



**Northwest Youth Corps – AmeriCorps  
Northwest Service Corps  
Team Member Position Description  
(September 2017 - March 2018)**



### **PROGRAM BACKGROUND**

The Northwest Service Corps program (NSC) was created to offer professional development and training for young adults aged 19 to 24, who are not currently in school or working. The NSC program integrates team-based work projects, professional trainings, and education into a program that stresses personal and leadership growth and the development of resource management skills. Participants will work on conservation, recreation and maintenance projects and earn some industry-recognized certifications.

### **POSITION DESCRIPTION**

**Training:** The primary focus of the NSC program is to prepare members for full time employment with a combination of field work activity (85%) and educational discussions and activities (15%), including professional trainings. Program participants will receive **some** of the following trainings and certifications **depending on their crew's primary work focus:** Wilderness First Aid, CPR, Herbicide Application, Driver, Trail Construction and Maintenance, Brush Cutter Operation, Resource Management, Chainsaw Operation, and Conflict Resolution.

**Work Project Participation:** Team Members will be part of an eight person crew lead by one staff member. Team Members are responsible for the safe completion of assigned work projects in a timely manner to predetermined specifications under the direction of their Crew Leader. They work closely with program staff and other participants, paying specific attention to safe work practices, proper tool use, work quality and efficiency. Possible projects include trail building and maintenance, tree planting, invasive species removal and herbicide application, fire fuels reduction (chain sawing/slash piling), fence construction and park maintenance.

Actual work projects are dependent upon the crew's location and the needs and availability of partner agencies.

**Development:** Team Members participate in educational group discussions at least two times a week. An Individual Development Plan will be created by each member to foster reflection, self-awareness and self-improvement over the course of the service term.

**Hours:** During the five month program, crews work a variable schedule that may include some Monday - Friday work in-town, Monday – Friday work on “spike,” and some projects on a nine on five day off schedule that will run Monday through Tuesday or Wednesday of the following week.

Camping will be required on “spike” projects; some camping equipment is provided such as group tents and a full kitchen. Housing is not provided on days off or evenings in town.

Members must complete a minimum of 900 hours of service, or at least 45 hours a week including work, training, education, and travel time. A 30 minute lunch and at least two breaks will be provided each day.

No vacation time is provided during this program.

### **QUALIFICATIONS**

- 19—24 years old
- High School Diploma, GED, or willingness to acquire GED within one year of program completion
- Ability to lift 50lbs, hike several miles, and be on feet for 8-10 hours per day
- Positive mental attitude, flexibility and commitment to success
- Excellent judgment
- Desire to listen, give and take feedback, and learn constantly
- Desire to go the extra mile to make a positive impact on oneself, others and the environment
- Ability to pass a criminal history background check
- Unemployed for one month prior to program start and *qualifies* for federal assistance (SNAP, TANF, OHP, etc)

## **COMPENSATION**

This is an AmeriCorps position. Crew members will earn a total of between \$6,050-\$6,375 living allowance (depending on location) over their five month term of service. Living allowance is dispersed in prorated amounts at on the last business day of each month. AmeriCorps members receive a \$2,887.50 education award after successful completion of their term of service to be used for college, vocational study, or student loan repayment. Participants will have opportunities to earn certifications for trainings they successfully complete. Northwest Youth Corps is an equal opportunity employer.

## **2017 FALL START, DATES AND LOCATIONS**

**Portland:** September 18th, 2017—March 2nd, 2018. This crew will be assigned to approximately 50% in-town projects and 50% spike-based projects, perhaps favoring in-town work. Their primary work focus will be invasive species removal and restoration; planting projects are also a possibility. The crew may be sent hours from home depending on assignments. Both 5-day and 9-day work weeks are possible, and crew members will need to be flexible with scheduling.

**Eugene:** September 18th, 2017—March 2nd, 2018. This crew will be assigned to approximately 50% in-town projects and 50% spike-based projects, perhaps favoring in-town work. Their primary work focus will likely be habitat restoration and invasive species removal; planting projects are also a possibility. The crew may be sent hours from home depending on assignments. Both 5-day and 9-day work weeks are possible, and crew members will need to be flexible with scheduling.

*\* Definitions: "In-town" means that team members will meet with their leader each morning for work and go home each evening. "Spike-based" means that crew members and their leader will work and camp together outside of their home community; for example, leaving early Monday morning, camping for four nights, and returning home Friday evening—or the following Tuesday—for the weekend.*

**The member will not engage in any prohibited activities as stated in the Member Service Agreement.**