



MOUNT ST. HELENS INSTITUTE

GeoGirls Teacher Mentor

- Position:** GeoGirls Teacher Mentor
- Compensation:** \$875 stipend. Food (except for lunch on the first day of camp), 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 and for their lunch on the first day of camp.
- 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/meeting on Wednesday June 24, 2020 (conference call participation is acceptable) and the full length of the GeoGirls program, Sunday August 2 – Thursday August 6, 2020
- Application Closing Date:** March 6, 2020

SUMMARY:

Teacher Mentors will assist with all camp logistics, including:

- Provide a bridge between [science mentors](#) and youth.
- Be responsible for a group of 5 middle school GeoGirls and 1 High School Mentor. Duties include driving your group, participating in all 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.

LOCATION: We will work and travel to all sides of the volcano, camping at a field camp near Windy Ridge for two nights and at the Science and Learning Center at Coldwater Ridge for two nights.

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION: The Mount St. Helens Institute (MSHI) is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing understanding and stewardship of the earth through science, education and exploration of volcanic landscapes. MSHI functions as a tight-knit group of individuals united in our common passion for Mount St. Helens. We work closely with the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument, part of the Gifford Pinchot National Forest, staff on a daily basis and operate under a special use permit.

DUTIES AND 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 debriefs 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.

REQUIRED 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 youth develop confidence in STEM subjects
- MUST be able to participate for the entire length of the program (August 2 – August 6 2020) and attend the training/meeting day on Wednesday, June 24 2020.
- Ability to pass a background check
- Have a valid driver's license with an acceptable driving record for the past three years

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Have current First Aid/CPR or willingness to obtain

ABILITIES:

- 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 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 miles. During GeoGirls, our field-based science and learning activities take place in a variety of outdoor locations

around Mount St. Helens. Some of these locations are accessed only by hiking (up to 2.5 miles one way). Pit toilets are the only available bathrooms for Day 1-3 of camp and toilets are not available in the field. MSHI staff provide supplies and training for all participants at camp about how to use the bathroom in the field! Applicants must be comfortable hiking on uneven terrain and be able to hike at least 3 miles on uneven terrain carrying a 20-30 lb pack.

WORKING HOURS: There is a mandatory training/meeting on Wednesday, June 24 2020 (conference call participation is acceptable).

GeoGirls is an intensive 4-night/5-day experience. Hours will be long (beginning at ~ 7:00 AM and ending at bedtime) but rewarding!

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 and for their lunch on the first day of camp.

OUR COMMITMENT

The Mount St. Helens Institute fundamentally believes that its employees are a valuable source of ideas for improving operations and making the workplace more interesting and attractive. MSHI values and respects its employees, and ensures that all employees work in an environment free of discrimination. MSHI encourages its employees to develop to their full potential both professionally and personally by emphasizing learning, improvement, and the development of new skills. 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 disability. MSHI is an equal opportunity provider.

In accordance to Federal law and US Department of Agriculture policy, this Institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.