



Ogden Nature Center



## Utah Conservation Corps AmeriCorps Individual Placement

### Ogden Nature Center Environmental Educator and Animal Caretaker Individual Placement

**Term of Service:** 1700-hour term; January 12<sup>th</sup>-November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Location:** Ogden, UT

**Service Schedule:** 40 hours per week.

**Questions about the Position:** Contact Sarah Lambson, [education@ogdennaturecenter.org](mailto:education@ogdennaturecenter.org)

#### ABOUT THE UTAH CONSERVATION CORPS (UCC)

The Utah Conservation Corps (UCC) is an AmeriCorps program dedicated to developing the conservation leaders of tomorrow. We engage in projects throughout the state of Utah that address goals relating to environmental conservation, building leadership, strengthening education on local issues, providing hands-on training and skills to members, all while building the next generation of America's workforce. Our vision is to create sustainable communities and conserve the natural heritage of Utah and the Intermountain West. The UCC supports Utah's pride in our tradition of service and volunteerism to get things done.

#### PARTNERING ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

##### Mission & History:

Our mission is to unite people with nature and nurture appreciation and stewardship of the environment. Since it was founded in 1975 as Utah's first nature center, the Ogden Nature Center has provided a place where people can go to enjoy and learn about the natural world.

##### Education:

The 152-acre preserve is our foundation, but education is our focus. Each year the Ogden Nature Center brings more than 50,000 children, teachers, and adults together with nature through hands-on field classes. Participants in our education programs, both for school groups and for the community, observe and learn about plants and animals up-close, discovering the pleasure of being in nature and realizing their own connection to the environment.

### Open to All:

The Ogden Nature Center is open to the public for discovery and exploration. Visitors enjoy meeting live birds, snakes, tortoises, salamanders and other native animal species. They learn about our natural history with our preserved and curated exhibits and displays. They learn about the cultural history of this place; its use by Shoshone peoples; its transformation by homesteaders in the nineteenth century; farmers who worked this land for over 70 years; and its history as a wartime Army depot from 1941- 1973. And now, its use as a treasured nature preserve nestled in the heart of Ogden. Throughout the preserve there are picnic areas, treehouses, bird blinds, a spotting tower and 1.5 miles of walking trails.

### More Ways to Experience Nature:

The Ogden Nature Center offers a wide variety of community programs for all ages including art, photography, birding, wildlife in Utah, outdoor recreation, conservation, sustainable practices, and more. During the summer, week-long nature camps are taught by our team of teacher/naturalists. Several community events are held each year including an Earth Day Celebration and Creatures of the Night at Halloween.

## **POSITION OVERVIEW**

The Ogden Nature Center (ONC) is a nonprofit nature education center and nature preserve. Our mission is to unite people with nature and nurture appreciation and stewardship of the environment. In collaboration with Utah Conservation Corps (UCC), we are recruiting for two AmeriCorps Environmental Educator and Animal Caretaker Individual Placement for a term of service running approximately January-November 2026, serving approximately 40 hours per week.

These positions offer a unique opportunity to gain experience and practice a wide range of skills including environmental education, curriculum development, animal care and handling, and community event engagement.

The Individual Placements (IPs) will spend approximately 30% of the placement period working with the ONC Animal Manager to assist with and learn about the care of all our animal ambassadors. They will also learn how to handle these animals for use in educational programming. The other 70% will be used to support the education and outreach team at ONC. The IPs will lead outreach programs, develop materials for programming, and lead different educational programs including on/off site programs, community programs, and field trips. The positions will be supervised by the Education Director.

## **PRIMARY DUTIES (80 % DIRECT SERVICES)**

- Develop, plan, and support events related to environmental stewardship or environmental education.
- Develop a data tracking plan and collect and report AmeriCorps impact data timely and accurately.
- Collaborate with the Animal Manager to offer consistent and quality care to our animal ambassadors.

- Assist the Animal Manager in maintaining healthy and safe enclosures for the animal ambassadors.
- Learn to handle all our animal ambassadors and attend programs around the community with them to educate people about native wildlife, endangered species, and other environmental/conservation and STEM related topics.
- Record keeping, monitoring, and report writing.
- Assist with summer camps, homeschool, preschool, community programs, outreach, and school field trips.
- Onsite School Programs- Conduct environmental education programs for school children; assist in the development of curriculum, activities, and exhibits.
- Offsite School Programs- Collaborate with the outreach team to lead science programming to first-grade students throughout the state of Utah.
- Summer Camps – Assist in camp planning and implementation.
- Community Education- assist with community program development and implementation and strengthen community awareness.
- Assist with the planning and organizing of special events.
- Provide programs for all members of the community.

**TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES (20% maximum time served can be member development and training)**

- Attend required USERVE Volunteer Management sessions.
- Attend required USERVE Member Gatherings and Active Engagement Retreats.
- Complete required UCC Orientation Modules.
- Complete required USERVE On3 Learning Modules.
- Data collection, validation, and report training.
- Training on classroom management and environmental education.
- First Aid/CPR.
- One or more educational conferences that train in best practices and environmental education.
- Training in curriculum writing and other topics provided by Ogden Nature Center.
- Animal Handling training including reptiles, invertebrates, small mammals, and raptors.

**POSITION REQUIREMENTS**

AmeriCorps Requirements (all below required):

- Be a United States citizen, U.S. national, or a lawful permanent resident alien of the United States.
- Be at least 18 years of age.
- Eligible to serve in an AmeriCorps State/National term. Please note that AmeriCorps rules limit the number of education awards an individual may earn. No member may earn more than the aggregate value of two (2) full-time education awards.
- It is a requirement to obtain a high school diploma or GED before one is eligible to use the Education Award.
- Candidates must submit to and pass a background check.

- Full-day schedules will include a 30-minute lunch break that does NOT count toward term of service hours.

#### Position Specific Requirements:

- College degree or in process of completing preferred, science or education field ideal.
- Must be able to perform strenuous outdoor work under all weather conditions.
- Articulate and an excellent writer.
- Computer proficient (Word, Excel, email).
- Dependable and consistent.
- Comfortable working around and with birds of prey, snakes, spiders, and other animals.
- A valid driver's license and good driving record.
- Ability to perform strenuous outdoor work.
- A positive and professional manner, able to collaborate with a team.
- Interested in pursuing a career in conservation, environmental education, animal care, or similar.

#### **COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS**

This AmeriCorps member will receive the following benefits:

- **\$20,400.00 living allowance** divided and paid in even bimonthly (TWICE per month) disbursements throughout the term of service. *Note: this is taxable income.*
- **\$7,395.00 Segal AmeriCorps Education Award** available to members after successful service term.
- Federal, student loan forbearance and, workers compensation for all members.
- Opportunity to develop job skills in environmental education and nonprofit fields.
- Discounts at the Nest Gift Shop.
- Possible on-site subsidized housing is offered, if available. Housing is a shared living space with two other Ogden Nature Center employees. Private furnished bedroom in a large farmhouse. The lease term runs the length of the AmeriCorps program.

#### **HOW TO APPLY**

Research shows that candidates often don't apply for positions if they don't feel they meet all the position qualifications and skillsets. We strongly encourage you to apply if you are interested!

Submit your application materials (resume, cover letter, and at least two professional references) here:

[https://usu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_6X03gF6UKHoPjGm](https://usu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6X03gF6UKHoPjGm)



## Equal Opportunity Program

Utah Conservation Corps is an equal opportunity program. Utah Conservation Corps and Utah State University do not discriminate or tolerate discrimination based on an individual's identity. UCC is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for application and service with our programs. To request reasonable accommodation please visit <https://www.usu.edu/hr/current-employees/ada/>

## UCC's Zero Tolerance Policies

The following behaviors will result in immediate termination. At no time may the UCC AmeriCorps member:

- Engage in activities that pose a significant emotional or physical safety risk to others, including harassment, creating a hostile work environment, or bullying;
- Possess, consume, or be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs during the performance of service activities or while living and working at the UCC project site, campsite, or in UCC vehicles (which includes showing up to work hungover); and
- Fail to notify the UCC of a criminal arrest or conviction during their term of service.

**AmeriCorps Members as Team Leaders.** Programs may create positions where AmeriCorps members provide an additional layer of leadership and support for members under certain conditions. All the activities and prohibitions that apply to AmeriCorps members also apply to Team Leaders. Team Leaders are not permitted to act in a staff capacity, including supervising members. Team Leaders must not be responsible for program development and coordination; however, they may assist by providing information and resources on best practices or by helping to develop portions of the program such as the training curriculum. Under no circumstances should an AmeriCorps member serving as a Team Leader be the individual legally responsible for the program or other members.

**Unallowable Team Leader activities include:** signing member timesheets; evaluating member performance; disciplining AmeriCorps members; enrolling/dismissing AmeriCorps members; writing and/or signing program reports; managing the program's payroll and budget.

## PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES & PRACTICES

### PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES\* 45 §CFR 2520.65



While charging time to the AmeriCorps program, accumulating service or training hours, or otherwise performing activities supported by the AmeriCorps program or the AmeriCorps agency, staff and members may not engage in the following activities:

1. Attempting to influence legislation;
2. Organizing or engaging in protests, petitions, boycotts, or strikes;
3. Assisting, promoting, or deterring union organizing;
4. Impairing existing contracts for services or collective bargaining agreements;

5. Engaging in partisan political activities, or other activities designed to influence the outcome of an election to any public office;
6. Participating in, or endorsing, events or activities that are likely to include advocacy for or against political parties, political platforms, political candidates, proposed legislation, or elected officials;
7. Engaging in religious instruction, conducting worship services, providing instruction as part of a program that includes mandatory religious instruction or worship, constructing or operating facilities devoted to religious instruction or worship, maintaining facilities primarily or inherently devoted to religious instruction or worship, or engaging in any form of religious proselytization;
8. Providing a direct benefit to—
  - a. A business organized for profit;
  - b. A labor union;
  - c. A partisan political organization;
  - d. A nonprofit organization that fails to comply with the restrictions contained in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 related to engaging in political activities or substantial amount of lobbying except that nothing in these provisions shall be construed to prevent participants from engaging in advocacy activities undertaken at their own initiative; and
  - e. An organization engaged in the religious activities described in paragraph 7 above, unless AmeriCorps assistance is not used to support those religious activities;
9. Conducting a voter registration drive or using AmeriCorps funds to conduct a voter registration drive;
10. Providing abortion services or referrals for receipt of such services; and
11. Such other activities as AmeriCorps may prohibit\*.

In addition to the above activities, the below activities are expressly prohibited:

1. Census Activities\*: AmeriCorps members and volunteers associated with AmeriCorps grants may not engage in census activities during service hours. Being a census taker during service hours is categorically prohibited. Census-related activities (e.g., promotion of the Census, education about the importance of the Census) do not align with AmeriCorps State and National objectives. What members and volunteers do on their own time is up to them, consistent with program policies about outside employment and activities.
2. Election and Polling Activities\*: AmeriCorps members may not provide services for election or polling locations or in support of such activities.
3. Fundraising limitations\*\*: AmeriCorps members cannot serve more than 10% of their hours on fundraising. They also may not raise funds for living allowances or an organization's general (as opposed to project/program) operating expenses or endowment.
4. Grant writing\*\*: AmeriCorps members cannot serve hours while writing grant applications for any Federal agency including AmeriCorps.

All locations where members serve should post a list of the prohibited activities, when possible.

\*As prohibited in the 2024 Terms and Conditions for AmeriCorps State and National Grants

\*\*As prohibited in the UServeUtah AmeriCorps Program Directors Manual

AmeriCorps members may not engage in the above activities directly or indirectly by recruiting, training, or managing others for the primary purpose of engaging in one of the activities listed above. Individuals may exercise their rights as private citizens and may participate in the activities listed above on their initiative, on non-AmeriCorps time, and using non-AmeriCorps funds. Individuals should not wear the AmeriCorps logo while doing engaging in any of the above activities on their personal time.

**SUPPLANTATION**  
**45 §CFR 2540.100**

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Supplantation. Corporation assistance may not be used to replace State and local public funds that had been used to support programs of the type eligible to receive Corporation support. For any given program, this condition will be satisfied if the aggregate non- Federal public expenditure for that program in the fiscal year that support is to be provided is not less than the previous fiscal year.

#### **NONDUPLICATION**

##### **45 §CFR 2540.100**

Nonduplication. Corporation assistance may not be used to duplicate an activity that is already available in the locality of a program. And, unless the requirements of paragraph (f – Nondisplacement) of this section are met, Corporation assistance will not be provided to a private nonprofit entity to conduct activities that are the same or substantially equivalent to activities provided by a State or local government agency in which such entity resides.

#### **NONDISPLACEMENT**

##### **45 §CFR 2540.100**

1. An employer may not displace an employee or position, including partial displacement such as reduction in hours, wages, or employment benefits, as a result of the use by such employer of a participant in a program receiving Corporation assistance.
2. An organization may not displace a volunteer by using a participant in a program receiving Corporation assistance.
3. A service opportunity will not be created under this chapter that will infringe in any manner on the promotional opportunity of an employed individual.
4. A participant in a program receiving Corporation assistance may not perform any services or duties or engage in activities that would otherwise be performed by an employee as part of the assigned duties of such employee.
5. A participant in any program receiving assistance under this chapter may not perform any services or duties, or engage in activities, that:
  - i. Will supplant the hiring of employed workers; or
  - ii. Are services, duties, or activities with respect to which an individual has recall rights pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement or applicable personnel procedures.
6. A participant in any program receiving assistance under this chapter may not perform services or duties that have been performed by or were assigned to any:
  - i. Presently employed worker;
  - ii. Employee who recently resigned or was discharged;
  - iii. Employee who is subject to a reduction in force or who has recall rights pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement or applicable personnel procedures;
  - iv. Employee who is on leave (terminal, temporary, vacation, emergency, or sick); or
  - v. Employee who is on strike or who is being locked out.