



GeoGirls Teacher Mentor MOUNT ST. HELENS INSTITUTE

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| Position: | GeoGirls Teacher Mentor |
| Compensation: | \$875 stipend. Food, lodging and transportation are provided at no cost for the length of the program. Teacher Mentors are responsible for their transportation and/or lodging to and from the program. |
| Term of Employment: | Teacher Mentors will need to be able to pass a criminal background check, driving record included. Position dates include a mandatory training/orientation meeting on a day in the late spring/early summer (date TBD, virtual participation is acceptable) and the full length of the GeoGirls program, Sunday August 7 – Thursday August 11, 2022 |
| Closing Date: | April 10 th , 2022 |

ABOUT US: The [Mount St. Helens Institute](#) (MSHI) advances understanding and stewardship of the Earth through science, education and exploration of volcanic landscapes. We are united in our common passion for Mount St. Helens and connecting folks of all backgrounds with science, the outdoors and each other. We value diverse perspectives, good challenges, adventure, fun, partnership and community. MSHI is the official nonprofit partner of Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument. As such, we work closely with Monument staff and operate under a US Forest Service special use permit.

MSHI fundamentally believes that its employees are a valuable source of ideas for improving operations and making the workplace more interesting and attractive. We ensure that all employees work in a positive, supportive, empowering environment free of discrimination. All candidates applying for this position will be reviewed without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sex, age, national origin, veteran or marital status, sexual orientation or physical ability. We are an equal opportunity employer and provider. For more information on our commitment, please review the MSHI's [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Statement](#).

SUMMARY: Teacher Mentors will assist with all camp logistics, including:

- Provide a bridge between science mentors and the girls.
- Be responsible for a group of 5 middle school GeoGirls and 1 High School Mentor. Duties include driving your group, participating in camp activities with your group, supervising your group for safety and well-being, identifying and responding to behavioral issues, and being a consistent and compassionate role model.
- Assist Mount St. Helens Institute staff with program logistics such as clean-up.

Teacher Mentors' supervisor will be Sonja Melander, Science Education Manager.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Supervise, mentor, encourage and support a team of GeoGirls with 1 high school girl and 5 middle school girls. This includes but is not limited to: providing emotional support, leading reflective conversations at the end of the day, motivating group enthusiasm and energy, lodging with the group at night, hiking with the group to activity locations in the field, informing MSHI staff of any serious emotional or physical issues.
- Driving GeoGirls vans and ensuring their team's vehicle is well-stocked with snacks and water at all times.
- Hiking with their group to field sites and carrying (along with your own gear) additional First Aid Kit, radio, and potentially other equipment in the field.
- Providing physical and emotional support to GeoGirls including handling and dispensing over-the-counter and prescribed medications for GeoGirls in your group.
- Actively participate in research projects and activities during camp and model science curiosity.
- Assist volunteer scientists who lead activities at GeoGirls with equipment and field projects.

- Participate in morning staff and volunteer meetings with GeoGirls staff and adult volunteer team.
- Help GeoGirls, peers, volunteers and guest scientists maintain a positive attitude throughout camp.
- Assist with chores, including but not limited to tidying and cleaning vehicles, facilities and supplies throughout camp.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Female (cis and trans gender) middle school science teacher (or related topic)
- Experienced in the outdoors – hiking, camping and making safe decisions
- Passionate about helping girls develop confidence in STEM subjects
- MUST be able to participate for the entire length of the program (August 7 – August 11 2022) and attend the training/meeting day on Thursday, July 7, 2022.
- Ability to pass a background check
- Have a valid driver’s license with an acceptable driving record for the past three years
- Current First Aid/CPR or willingness to obtain

ABILITIES:

- Comfort with tent camping GeoGirls and Teacher Mentors will sleep in large canvas-walled tents. Cots will be available.
- Comfort with remote location and no cell phone/internet access. GeoGirls summer camp occurs in two remote locations at Mount St. Helens: Windy Ridge (northeast side) and Coldwater Ridge (northwest side). Both locations do not have cell phone reception or WIFI. Both locations are several hours from the nearest hospital or definitive medical care. The Mount St. Helens Institute manages risk for this remote camp. Cell phones are permitted for taking photographs but with limited access to electricity for charging for Days 1-3. Landlines are available on limited basis for personal calls during the second portion of camp (Day 3 evening-Day 5). Applicants must be comfortable living without cell phone and WIFI connection for the duration of camp and supporting youth participants in a cell phone-free environment.
- Comfort with long-distance driving. During camp, the Teacher Mentors do a considerable amount of driving, for up to 3 hours at a time, for 3 out of 5 days of the camp when we move between field locations. Even when we are based in one location each day includes driving to field research locations, sometimes on unpaved Forest Service roads. Must be able to safely drive on paved and unpaved Forest Service roads in a variety of conditions (including rain).
- Comfort with hiking on uneven terrain and for distances up to 2.5 - 5 miles. During GeoGirls, our field-based science and learning activities take place in a variety of outdoor locations around Mount St. Helens. Applicants must be comfortable hiking on uneven terrain and be able to hike at least 2.5 miles on uneven terrain carrying a 20-30 lb pack. Some Teacher Mentors will be required to hike more than 2.5 miles, depending on activity assignments. Outdoor activities may take place in a variety of weather conditions.
- Restroom and facilities: Pit toilets are the only available bathrooms available while based at Windy Ridge Field Camp Day 1-3. MSHI staff provide supplies and training for all participants at camp about how to use the bathroom in the field. A shower will be available on Day 3. While based at Coldwater Ridge (Science and Learning Center) beginning the evening of Day 3, running water (sinks) and flushing toilets will be available.

WORKING HOURS: There is a mandatory training/meeting on a day in the late spring/early summer (date TBD virtual participation is acceptable), which will take place approximately mid morning to mid afternoon.

During the program August 7-11, 2022, hours will begin in the early morning and end at bedtime. This is an intensive 4-night/5-day experience. A 1.5-2 hour break is scheduled each day. Hours will be long but rewarding!

LOCATION: Likely GeoGirls locations include (but are not limited to):

- [Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument Headquarters](#) - our meeting location
- MSHI's Field Camp near [Windy Ridge](#)
- [Science and Learning Center at Coldwater](#)
- [Cascades Volcano Observatory](#) - our final location

Both the Science and Learning Center at Coldwater and Field Camp are in a remote location with little cell service.

BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION: MSHI shall conduct a background investigation prior to making a conditional offer of employment or re-hire. All offers of employment are contingent upon a satisfactory background investigation. The background investigation may include, but is not limited to the following, as permitted by law: social security verification (social security number, date of birth, former addresses); prior employment verification; personal and professional references; education verification; motor vehicle records; and criminal history. The following factors will be considered for applicants with a criminal history: nature of the crime and its relationship to the position; time since the conviction; number (if more than one) of convictions; whether hiring, transferring or promoting the applicant would pose an unreasonable risk to the organization, its employees, volunteers, partners and program participants.

COVID-19 CONSIDERATIONS: Protecting the health and safety of our team and community is our highest priority. MSHI follows federal, state and county mandates and guidelines for mitigating the spread and infection of COVID-19. All employees are required to be vaccinated, or may request a medical or religious exemption and undergo regular testing. All staff, volunteers and program participants must complete a COVID-19 screening questionnaire prior to working with others or at a MSHI worksite or attending a MSHI program.

TO APPLY

Please send the following items to apply@mshinstitute.org, no later than April 10, 2022 at 11:59 PM Pacific Time:

- Email subject line: GeoGirls Teacher Mentor
- Cover Letter: titled with the following format "Last Name First Name Cover Letter"
- Resume: titled with the following format "Last Name First Name Resume"

To learn more about the Mount St. Helens Institute and our programs, visit <https://www.mshinstitute.org/>