



DeltaCorps Member Position Description The Jackson Zoo

DeltaCorps Member Service Position Title: Education Programs Service Member

Service Location: The Jackson Zoo; 2918 West Capitol Street, Jackson, MS 39209

Site Supervisor/Title: Elizabeth Stenger, Education Curator

Service Position Summary:

Full time AmeriCorps member position with the Jackson Zoo Education Department under the supervision of the Education Curator. Teach various education programs, on and off grounds. The bulk of these programs will include Zoo Mobiles, Wild Classrooms, and animal encounters. Develop, lead, and evaluate these programs. The Zoo can provide a basic outline for programs and basic materials, however it will be the responsibility of the DeltaCorps member to develop individual activities for each program, ensure that the activities align with state teaching standards, and gather/create the supplies needed for each program.

Essential Functions of Position:

- Develop educational programs, including Zoo Mobiles, Wild Classrooms, Zoo Camp, and Zoo Connections, to meet the needs of our economically disadvantaged youth population
- *DeltaCorps has determined that the probability of access to vulnerable populations is so great that all members will receive the three part NSCHC: NSOPR, FBI, and required state components (residence and state of service, as necessary)*
- Lead educational programs about wildlife conservation using set curriculum
- Develop evaluations for all educational programs and lead evaluation processes for all educational programs
- Maintain or create supplies needed for such programs
- Provide daily animal care for program animals as it relates to educational programming
- Assist with public events related to educational programming as necessary

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities Required:

- Strong communication and public speaking skills
- Strong interpersonal and teamwork skills
- Experience working with children
- Demonstrated interest in nature and wildlife
- Highly motivated and innovative; well-organized; manages time efficiently
- Must be a U.S. Citizen, U.S. National or Lawful Permanent Resident of the United States
- At least 17 years of age

- Able to pass a state, FBI, and NSOPW criminal history check and pre-service drug test
- Ability to show an up-to-date tetanus and TB record before service begins
- Have or ability to obtain a Mississippi driver's license

Academic and Experience Qualifications:

- Degree in Biology, Zoology, Elementary Education or related topic
- Prior experience working with children highly recommended
- Prior experience working with animals preferred

Commitment Required:

- One year commitment approximately May 2017 - April 2018
- Full time, average 5 days per week/ 6-10 hours per day
- Daily schedule and days off depend on season and programming

Member Evaluation:

- Reporting completed in conjunction with monthly meetings
- Reporting Requirements: bi-weekly timesheets, monthly data reports, quarterly narrative reports
- Performance evaluation to be completed after training, after 6 months, and upon exit
- Evaluation based on professionalism, ability to work well with small and large groups of children, demonstration of leadership, and ability to work with supervisor and site staff

Training:

- Members will be trained on curriculum design, program delivery, teaching techniques, evaluation and analysis techniques, modern zoo practices (theory), history of zoological societies, animal care
- The majority of training will occur at the beginning of the service term with additional training as the member project changes focus
- Training will encompass no more than 20% of the service term

AmeriCorps Program Benefits:

- Annual living allowance of \$12,530 (~ \$482 biweekly)
- Post-service education award of \$5,815
- Healthcare, training opportunities, loan forbearance, and some travel reimbursement
- Family membership to the Jackson Zoo with all associated benefits and employee rate on all purchases, education programs, and rentals

Apply Online:

- <https://my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do?id=73494&fromSearch=true>
- Applications reviewed on a rolling basis, position open until filled.
- No phone calls, please.