

2021-22 Environmental Education Corps School Food Project Food System eeCorps Member Position Description

Food System Education Program Assistant

Program Overview: Led by the Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education (CAEE), the Environmental Education Corps (eeCorps) AmeriCorps Program places AmeriCorps members at organizations throughout Colorado to focus on increasing environmental literacy for PreK-12 students and implementing the goals outlined in the Colorado Environmental Education Plan. eeCorps works directly with teachers, schools, and environmental education providers to support them in expanding reach and increasing impact of EE programming, while providing access to equitable learning experiences for all PreK-12 students. eeCorps members provide direct service to improve outcomes in Environmental Stewardship and Education. AmeriCorps provides opportunities to improve lives and foster civic engagement all across the country.

This position will be located at the School Food Project, the Food Services department of Boulder Valley School District (BVSD) which is located in Boulder, CO. At the School Food Project, we believe that for kids to learn, think and be the best they can be, they have to eat well. Because of this, we are dedicated to improving the health of each student by providing healthy food and offering nutrition education programs to grow young bodies and minds. We are continuously improving our sustainability efforts through innovative and award-winning solutions, such as reusable bins for local deliveries, recycling beef cooking oil for biofuel for local farm tractors and composting vegetable scraps to feed locally farmed pigs. BVSD's production kitchens monitor their daily food waste with the LeanPath tracking system, allowing us to implement new, creative food waste reduction strategies. Learn more at food.bvsd.org.

Service Position Summary: The School Food Project eeCorps member will focus on food system-related Environmental Education programs. This will include Food Waste prevention and awareness programs, through use and maintenance of LeanPath food waste tracking systems in cafeterias and food waste audits led by engaged students. Additional programs will include events that raise awareness of the environmental benefits of plant-based menu entrees. Depending on member interest, there is the option to be involved in hands-on garden education for students and staff members as well.

Access to a reliable car is strongly encouraged, mileage will be reimbursed.

Essential Functions (Primary Responsibilities): eeCorps members engage with their Host Site organizations to develop, implement, and enhance programs, projects, and activities that will create progress towards eeCorps' and School Food Project's goals. These duties include:

- Food Waste prevention and awareness education programs
- Use, maintenance and student engagement programs with LeanPath food waste tracking systems in cafeterias.

• Plan and manage in-school events that raise awareness of the environmental benefits of plantbased menu entrees.

Marginal Functions (Secondary Responsibilities): Additional tasks include:

- Depending on member interest, there is the option to be involved in hands-on garden education for students and staff members as well.
- Depending on service member career aspirations, additional activities can be added in areas they are looking to gain experience, including but not limited to environmental education related tasks in the following areas: social media management, digital marketing, event planning, media relations, hands-on cooking education, etc.

Physical, Emotional, and Intellectual Demands:

- Ability to work in outdoor setting in various weather conditions for up to 9 hours
- Able to carry/lift 50 pounds
- Commitment to equity in education
- People person willing to go out into schools and communities and engage

Desired Qualifications:

- Can do, willing attitude—willing to learn
- Team player
- Interest in food systems and the impact of food on the environment
- Interest and desire to work with kids aged K-12
- Ethic of national and community service and a strong desire to create positive change
- Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing; computer literate
- High School Diploma or GED required, college graduate preferred
- Ability to pass criminal history checks (required)
- Reliable transportation and proof of auto insurance
- U.S. Citizenship or lawful permanent resident status required

Term of Service: This is a full-time national and community service position requiring a minimum of 1,700 hours during the year (approximately 40 hours/week.) The position begins August 23, 2021 and ends July 29, 2022. Flexible hours are required, including occasional evening and weekend commitments. Member must serve on Days of Service that take place on certain national holidays throughout the year.

Training and Support Provided: eeCorps members receive significant training and experience in community engagement, project implementation, leadership, diverse populations, and more. Up to 20% of total hours served may be spent in applicable approved training and professional development. Members will be supervised and supported by Mary Rochelle, Program and Grants Coordinator as well as by Erin Dreps, eeCorps Program Coordinator. The 2021-22 cohort of eeCorps members serving throughout the region will act as additional resources and support for each other.

Location and Service Conditions: This position is based at 6500 Arapahoe Rd, Boulder and other BVSD schools as required. Mileage will be reimbursed.

Benefits: Full Time eeCorps members receive:

• A bimonthly living allowance of \$695.66. Taxes are deducted and the living allowance is distributed twice per month by direct deposit to the member's bank account.

- Health insurance
- Child care assistance
- An education award of \$6,345 upon successful completion of term of service. It is possible to defer student loans while serving as an AmeriCorps member.
- Mileage reimbursement for travel to required trainings, days of service, and program sites
- Non-tangible benefits including extensive training, valuable experience, networking, and the opportunity to serve the local community in a crucial area of need.
- Ability to participate in regional EE leadership councils; option to obtain CAEE's nationallyrecognized Professional Environmental Educator Certification.

Diversity and Equal Opportunity: Boulder Valley School District does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, national origin, religion, ancestry, need for special education services, age, marital status, genetic information, or physical characteristics in admissions, access to, treatment, or employment in educational programs or activities.

The Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education (CAEE) recognizes the value of diversity and inclusiveness to advance environmental education. CAEE defines diversity in its broadest sense and welcomes everyone to the field of environmental education and the Alliance, including but not limited to people of all races, ethnicities, genders, gender expressions, sexual orientations, abilities, ages, national origins, socioeconomic status, religious affiliations, languages, and heritages.

If you are interested in applying to this position, please send your resume and a short cover letter outlining your interest in the program and commitment to national service to Erin Dreps, AmeriCorps Program Coordinator, at <u>americorps@caee.org</u>. Please include "AmeriCorps School Food Project Application" in the subject line. Please also attach a list of three (3) references, and a diversity and inclusion statement that is no longer than one page in length.