



**Northwest Youth Corps – AmeriCorps
Northwest Service Corps
Team Member
Position Description**



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, education, and professional trainings into a program that stresses personal and leadership growth and the development of resource management skills. Participants will earn industry recognized certifications while working on conservation, recreation, and maintenance projects.

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 industry wide recognized trainings (15%). Program participants will receive some or all of the following trainings and certifications depending on their crew's primary work focus: Wilderness First Aid, Herbicide Application, Chainsaw Operation, Leadership, Driver, Trail Construction and Maintenance, Brush Cutter Operation, Resource Management, CPR, Conflict Resolution, and Map and Compass.

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. Projects may 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.

Development: Team Members participate in educational group discussions at least two times a week. Members will be required to participate in at least one volunteer activity over their term of service. An Individual Development Plan will be created by each member to foster self improvement and reflection as the program progresses.

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 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, averaging 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

Ability 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. Participants earn a monthly living allowance of \$1,210-1,275 (depending on location) paid the last weekday of each month. Living allowance is prorated for partial months. 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.

DATES AND LOCATIONS

NSC Portland 1: January 16th – June 16th, 2017. A mixture of in-town (non-camping) and spike projects (camping). Primary focus of projects will be restoration, invasive species removal, and planting. Projects will occur largely in the Portland Metro Area with some work likely along the coast. Generally the schedule will be Monday through Friday with some 10-day projects lasting over weekends and members will need to be flexible in scheduling.

NSC Eugene 1: January 16th – June 16th, 2017. A mixture of in-town (non-camping) and spike projects (camping). This crew will work on a wide variety of projects in the Eugene area as well as south of the Willamette Valley with some work likely along the coast. Generally the schedule will be Monday through Friday with some 10-day projects lasting over weekends and members will need to be flexible in scheduling.

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