



900-Hour UCC AmeriCorps Youth Educator

Organization Description

Wasatch Community Gardens (WCG) is a community-based, nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering people to grow and eat healthy, organic, local food. Since 1989, we have provided children, adults, and families in Salt Lake County with access to land and education for growing and eating fresh produce, while building and nurturing community connections through gardening and healthy food. We accomplish this through four main programs: Community Garden, Community Education, Youth and School Gardens, and Job Training.

The WCG Youth & School Garden Program works to develop the awareness, knowledge, and skills youth need to grow and eat healthy, local food through providing educational opportunities and materials. Our purpose is to engage youth communities through gardening and local food, cultivate curiosity and food literacy with young learners, and inspire them to make healthy choices for themselves, their community, and the environment.

Job Summary

The UCC AmeriCorps Youth Educator is responsible for teaching the WCG summer camps, field trips, and group visits. The Youth Educator will also assist in maintaining teaching gardens, support other WCG youth programs, and assist at WCG events.

This position requires strong communication and time management skills, self-motivation, the ability to work as part of a team, and a passion for teaching youth to grow and eat healthy, organic, local food. Through this position, the UCC AmeriCorps members will have the opportunity to learn about outdoor education, sustainable food production, and professional non-profit work through hands-on experience.

Key Responsibilities

Education – 80%

- Teach summer camps, field trips, and youth group visits in the gardens
- Provide a safe, active, and engaging environment for diverse youth participants
- Document outcomes of lessons and review with Youth & School Garden Program team
- Collaborate on curriculum development for garden-based learning
- Work with partner agencies and community groups on garden and education projects

Gardening – 10%

- Assist in maintaining teaching gardens as outdoor classrooms that are safe, fun, and welcoming using sustainable and organic practices
- Assist in harvesting, recording, preserving, using, and distributing produce from the teaching gardens

Additional Responsibilities – 10%

- Participate in staff meetings, work days, and trainings
- Assist with Wasatch Community Gardens community events
- Collaborate with other WCG programs – Community Education; Community Gardens; Job Training Farm; Volunteers; Outreach/Marketing; Development/Fundraising

Qualifications

AmeriCorps Qualifications

Must be a US Citizen, US national, or lawful Permanent Resident. Must be at least age 18 by start of the service term. Must have a high school diploma or GED or work toward obtaining one while in the



program. Must have a criminal record clear of any conviction(s) for murder and be clear of any record on the National Sex Offender Public Registry. **Must commit to completing their Term of Service.**

Required Experience

- Experience building relationships with youth from diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds, particularly in an outdoor setting
- Basic knowledge of organic gardening OR strong desire to learn
- Basic knowledge of food safety, nutrition, and cooking skills OR strong desire to learn
- Positive and flexible attitude, ability to solve problems creatively, willingness to ask for help
- Commitment to food justice, anti-racism, inclusion, equity, and diversity work
- Desire to work outdoors in variable weather conditions
- Physical ability to lift and move 20 pounds and stand for extended periods of time

Other Preferred Experience

- Ability to read and write in both Spanish and English (highly preferred)
- Familiarity with environmental and/or experiential education methods
- Bachelor's degree in education, social work, environmental studies, agriculture, or related field; demonstrated experience also considered

Schedule

900-hour position, averaging 30 hours/week, from March-November. Expected schedule will be Monday-Thursday from 8:00am-2:00pm during the spring and fall, and Monday-Friday from 8:00am-5:00pm during summer camp with occasional evenings or weekends throughout the year. Questions about schedule are welcome.

Job begins Monday, March 14, 2022 and ends Friday, November 4, 2022.

Compensation

This is a 900-hour individual placement position through the Utah State University, Utah Conservation Corps (USU-UCC), AmeriCorps Program. USU-UCC will provide the AmeriCorps member with a living allowance of \$8,471 in total, which will be distributed in equal payments twice per month throughout the service term. In addition, members are eligible for an education award of \$3,172 (upon completion of entire service term), federal student loan deferment during service, and optional USU university credit hours. WCG will provide an additional stipend of \$300 per month to assist with housing costs. Additional benefits of this position include professional development opportunities, holidays off, and fresh produce.

To apply

Please send the following materials to openings@wasatchgardens.org with "900 hour UCC AmeriCorps Youth Educator" in the subject line:

- Resume or work experience
- Names, titles, and phone numbers of two professional references
- Answers to the following questions:
 1. Why are you interested in this position?
 2. What strengths will you bring to this position and our team?

Applications will be accepted until 5pm on Tuesday, February 1, 2022. **Applications without references and answers to the questions above will not be considered.**

People of color, women, veterans, and LGBTQ candidates are strongly encouraged to apply. WCG is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in its employment decisions on the basis of race,



WASATCH
COMMUNITY
GARDENS

religion, gender, age, national origin, mental or physical disabilities, sexual orientation, or any other similarly protected status.