



Teacher Ranger Teacher- Professional Development Opportunity Interpretation and Education

Professional Development Opportunity

The Teacher Ranger Teacher program is a professional development opportunity for K-12 teachers to spend the summer acquiring new skills in experiential learning through a program provided by a partnership between the National Park Service (NPS) and the University of Colorado Denver (CUD). The participants spend between four and six weeks in a NPS unit developing a major educational project and participating in an online graduate course from CU Denver. The goal of the program is to train teachers in the resources and themes of the NPS so that they can return to their schools in the fall and incorporate their new skills into their classroom activities. NPS aims to especially reach students from underserved schools and districts by recruiting teachers from Title 1, urban or rural schools and from tribal schools to participate in the Teacher Ranger Teacher program.

Park Name: Haleakalā National Park

Mailing Address: PO Box 369 Makawao, HI 96768

Park Contact: Katelyn Thomson

Park Contact Email Address: nps_hale_eec@nps.gov

Park Phone Number: (808) 572-4451

Projected Dates of Detail: 6/10/15-7/22/15

Housing Availability: N/A

Stipend: \$3000.00 upon completion of program and graduate course requirements

Graduate Credit: 3 graduate credit hours through University of Colorado Denver

Program Hourly Requirements: Total of 230 hours of effort; 160 hours of major educational project, 45 hours of online coursework, discussion, course readings, 25 hours of NPS operational experiences.

Additional Information: Haleakalā National Park is located on Maui, approximately 30 miles from Kahului. Headquarters is located at 7,000 feet elevation where weather is often cool, wet and windy. Summer temperatures vary from 50-70 degrees and in winter range from the low 30's to mid 60's.

Haleakalā National Park has begun the process of completely revamping all of our education programs so that they align with Common Core standards and Next Generation Science Standards. The programs had not been updated since the early 1990's. The new programs are now aligned with current standards of learning and educational techniques and consist of classroom pre-visit activities, in-park immersion activities, and in-class post visit activities.

The four new programs are Grades K, 1 and 2: Ecosystems. Grade 3: Adaptations. Grade 4 and 5: Geology. Middle School: Biodiversity. We are also planning a new culturally-based grade 4 programs that focuses on Native Hawaiian Culture, to be finished by early 2016. These topics were aligned with these grades' curriculum standards so that teachers would naturally choose the park as a way to teach the standards. These four new programs were initially written by Maui county teachers in 2014, piloted in spring of 2015 and now edits and some revision work needs to be done based on feedback from the piloted programs.



Teacher Ranger Teacher- Professional Development Opportunity Interpretation and Education

The TRT will do this revision work. The TRT will work closely with Katelyn Thomson (Education Specialist) and the Resource Management staff to rewrite and revise. The Resource Management (Vegetation Management) staff will collaborate with the TRT on how the field trip participants could help the park plant native seedlings. Having a Maui County teacher as a TRT at Haleakalā National Park would serve as a professional development opportunity for them. In fall of 2015, we will host a Teacher Workshop to introduce Maui County teachers to these newly developed programs. We will also have these new programs available to teachers on our park website. Not only would the TRT become closer with the rich resources available at the summit of Haleakalā National Park, but they would leave the experience with new knowledge and skills related to Park themes for inclusion into their own curriculum. Having a Maui County teacher's expertise will inform and shape our new education programs and materials in order to relate it to Maui students. As our partner in developing these new educational programs, they will become an ambassador for not only the National Park, but for our new programs. Those with experience in lesson plan development, editing and proofreading, are encouraged to apply.

Application

Applicant Name:

Home Address:

Home/Cell Phone:

Email Address:

Applicant's School Name:

School District/State:

School Address:

School Phone:

Grade level and subject(s) taught:

1. **Do you teach at a Title I school?** (please circle) No Yes If yes, what percentage of your students qualify for Free and Reduced-Price Lunches?
2. **Can you commit to approximately 4-6 weeks of time (230-240 hours) during the summer season (May-August, depending on park needs)?** (please circle) No Yes
3. **Describe your most effective unit or lesson plan that actively engaged students in learning. Why was it successful?**
4. **Why do you want to participate in Teacher Ranger Teacher?**
5. **How will you use your TRT experience to enrich your classroom teaching and create opportunities for your students to connect to the National Park system?**



Teacher Ranger Teacher- Professional Development Opportunity Interpretation and Education

- 6. How will you share information and skills acquired through this experience with your school and district colleagues?**
- 7. Describe your familiarity and experiences with local, state or national parks.**

Please provide information for two professional references:

Reference 1:

Name:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Relationship to applicant:

Reference 2:

Name:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Relationship to applicant: