counseling. Program 7 and 5-Day Expeditions include backpacking or canoeing and one or more selected special activities. 1-3 Day courses feature adventure based activities intended to introduce students to Wilderness School programs and opportunities for continued participation. Students are referred to the Wilderness School by many types of agencies, including DCF facilities, area offices, adolescent programs and prevention services, community youth service bureaus, school systems, child guidance clinics, independent living programs, residential facilities, and juvenile justice programs. Our student population is diverse and representative of varied ethnic and racial backgrounds.



Summer Positions and Sample Compensation

	Title:	Spring: Approximate Number of Days Scheduled (Includes 10 Days of Staff Training):	Summer: Approximate Number of Days Scheduled (Includes 10 Days of Staff Training):	Fall: Approximate Number of Days Scheduled (Includes 10 Days of Staff Training):	Daily Rate:
1.	Course Director/Field Leadership or Equivalent	35 to 40	48 to 55	35 to 40	Starting \$184.45 Per Diem
2.	Expedition Instructors & Equivalent	35 to 40	48 to 55	35 to 40	Starting \$171.10 Per Diem
3.	Program Support Staff & Basecamp Instructors	35 to 40	48 to 55	35 to 40	Starting \$133.82 Per Diem

WORK DATES:

Spring Positions: March 30th through Summer

Summer Positions: Staff Training: June 8th - June 19th Summer Program: June 22nd- August 19th, 2020

Fall Positions: Summer through Early to Mid-November

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILL AND ABILITY:

General: A Bachelor's Degree is preferred. Professional level training and work experience as an Experiential Educator may be considered in lieu of Bachelor's Degree. Examples: Greenfield Community College Outdoor Leadership Program, National Outdoor Leadership School course completion, Outward Bound School course completion, or comparable significant experience as an Outdoor Education Professional or corresponding professional experience.

Incumbents in this class must possess the following:

- A. Current Wilderness First Responder or equivalent (WAFA or WFA may be considered).
- B. Current American Heart Association (AHA) Healthcare Provider or American Red Cross (ARC) Professional Rescuer CPR.
- C. Current ARC Lifeguard certification and Waterfront training, or equivalent preferred.
- E. Current American Canoe Association (ACA) certification or equivalent preferred.
- F. Driver's license preferred.

Incumbents hired as Logistics/Climbing: Current AMGA-American Mountain Guides Association, PCIA-Professional Climbing Instructors' Association or equivalent rock-climbing certification or experience preferred.

MOTIVATION, RAW TALENT, RECEPTIVITY TO GROWTH, AND ABILITY TO BE A TEAM PLAYER ARE DESIRED CHARACTERISTICS

Interested parties initially may send a letter of interest and resume to WildernessJourney@ct.gov or contact the Wilderness School 860-653-8059. *Once the job posting is announced on the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) Website*, Interested applicants must log onto the State of Connecticut, Online Employment Center at <https://www.jobapscloud.com/CT/> and will either need to update or create a master application, then apply to the Wilderness School Seasonal Instructor (403VR) job posting.

FOR INFORMATION: Contact the Wilderness School at (860) 653-8059 or visit the Wilderness School Website <https://portal.ct.gov/DCF/Wilderness-School/Home> Please visit us on Facebook at 'State of Connecticut Wilderness School.