

SOAR

GAP PROGRAM INSTRUCTOR

GAP Program Field Instructors have the amazing opportunity to facilitate exciting expeditions across the United States and Central America. Throughout the GAP Program year, Instructors will assist in leading an array of exciting activities in locations such as: backpacking the Grand Canyon, exploring Glacier National Park, and zip lining through the rainforests of Costa Rica. However, the best part of being a Field Instructor with GAP Program is not the spectacular adventure opportunities; it is the experience of walking beside our participants as they take a remarkable journey that will uncover their many strengths and abilities. This position allows you to witness their growth as team members, individuals, and young adults. Instructors with the GAP Program at SOAR are role models, facilitators, teachers, guides, mentors, and a source of empowerment for our participants to reach their true potential.

Responsibilities:

- Ensure the physical and emotional safety of our participants through direct and indirect supervision (24/7) throughout a shift. Shifts range from 18-20 days with a total of 5-6 days off between shifts and 2-3 days off intermittently within the shift.
- Support participants in developing personal goals, utilize creative thinking and problem solving to assist them in implementing effective strategies, and document their progress throughout the year by utilizing the GAP Achievement Report.
- Create and implement Educational & Life Skills Lessons in a creative and organized manner.
- Facilitate meaningful outdoor experiences, teach life skills, and guide the participants to reach a higher level of independence throughout the GAP year program.
- Practice sound risk management principles in the field and on base and facilitate expeditions with a high level of autonomy and decision making.
- Manage a course budget and track receipts through our budget system.
- Be the main line of support for our participants in Medication Administration & First Aid.
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

- Minimum of 21 years of age.
- Current Wilderness First Aid certification or higher. Life Guard and CPR.
- 4 years of college or professional experience in the following fields: special and secondary education, recreation therapy, counseling, outdoor and experiential education.
- Minimum of one year of experience working in the industry.
- Proven dedication and strong desire to work with LD and AD/HD youth.
- Experience facilitating a successful learning environment and ability to teach life skills.
- Excellent communication, leadership, and decision making skills preferred.
- Experience and competence in four or more of the following skills:
 - Outdoor Education -Backpacking -Flat-Water Canoeing -Winter survival skills
 - & Interpretation -Rock Climbing -Canyoneering -Sea Kayaking
 - Primitive Skills -Mountain Biking -Caving -Team Building
 - Initiatives - Career Based Skills - Computer/Software

Expectations:

Compliance with all policies and regulations of SOAR; understanding the personal needs of instructors are secondary to the emotional and physical well being of our clients; utilizing behavior management techniques consistent with the program philosophy at SOAR; acting in a professional manner at all times to promote SOAR and the profession; developing an appropriate setting in which the participant may learn from example; understanding the care of participants in a 24 hour setting; Expectations also include being able to fulfill the physically demanding requirements of the position including but not limited to: being able to hike with a backpack weighing 25-40 pounds over rough and mountainous terrain for 5-10 miles per day; being able to perform upper body tasks such as belaying or guiding a whitewater rafting trip; camping outdoors for extended periods of time in a variety of environmental conditions such as cold, heat, rain, snow, lightning, etc.

This job description is not designed to cover or contain a comprehensive listing of activities, duties or responsibilities that are required of the employee. SOAR, Inc. provides equal opportunities to employees and applicants without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, or veteran status.