



Blue Elements Watershed Stewards

AMERICORPS SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Position Title: Watershed Education Specialist

Field of Service: Environmental Stewardship & Education

Service Site: Lake County School District- Project Dream

Address: 1000 W 4th St, Leadville, CO 80461

Site Supervisor's Name: Brandon Reynolds

Service Dates: August 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Average Hours per Week: 40

Days/Hours of Service: Usually Mon-Fri 9:00am-6:00pm, may vary or include some evenings/weekends.

Minimum # Hours to Complete Term: 675 + 900 Hours. This is a split term position, running August 1, 2024- December 20, 2024 and January 6, 2025- June 30, 2025

Program Overview: Blue Elements Watershed Stewards is committed to increasing community resilience in the face of changing water conditions by supporting sustainable, equitable access to one of Colorado's most valuable natural resources. AmeriCorps members will support organizations serving the water conservation, restoration, education and monitoring sectors in the Arkansas River Valley and beyond. Members may provide water education to youth and adults, complete water restoration projects, and support water quality monitoring projects. Members will work with diverse, traditionally underrepresented community members.

Organization Overview: Project Dream encompasses Lake County School District's After School Programming Monday-Thursday and Full Day Programming on Fridays. Project Dream focuses on providing opportunities for social-emotional learning, academic enrichment, athletics, club programs, and activities with partner organizations.

Service Description: The Watershed Education Specialist will support the development and implementation of watershed educational curriculum for grades K-12 through Lake County School District's Out of School Programming, Project Dream.

AmeriCorps Member Responsibilities:

- Support the planning and facilitation of after school Environmental Clubs at the Elementary, Intermediate and High Schools.
- Support the development and implementation of watershed education curriculum to utilize as the basis for the environmental club.
- Facilitate engaging, experiential field opportunities during Friday programming
- Support Academic Enrichment and Credit Recovery programming.
- Engage groups of multilingual youth in culturally responsive environmental education activities.
- Attend training for River Watch, and support implementation of River Watch monitoring in Lake County. Involve high school environmental club members in field monitoring activities .
- Assist with in school environmental and STEM Programming as needed.
- Track progress and facilitate evaluation data for the program's performance measures.

Location and Service Conditions: This position is based at Lake County School District, Project Dream- 1000 W 4th St, Leadville, CO 80461. The position will involve frequent days of service outdoors and will involve frequently working with youth.

Qualifications:

- Experience working with youth in educational settings
- Experience working with diverse, underserved populations and youth in poverty
- Teaching/ leadership experience
- Classroom management skills
- Maintain a positive and professional leadership role when supporting youth
- Passionate about engaging youth in watershed stewardship
- Patient, kind, caring, self motivated team player
- Strong professional communication skills
- Basic computer skills
- Commitment to ethics of diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Bilingual preferred, but not required

AmeriCorps Required Qualifications:

- At least 18 years old at start of service
- Must be a high school graduate, GED recipient, or working toward attaining a high school diploma or GED during the term of service.
- Be a citizen, national, or lawful permanent resident of the United States
- Ability to pass a National Service Criminal History Check (state, FBI, and National Sex Offender Public Website checks) per 45 CFR 2540.202

Watershed Stewards AmeriCorps Program Benefits:

- \$17,140.00 Living allowance (\$7,790.00 first term served and \$9,350.00 second term served). AmeriCorps member(s) will receive total stipend paid bi-monthly at \$779.00 per pay period over the course of the term. Taxes are deducted and the living allowance is distributed by direct deposit to the member.
- \$2,626.27 + \$3,697.50 Education Award / Tuition Assistance- AmeriCorps member(s) can receive an Education Award upon successful completion of service. This can be used to pay back student loans or further your education.
- All members receive professional development and training, plus covered travel costs for attendance at regional or state conferences.
- All members may be eligible for the Federal Assistance Program (SNAP, Medicaid, etc.)
- All members may qualify for student loan forbearance while in service.
- Alumni benefits may include priority hiring with organizations that are part of Employers of National Service and the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program to eliminate educational debt.

Diversity and Equal Opportunity Statement:

We believe that equity, diversity, and inclusion drive our success, and we encourage candidates from all identities, backgrounds and abilities to apply. We are committed to building inclusive, innovative work environments with employees who reflect our communities and enthusiastically serve them.

For Further Information and to Apply:

Email sheena@blueelements.org for more information, or send a cover letter and resume to apply. In your cover letter, explain your relevant experience and your commitment to the mission of the Watershed Stewards program. Applicants will be reviewed as they are received.