



Education Specialist

Part-time

About Crystal Cove Conservancy:

Crystal Cove Conservancy (The Conservancy) is the nonprofit public benefit organization dedicated to the protection, preservation, and sustainability of Crystal Cove State Park, located on the traditional and unceded lands of the Acjachemen and Tongva Tribal Nations.

Rooted in saving this rare piece of California's natural resources and cultural history, Crystal Cove Conservancy and California State Parks have worked together to develop a unique social enterprise model. This model allows Crystal Cove Conservancy to spearhead efforts to develop innovative educational programs that engage K-12 students and community members in place-based conservation, restore historic beach cottages, protect miles of precious California coastline, steward acres of threatened habitat, and promote access for historically-excluded groups.

Please visit our website at CrystalCove.org.

Job Description:

The Education Specialist is responsible for teaching and delivering Crystal Cove Conservancy's innovative STEM education programs to K-12 audiences and to the public at Crystal Cove State Park. On weekdays during the school year, the Education Specialist teaches community science programs to diverse student populations from across Southern California. These programs take place on backcountry trails and at restoration sites within Moro Canyon; at sea during The Conservancy's flagship Marine Protected Area Science Cruise; throughout Crystal Cove's beaches and tidepools; and within the Crystal Cove Historic District. On weekends and during summers, they also help to facilitate and support volunteer stewardship events, plein air art classes, public events, and more.

Status: Part-time; hours may vary depending on programs but generally range between 6-16 hours per week.

Priority will be given to qualified applicants who are available for shifts from 8 AM to 2 PM.

Compensation: \$17.50-\$19.50/hour, dependent on qualifications.

Reports to: Education Managers and Education Coordinators



Location: Crystal Cove State Park

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Teach and facilitate a wide range of environmental education programs for K-12 students and the public;
- In collaboration with other Programs team members, work to advance The Conservancy's efforts to connect with and serve diverse communities that have been historically excluded from open spaces in Orange County;
- Demonstrate an understanding of local biology, ecology, cultural history, and natural resource management practices, as well as current best practices in science education;
- Supervise program participants during community science data collection, ensuring that protocols are followed properly to provide for the highest possible data quality;
- Explain safety protocols to program participants and enforce safety rules on the trail and while at sea;
- Work collaboratively with other Conservancy staff, as well as partners at California State Parks, University of California, Irvine, Newport Landing Sportfishing, and more;
- Participate in trainings and meetings with other Conservancy staff;
- Assist with data collection and entry for ecological research projects, as needed.
- Assist in the development and testing of educational materials (including lesson plans, interactive online guides, exhibits, social media posts, etc.);
- Some weekend and evening work will be required;
- Must have reliable transportation to Crystal Cove State Park and Newport Harbor;
- Must comply with The Conservancy's policy on COVID-19 safety and vaccination;
- Upon job offer, must complete a background check;
- After hire, must become certified in First Aid and CPR (paid for by The Conservancy).

Desired Qualifications:

This is an entry-level position and we encourage candidates with a broad array of experiences and backgrounds to apply. The candidate must be excited about engaging diverse audiences in scientific research and helping students contribute to conservation at Crystal Cove State Park. Knowledge of ecological science, STEM education practices, and Orange County's natural and cultural history is helpful, along with experience working in outdoor education, assisting with field research, and/or working with diverse populations.



The ideal candidate will have experience teaching science, engineering, or environmental education programs to K-12 students. A college degree or coursework in Biology, Marine Science, Environmental Science, Environmental Engineering, Education or a related field is preferred, though this may be substituted with relevant experience. Spanish, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Cantonese, or other language proficiency is highly preferred. More than anything, the candidate must have a strong passion for protecting and preserving the coastal environment and ensuring that places like Crystal Cove State Park are welcoming and accessible to historically-excluded communities.

Physical Requirements:

Due to the location of The Conservancy's office, this is a position that requires certain physical abilities. These requirements include, but are not limited to:

- Must be able to work with other Education staff to move program equipment from storage areas to a variety of teaching locations.
- Must be able to teach outside in a variety of outdoor environments, which include a boat, the sandy beach, and hiking trails.
- Must be able to traverse a quarter mile over steep and uneven terrain.

Crystal Cove Conservancy provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, gender identity, gender expression, or genetics. Members of groups that have faced historic barriers to environmental access are highly encouraged to apply.

To apply, please submit a cover letter and resume to Lisa Levenson via email at Lisa@CrystalCove.org.