



## **675-Hour UCC AmeriCorps Youth Educator**

### **Organization and Job Description**

Founded in 1989, Wasatch Community Gardens is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization that works to empower people of all ages and incomes to grow and eat healthy, organic, local food. Wasatch Community Gardens achieves its mission by providing access to gardening, land, and education.

The WCG Youth Gardening Program works with youth, ages 4-12, in four programs to develop the skills, awareness, and knowledge they need to grow, prepare, and eat nutritious food. Our goal is to empower youth to make healthy choices for themselves, their community, and the environment. In the past year, more than 1,000 youth participated in our programs.

The UCC AmeriCorps Youth Educator is primarily responsible for teaching the WCG summer camps, field trips, and youth group garden visits. The Youth Educator will also assist in maintaining the two teaching gardens, help facilitate garden volunteer groups, and assist at WCG special events.

This position requires strong leadership skills, the ability to work as part of a team, and a passion for teaching youth to grow and eat healthy, organic, local food. Through this position, the UCC AmeriCorps members will have the opportunity to learn about outdoor education, sustainable food production, and professional non-profit work through hands-on experience.

### **Primary Responsibilities**

#### *Education*

- Teach summer camps, field trips, and youth group visits in the gardens
- Provide a safe, active, and engaging environment for diverse youth participants
- Document outcomes of gardening lessons and review with Youth Program Director
- Work with a variety of partner agencies, local community groups, and service-learning groups on garden and education projects

#### *Gardening*

- Assist in maintaining two teaching gardens using sustainable and organic practices
- Assist in maintaining teaching gardens as outdoor classrooms that are safe, stimulating, and welcoming
- Harvest, record, and distribute produce from the teaching gardens
- Help to facilitate garden volunteer groups, garden crews, and staff workdays

#### *Additional Responsibilities*

- Assist with Wasatch Community Gardens events including:
  - Urban Garden and Farm Week (one Saturday in June)
  - Tomato Sandwich Party (one Saturday in September)
- Attend agriculture, education, and community engagement trainings with other youth educators and Youth Program Director



WASATCH  
COMMUNITY  
GARDENS

## Qualifications

- Experience working with youth ages 4-12, particularly in an outdoor setting
- Basic knowledge of sustainable, organic gardening OR strong desire to learn
- Organized, motivated, and able to work independently and as part of a group
- Ability to build relationships with youth from diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds
- Desire to work outdoors in variable weather conditions
- Excellent communication skills
- Positive and flexible attitude, ability to solve problems creatively

## *Other Preferred Experience*

- Bachelor's degree in related field (education, social work, environmental studies, etc.)
- Familiarity with environmental and/or experiential education methods
- Prior experience with gardening or farming
- Experience with tools used in basic carpentry, landscaping, and garden work
- Knowledge of nutrition and basic cooking skills
- Ability to lift 50 lbs and a good level of physical fitness
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite, comfort using Gmail and Google calendar
- Ability to drive a manual vehicle or willingness to learn

## *Minimum Qualifications*

Must be a US Citizen or Permanent Resident and eligible to serve an AmeriCorps State/National term. Must be at least age 18 by the start of their term and have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must undergo and pass a National Criminal History Check. Must commit to completing their Term of Service

## Hours

5 month, 675-hour position (June through October), averaging 40 hours/week, semi-flexible schedule, some evenings and weekends.

## 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 individuals with a \$4,975 living allowance divided into bi-monthly installments, an educational award of \$2,199 (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.

Additional benefits of this position include paid holidays, access to fresh garden produce, and an active, outdoor work environment.

## To apply

Send cover letter; resume; names, titles, and phone numbers of two professional references to [maria@wasatchgardens.org](mailto:maria@wasatchgardens.org). Please put "UCC AmeriCorps Youth Educator" in the subject line. Applications receive consideration as they are submitted; this job begins immediately. **Applications without a cover letter will not be considered.**