

TRINITY COLLEGE POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Quest Instructor

Immediate Supervisor: Kevin Johnson, Quest Director

GENERAL OVERVIEW:

The Quest program started at Trinity College in 2004 and is a Leadership development program for all students involved. Over the past 15 years Quest has trained over 150 leaders to welcome a yearly average of 100 incoming first-years to Trinity College. Quest instructors will take part in the following aspects of the program:

Quest Instructors will attend seven days of training in May where they will work with peers and Quest Trainers to gain the skills to successfully co-facilitate groups of incoming first-year participants. Instructors will invest themselves in this process of self-growth as they take part in group and individual lessons, activities, and experiences aimed at honing their leadership and wilderness skills. We will focus on the following:

- Quest philosophy and the goals of the program
- Risk management and safety in a wilderness setting
- Wilderness medical training
- Effective communication with other members of the group and other members of the Quest leadership team
- Giving and receiving feedback
- Tools for debriefing, developing and maintaining relationships with peers and Instructors
- Wilderness skills necessary for backcountry traveling in a wilderness environment, such as packing a backpack, water purification, using and maintaining camp stoves, and tarp shelter construction

Instructors will return to campus in early-August for Instructor review and leadership development lessons to better prepare for the incoming first-years. Instructors will begin facilitating all activities including the formation of group unity, food split up, and first-aid kit and equipment inventory. Once on the trail, Instructors will help their group form goals, challenge their limits both physically and mentally, and respond to unexpected (and possibly emergency) situations – this could include issues such as interpersonal conflict, sickness or injury, difficult conversations, and many other unforeseeable challenges.

TIME COMMITMENT:

Instructors MUST be able to attend:

- **Introductory all staff gathering** (afternoon/evening of Friday, March 27th)
- **Quest May Training Planning session** (May 8th)
- **Wilderness First Aid and CPR training** (May 9th-10th)
- **May training** (May 11th-15th)
- **Quest Instructor review** (August 17th-21st)
- **Quest appreciation dinner** (August 22nd)
- **Quest program on the AT** (August 23rd -Sept. 2nd)
- **Quest debrief** (September 3rd)

IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE, THE FOLLOWING IS EXPECTED OF ALL QUEST INSTRUCTORS:

- A level of physical fitness to backpack with first year students
- Prior to May Leader training, read the “Quest Leadership Guide”
- Upholding the Quest Compass (safety, adaptability, respect, accountability) at all times
- Continue to serve as a mentor to first year students after the program's duration and will provide specific mentorship during the first six weeks of the fall semester

BENEFITS:

- Your Quest trip expenses will be paid for. You will need to provide your own transportation to campus in August and your individual personal gear: clothing, boots, backpack, sleeping bag, sleeping pad, and water bottles.
- Access to pro. purchase accounts for outdoor gear (offering reduced costs for the gear above)
- Your Wilderness First Aid course and CPR certification will be paid for.
- \$250 stipend for the completion of the entirety of the time commitment outlined above
- .5 College Course credit option, if you have not received credit for Quest previously (will require an additional reading, one group seminar discussion, and a written paper at the end of Quest)

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kevin Johnson, Director of Quest 860-297-5102, kevin.johnson@trincoll.edu