

Student Conservation Association (SCA) Public Safety Intern Job Description

Overview

The US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is the leading federal provider of outdoor recreation and attracts over 350 million visitors annually to our lake and river projects in 43 states. Encouraging public safety for those recreating at our projects and preventing fatalities on our lands/waters are our primary concerns. As an SCA intern you are a part of our team and will work together with our park rangers to encourage public safety, making our areas safer and creating even more enjoyable places to visit.

Primary Responsibilities

Provide educational outreach and interpretive programming, as part of a team that encourages public safety. This includes all aspects of recreation safety on USACE lands and waters to include water, boating, bicycling, hiking, camping, and hunting. The primary focus will be on water and boating safety for all ages, but with an emphasis on targeting the highest risk group of 18-35 year old males. Your primary responsibility will be educating public visitors regarding public safety through face-to-face contact. This personal contact will take place at beaches, boat ramps, boat patrol, campgrounds, and other venues where you have direct contact with visitors. Additionally, you will be responsible to summarize your contacts and submit a monthly report. Interns will perform a variety of tasks including developing outreach mechanisms for this target audience; updating bulletin boards; maintaining life jacket loaner stations; organizing events; conducting interpretive programs and roving interpretation; writing news releases; possibly conducting media interviews (radio); promoting USACE safety campaigns; developing public service announcements and interacting with park visitors. Interns may be used for search and rescue and as a second (safety) person for boat patrols made by park rangers.

Secondary Responsibilities

Increase safety awareness through communication and lead by example anytime you are near the water or participating in water-related activities. Provide valuable information on how to improve our programs by maintaining open communication with rangers and managers, passing on ideas for improvement gathered during daily contact with visitors. Keep our parks friendly places for outdoor recreation and socialization. Assist park rangers and other employees by performing routine tasks pertinent their natural resources/recreation management and public safety programs.

Minimum Qualifications

- Desire to meet and interact with persons from varied ages and backgrounds.
- Desire to promote all aspects of recreation safety, including boating and water safety
- Appearance should be neat and a positive reflection of the organization.
- Valid driver's license
- Ease and comfort using a computer and the Internet
- Ability to remain calm in busy situations.
- Cognitive and verbal ability to answer visitor questions and communicate park rules.
- Physical ability to navigate campground loops, swim areas and visit campsites, lift 20 lbs and carry 25 feet (position may require extended periods in the outdoors during adverse conditions such as heat, cold or rain.)

Desired Experience (Not Mandatory)

- First Aid, CPR, AED training
- Knowledge and experience in interpretive programming
- NASBLA approved boater education course certification or equivalent
- Customer service or work with public, especially children and young adults.
- Previous park or outdoor recreation experience as employee or volunteer.
- Familiarity with boat and water safety and use of water rescue equipment
- Ability to swim
- Fluent in the Spanish language and experience in or working with Hispanic cultures.
- Basic knowledge of boat maintenance, use, and care of outboard engines

FY 2013 SCA Public Safety Intern funded by NOC for Water Safety Request Instructions

Sixteen Student Conservation Association (SCA) Public Safety Interns will be funded by the National Operations Center for Water Safety (NOC) in FY13 to work for a 12 to 16-week timeframe at field projects across the nation. The request form must be completed by the field project that would like to be considered to receive funding for a SCA public safety intern. Requests through your District POC must be sent to your Division MSC NRM Leads that must submit requests by COB 26 February 2013 to the NOC Manager Pam Doty and copy Rachel Garren. NOTE: These interns are required to provide water safety initiatives and promote water safety the majority of the time while they are working.

1. Provide office symbol, project name, and contact information (name, email, phone number) for the on-site operations or lake manager and the immediate work leader who will be managing the work of the Public Safety Intern during the FY13 summer recreation season (Memorial Day through Labor Day). NOTE: Work leaders will be responsible for providing their NOC Division Representative with monthly reports on the intern's accomplishments.
2. Provide information using OMBIL data to calculate the average direct interpretive water safety contacts per park ranger that provided interpretive services from Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend in FY10, FY11 and FY12 at the project where you would like to place an intern. For example, in FY12 if you reported in OMBIL 1,000 direct interpretive water safety contacts and you had 2 park rangers providing interpretive services from Memorial Day to Labor Day, the answer would be 500 contacts per ranger.
3. How many USACE employees (summer-hire and permanent) at the project where you would like to place an intern do you estimate will be providing water safety interpretive services the majority of their time in FY13 from Memorial Day to Labor Day? To determine if the answer to this question is an increase or a decrease in the number of interpretive rangers, please provide numbers of interpretive rangers for FY12 and FY11.
4. Provide the number of public water-related recreation fatalities in FY10, FY11 and FY12 at the project where you would like to place an Intern?
5. Will the project where you would like to place an intern be able to provide lodging on-site? If the answer is no, then what is the average monthly cost for available lodging in your area? If the NOC for Water Safety decides to fund up to \$6000 for each intern, would you be willing to pay any remaining balance from project funds? Funding beyond \$6,000 would typically only involve lodging costs. Are you willing to recruit an intern locally to eliminate the need to fund lodging costs? NOTE: Providing a campsite will not satisfy the on-site lodging requirement.
6. Have you had SCA interns work at the project where you would like to place this intern? If so, how many over the past three years and what were their primary duties? Have you ever been funded by the NOC for an SCA Public Safety Intern?
7. Provide any further explanation as to why your project deserves to receive a Public Safety Intern funded by the NOC during the FY13 summer recreation season. Limit additional comments to either the one-page form or one additional page.