



Position Description

United Communities AmeriCorps (UCA) members engage in meaningful service that meets critical community needs throughout Southwest Oregon. UCA projects improve access to social services by bridging barriers to educational opportunities, mentoring, job skills development, employment resources, family stability, and having healthy futures. Our members engage clients in their dedicated service project, and then use their experience to recruit, retain, and support community volunteers in their project and host site. Our positions are a dynamic combination of serving in a dedicated project (85%) and engaging in civic and professional development opportunities, alongside our AmeriCorps cohort (15%).

SERVICE TERM

August 29, 2024 – July 31, 2025 (Full-time; 11 months – 1700 hours)

MEMBER LIVING ALLOWANCE

\$20,400 living allowance paid over the 11-month service term

EDUCATION AWARD

\$7,395 Segal Education Award upon successful completion of the term of service

POSITION TITLE

Marine Science Youth and Volunteer Educator

PROJECT HOST SITE

UO Charleston Marine Life Center

PROJECT LOCATION

Charleston, OR

POSITION SUMMARY

This position is located at the University of Oregon's marine biology field station on the Oregon coast, specifically with their public outreach center, which is part aquarium, part museum. The Marine Science Youth and Volunteer Educator will lead programming for preK-12th grade students (35%), mentor a small number of community college students in marine science studies and careers (10%), and support CMLC's volunteer program by providing training on aquarium care and education program delivery as well as volunteer management support (40%). AmeriCorps Member's remaining time is for AmeriCorps activities and professional development (15%).

ESSENTIAL RESPONSIBILITIES (to include, but not limited to)

- Train volunteers in aquarium care and animal husbandry techniques
- Assist with ongoing aquarium care and animal husbandry
- Develop and lead preK-12th grade programming
- Train volunteers on delivery of CMLC education programs
- Mentor community college students via engagement in hands-on exploratory programs in marine science, including coastal and dock-side explorations and conversations with UO students and marine professionals
- Assist with recruitment, recognition, retention and management of volunteers
- Document program and training protocols, lessons learned, and best practices

- Implement and/or develop systems to inform Volunteer Management Goals.
- Complete and submit all necessary UCA paperwork and reports in a timely manner.
- Attend and complete all UCA training and service requirements including orientation, trainings, team meetings, and National Days of Service (Make a Difference Day, MLK Jr. Day, and a June Service Event).
- Wear AmeriCorps apparel and/or appropriate identifiers while performing service or attending official events.

MARGINAL RESPONSIBILITIES (to include, but not limited to)

- Assist with community STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) events

POSITION REQUIREMENTS

- Enjoy interacting with youth and with adults.
- Energetic, self-motivated, organized, and willing to learn and work individually and with a team.
- Ability to take directions for safety and proper task completion.
- Some service hours will take place on weekends.
- A valid driver's license, clean driving record, and ability to drive a 15-passenger van to transport students.
- 17 years of age or older, at beginning of service term.
- U.S. citizen, U.S. 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 National Service Criminal History Check provided through UCAN and/or Project Host Site.
- Regular and reliable attendance.
- Have not previously served four terms in an AmeriCorps*State or National program. Members are only eligible for the equivalent of two full-time education awards in their lifetime.
- Applicants must disclose if they have ever been removed for cause from any national service program.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Marine science background and interest
- A college degree in marine biology or biology
- Experience teaching or delivering natural science or other education programs
- Experience using science equipment such as plankton nets, measuring equipment, microscopes, and aquaria
- Strong time-management, interpersonal, and verbal and written communication skills

SERVICE CONDITIONS

- Service will take place in the marine life center (part aquarium/part museum); a university marine biology field station; in an office; around aquaria; in field sites including beaches, the rocky intertidal, marshes and docks; and possibly on a research boat.
- The position is located in a small town on the Oregon coast.

PHYSICAL & INTELLECTUAL DEMANDS

- Interest in and willingness to learn about marine science, including self-initiated learning
- Creativity to develop learning opportunities, openness to input, and willingness to adjust
- Desire to mentor older students
- Ability to work in, on or near water, on ladders, and on a boat
- Ability to work in wet, muddy, cold and rocky environs

EQUIPMENT USED

- Technology, tools or machines that might be used include: computers and various software, touchscreens and applications, collecting and sampling gear (such as plankton nets and light traps),

hydrophones, microscopes, aquaria food preparation tools (knives, nets), aquaria care tools (ladders, scrubbers, siphons).

TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

- Organizational vehicle is available for some service activities. Member is covered by organization's vehicle insurance policy.
- Project site is not accessible by public transportation. Personal vehicle is recommended to get to service site.

MEMBER BENEFITS INCLUDE

- \$20,400 living allowance paid over the 11-month service term (approx. \$850 bi/weekly, before taxes).
- \$7,395 education award upon successful completion of the term of service which 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. Members that are 55 and older may transfer the award to one child or grandchild.
- May be eligible for Loan Forbearance & Interest Accrual Repayment on qualified loans (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).
- SNAP benefits for those who qualify.
- Child care allowance for those who qualify.
- Professional development, trainings and networking opportunities.
- Exposure to a variety of marine science research topics, science communication methods, and extended time at a university marine biology field station
- On campus housing ranging from \$200-\$600/month might be available, but is not guaranteed

EQUITY & INCLUSION

UCA values diversity and seeks to provide an inclusive space that rejects intolerance. Qualified individuals with disabilities and those from diverse backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply. UCA is an AA/EEO employer. UCA provides reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals and conducts all activities in fully accessible settings.

HOW TO APPLY

Application Deadline: July 31, 2024

Interviews are conducted on a rolling basis as qualified candidates are identified, so early application is strongly encouraged as member selection may be made prior to the application deadline.

Apply to United Communities AmeriCorps:

Option 1:

- Visit <https://my.americorps.gov/> and select "apply to serve"
- Create a login and password
- Build your AmeriCorps profile and application to serve
- Click on "Advanced Opportunity Search" and search by Program Name: "UCA" and State: "OR"

Option 2:

- email the following documents to ucamericorps@ucanecap.org
 - Resume
 - Cover Letter (1 page)
 - Contact information for two References (name, title, relationship, email, & phone)

QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS POSITION? CONTACT:

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QUESTIONS ABOUT AMERICORPS? CONTACT:

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