

# Environmental Traveling Companions Youth LEAD Program - Field Instructor

## Organization & Program Description:

Since 1972 Environmental Traveling Companions (ETC) has been opening the beauty and challenge of wilderness adventures for people of all abilities. Every year, over 2,000 people join ETC to raft whitewater rivers, ski across alpine meadows, sea kayak the waters of the Golden Gate, and sleep beneath the open sky.

The Youth LEAD (Leadership, Environment, Adventure, and Diversity) Program (YLP) is one of ETC's 4 main programs. It works specifically with diverse groups of high school students and trains them in technical outdoor skills, environmental education, and leadership. The YLP 14 and 21 day courses incorporate multiple outdoor activities to expose youth to an array of experiences, challenges, and personal growth opportunities. Students use the sea kayaking, backpacking and white water rafting course components and various ecosystems to learn about themselves, watershed ecology, and natural history through lessons, storytelling, and adventure.

## Program Dates:

**June 6<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>** – Instructor Training on Angel Island and Fort Mason Center

**June 16<sup>th</sup> - June 29<sup>th</sup>:** 14-Day Young Women's Course: Ropes Course, Sea Kayaking on Tomales Bay, Expedition Backpacking through Point Reyes National Seashore

**June 23<sup>th</sup> - July 14<sup>th</sup>:** 22-Day Young Women's Course: Ropes Course, Sea Kayaking on Tomales Bay, 3 day Good Hummus Farm visit, Expedition Backpacking through Sierras, Whitewater Rafting on S. Fork of the American River

**July 3<sup>rd</sup> – July 16<sup>th</sup>:** 14-Day Co-Ed Access to Adventure: Sea Kayaking on SF Bay and Angel Island, Whitewater Rafting on S. Fork of the American River- Accessible for all abilities

**July 24<sup>th</sup> - August 13<sup>th</sup>:** 21-Day Co-ed Wild & Scenic Course: Ropes Course, Sea Kayaking on Tomales Bay, Expedition Backpacking, Whitewater Rafting on the Rogue River

**July 29<sup>th</sup> - August 11<sup>th</sup>:** 14-Day Co-Ed Arts & Adventure Course: Exploring nature and self through hands on arts (watercolor, poetry, basket weaving, etc.), Sea Kayaking on Tomales Bay

**Instructors will also have course prep and post days before and after their expeditions**

## Job Responsibilities:

The Field Instructor will work with the Youth LEAD Program Manager to deliver safe, educational, and enjoyable wilderness courses. The Field Instructor will work collaboratively with a co-instructor, a group of 4-6 volunteer guides, and instruct a group of 10-14 high school students. Instructor responsibilities include but are not limited to: facilitating group games, initiatives, and leadership focused lessons; providing instruction in technical skill & interpersonal skill development; van driving; preparing and packing food; gear handling; writing student evaluations, and completing other necessary paperwork, as needed.

## Qualifications:

- Current Wilderness First Aid/Wilderness First Responder and CPR certification or higher
- Past employment as an instructor in a backcountry setting during extended expeditions
- Experience working with diverse groups of urban, under-resourced youth
- For 3 week courses, experience guiding backpacking trips is mandatory
- Ability to communicate positively, values feedback, and able to work in a team environment
- Experience working as a sea kayak or rafting guide/instructor (preferred)
- \* Hiring dependent on background check and DMV driver check

**Salary:** Daily rate, depends on experience

**Application deadline:** January 25th

**To Apply, please send resume and cover letter detailing your qualifications and how this position fits into your future goals to:**

Alicia Thompson  
Youth LEAD Program Manager  
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