



Alaska Crossings Wilderness Guide Job Description

Program Description

Our programs are 46 days in length and operate in the Tongass National Forest in Alaska, and on the Stikine River in Canada. Our clients are 12-18 years old, have behavioral health issues, and come from a variety of cultural backgrounds. We use the remote Alaska Wilderness and our expeditions as a context to deliver a curriculum of behavior modification, social and life skill development and mentor counseling to elicit positive change in our clients. Field expeditions are supported by administrative staff, clinical staff, and an expedition support services facility. Staff training is in February and programs start the first week of March. We prefer staff who can attend staff training and then commit to 2 programs between March and the beginning of September.

Job Description

Alaska Crossings guides must be proficient in a variety of hard skills and have experience working with youth. Guides must have a high level of awareness for participant needs and have the ability to instruct and mentor children with varying learning abilities. There is no time off during expeditions so staff must be comfortable in and prepared to be in the wilderness for extended periods of time. We work with a staff:participant ratio of 1:3 and group size is generally 3 staff to 9 participants.

Responsibilities

Responsibilities include all things inherent in mentoring participants and providing them with a safe and enjoyable experience in the wilderness. These include but are not limited to the following:

- Guides must have the ability to understand the role of a mentor and be comfortable being a mentor to their participants.
- Guides will participate in all aspects of the Crossings program. This includes; pre-trip planning and meetings, food preparation, equipment preparation, program implementation, delivery of curriculum, report writing and all post program clean-up and program shut down duties.
- Guides will act as a member of the staff team to ensure program continuity and the overall safety of staff and participants.
- Guides are responsible for the delivery of all skills instruction.
- Guides will have two to four Key Kids. Under the supervision of the Field Therapist they will complete 1-1 counseling sessions, follow up with all required documentation (1 report on each Key Kid/day), oversee their Key Kids' solo experience, develop strategies and short term goals for their Key Kids, and implement the treatment plans as outlined by the Field Therapist.
- Guides must be proficient at leading and motivating client groups on extended expeditions in challenging environments.

- Guides must possess the characteristics of maturity, flexibility, the ability to work as a team with management and other staff, a sense of humor, honesty and are accountability.
- Guides will adhere to the program values and implement the program mission.
- Guides must work within organizational policies and parameters.
- It is the responsibility of the Guide to inform the Program Director of any concerns regarding their ability to safely and competently execute these duties.

Qualifications

Prospective staff must have previous experience working with youth with mental and behavioral health issues. Trip components include ocean/flat water canoeing, river canoeing and alpine travel/mountaineering,. We have 3 guide levels based on qualifications and experience.

Minimum job requirements are:

- Experience working with youth (experience with youth-at-risk preferred).
- Wilderness First Responder/CPR (updated)
- Flat water paddling experience.
- Moving water paddle experience
- Experience in an alpine environments.
- Multi-day backcountry tripping experience.

Applicants must have experience in these activities and have the necessary equipment/gear. We work in remote rugged environments that are equipment intensive. Qualifications differ for each guide level. All guides must be able to travel in Canada.

Salary/Benefits

\$108 - \$302/day based on skills and experience. Please refer to www.alaskacrossings.org/employmentstaff for more details. Pro-deals are available. Retirement benefits are available.

To Apply

If you have any questions about employment, or if you meet the minimum requirements and wish to apply, please forward a resume and application to jobs@alaskacrossings.org. Staff training begins in February and applicants attending staff training will be given preference for work. Please refer to our website www.alaskacrossings.org for more information and to download an application.

Thank you