900-Hour UCC Youth Educator Job Description

This UCC AmeriCorps position includes teaching youth, facilitating volunteer and service learning groups, growing organic food, and engaging in community work with a dynamic, non-profit organization. The mission of Wasatch Community Gardens (WCG) is to empower people of all ages and incomes to grow and eat healthy, organic, local food. This position will focus specifically on teaching youth ages 4-12 in our community through engaging, hands-on, outdoor learning opportunities.

Hours: Six month, 900-hour position (mid-April through mid-October), averaging 40 hours/week, flexible schedule, some evening and weekend hours required.

Compensation: This is an individual placement position through the Utah State University, Utah Conservation Corps (USU-UCC), AmeriCorps Program. USU-UCC will provide the selected individual(s) with a $6,634 living allowance divided into bi-monthly installments, an educational award of $2,865 (upon completion of entire internship), an option to purchase health insurance, child care (for qualified members), and student loan deferment during service period. There is also the option of receiving some university credit hours through Utah State University for this internship.

WCG Benefits: Professional non-profit experience, semi-flexible schedule, access to fresh garden produce, holidays off, hands-on experience growing food organically, and lots of time spent outdoors in our beautiful outdoor teaching gardens.

Required Qualifications / Experience:

- Great attitude, sense of humor, and enthusiasm about working with children outdoors
- Experience working with youth ages 4-12, particularly in an outdoor setting
- Basic knowledge of organic/sustainable gardening methods and a desire to learn more
- Organized, motivated, and able to work independently and as part of a group
- Desire to work with youth from a variety of ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds
- Ability and desire to work outdoors in variable weather conditions
- Ability to think on your feet, be flexible, and solve problems creatively
- Ability to facilitate adult and teen volunteer and community groups
- Basic computer skills including MS Office, Gmail, online calendar, and Apple operating systems
- Ability to lift 50 lbs.
- Transportation to/from gardens and office (some transportation reimbursements available, cycling encouraged)

Preferred Qualifications / Experience:

- Bachelor's degree in related field (education, social work, environmental studies, etc.)
- Familiarity with environmental and/or experiential-education methods
- Prior experience with horticulture, gardening, and growing food
- Experience with tools used in basic carpentry, landscaping, and garden upkeep
- Ability to drive a stick-shift vehicle (or willingness to learn)
900-Hour UCC Youth Educator Job Description Continued …

Responsibilities:

**Education**

- Plan, prep, and teach summer camps, field trips, and youth classes in the gardens
- Assess, revise, and create curriculum under the guidance of the Youth Program Director
- Provide a safe, active, and engaging environment for diverse youth participants
- Work with a variety of partner agencies, local community groups, and volunteers on garden and education projects
- Facilitate service learning groups
- Document outcomes for gardening lessons

**Horticulture**

- Assist in maintaining teaching garden(s), including bed prep, irrigation, planting, weeding, composting, chicken care, and harvesting
- Greenhouse maintenance, including some seed starting for youth garden plots
- Help maintain hoop houses and communal garden areas
- Harvest, track, and donate garden produce
- Facilitate garden volunteer groups

**Assist with Special Events**

- The Spring Plant Sale fundraiser (involves one Saturday in early May)
- Urban Garden and Farm Week (involves one Saturday in June)
- Tomato Sandwich Party & Fall Plant Sale (involves one Saturday in September)
- Other direct-service tasks as assigned by Youth Program Director or Executive Director

**To Apply:**

Send a cover letter & resume to openings@wasatchgardens.org.

- Position opened until March 18th
- Applications received prior to 9:00am on March 4th will receive priority consideration
- Resumes received without a cover letter will not be considered
- Note: This position requires a rigorous background check prior to start date