

**Position Title: WaYS Science Educator**

The WaYS Science Educator creates, oversees and delivers WaYS educational programs to Tribal communities within Maine with assistance from University of Maine, ESPCoR WaYS Education Coordinator and WaYS Executive Director. This includes off-site educational programming, hands-on activities, and resources for grades Pre-K through 12 with the majority of time being in an outdoor setting. Current program offerings include summer camps and mini camps and off-site afterschool programs but could include field trip workshops, additional off-site afterschool and outreach programs, and other programs of varying length and frequency.

This position would report directly to the Executive Director.  
First review six months and then yearly thereafter.

**Salary:** \$45,000-\$48,000 (Annual increase determined by Board)

This position is a grant funded position which is dependent upon the availability of grant funds.

**Responsibilities and Expectations:****Program Responsibilities**

Develops and delivers program curriculum involving hands-on activities and projects using WaYS model educational pedagogy to include cultural science (in concert with Cultural Knowledge Keepers) and western science resource professionals and UMaine EPSCoR WaYS Education Coordinator.

- With assistance from UMaine EPSCoR WaYS Education Coordinator, prepares all materials related to school and curriculum activities/projects.
- Documents and organizes curriculum materials.
- Develops and works with Tribal communities to work in partnership with five tribal locations to plan, prevent and implement an invasive program that reflects the priorities of the tribal community needs.
- The Science Educator will coordinate and work with WaYS students, Tribal professionals and Cultural Knowledge Keepers to inventory and rank high priorities areas, plan for remediation and prevention. The majority of this work will be outdoors collecting data.
- Provide administrative support for the Ancestral Lands Crew including but not limited to crew hire, crew schedule, training, time sheet approval
- Work with student interns as needed
- Participate at earth camp
- Participation in at least one mini camp/year
- Other duties as assigned

The WaYS Science Educator, in coordination with the Executive Director and assistance with UMaine EPSCoR WaYS Education Coordinator, contributes to the overall vision and planning of the educational programming for the WaYS programs for pre-K to 12th grade. This may include the design and construction of curriculum for student projects, activities, demonstrations and possible internships.

This position is well suited for candidates with an entrepreneurial spirit and creative approach to experiential education. Strong communication, teamwork, and presentation skills are required. WaYS is a fast-paced non-profit environment. The WaYS Science Educator will collaborate with other WaYS staff members, Tribal elders and professionals in the Tribal community, western resource professionals, UMaine EPSCoR WaYS Education Coordinator and volunteers to deliver new programs as well as maintain or modify existing ones all while working within a prescribed budget. The WaYS Science educator will build positive long-term relationships with external individuals, youth-serving agencies and other Tribe-related organizations.

The WaYS Science Educator will maintain high standards for quality and innovative programming to attract new students and returning participants. They will work closely with other staff members to market educational programming. They will preserve and promote the reputation of WaYS by providing high-quality programming for as many Native youth as possible. The WaYS Science Educator will ensure that programs are staffed and delivered with accuracy and professionalism presented in an outdoor learning environment. They must be comfortable working with individuals ranging from Pre-K to adult. The WaYS Science Educator will ensure that participants have successful experiences and work closely with parents, where applicable, to ensure their child's attendance at earth and mini camps will be a comfortable learning environment.

A high degree of organization is required. The WaYS Science Educator will procure, construct, and maintain supplies as needed for educational programming. This will include collaboration with other staff members and external applicable professionals. They will be expected to keep good records of expenditures, evaluations, and reporting data as required.

The WaYS Educator will assist with the creation of assessment materials to measure the educational value and overall impact of programs, including but not limited to earth, mini camps and off-site after school programs. They will develop activity guides, pre/post tests, and teacher questionnaires to evaluate program effectiveness.

**Supervision of Others:**

Assists ED with recruiting, training and manages contract/hourly staff, program volunteers, and interns as appropriate related. Assists with the evaluates performance were applicable.

**Qualifications:**

- Four-year college degree required in the science field (forestry, wildlife, environmental science).
- Must have a drivers license and reliable form of transportation.
- Must be able to lift and carry as much as 30 pounds.
- Strong computer knowledge required (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access).
- Knowledge with developing /creating brochures and outreach material as needed.
- 2 or more years working with children preferred.
- First aid/CPR preferred

Two or more years of experience with students in kindergarten through high school either through classroom experience or after-school program experience.

Experience in an informal science education environment desired, with responsibility for coordinating all aspects of individual programs from conception to implementation and assessment.

Experience collecting and analyzing data.

Experience setting program goals, objectives, and evaluation.

**Working Conditions:**

Non-profit, Tribal-recognized educational organization. Fast-paced environment with many varied, simultaneous projects. Extensive carrying and lifting of educational materials, tables, and chairs and other educational material (traps, fishing rods, etc.). Much of the work will be working outside with students, Tribal members, Cultural Knowledge Keepers and western science resource professional in potential all kinds of weather.

Must be able to carry and lift up to 30 lbs.

**Time Commitment:**

Full-time salaried position with benefits. Periodic travel to schools and other organizations throughout the Tribal communities in Penobscot, Washington and Aroostook County with possible out of state. Must be flexible to work occasional evenings, weekends and extended hours when needed. Mileage will be reimbursed using the grant mileage reimbursement level.

Hiring preference will be with previous or past WaYS interns.

Wabanaki Youth in Science is an Equal Opportunity/At-Will Employer and practices Indian Preference to qualified Native Americans in accordance with Public Law 93-638.