Clearwater Onboard Education Coordinator Application

What is a Clearwater Onboard Education Coordinator?

The Hudson River Sloop Clearwater has been providing students of the Hudson Valley with hands-on environmental experiences sailing on the river for almost 50 years. We sail daily on the Hudson River from April until the end of October running a variety of programs for students of all ages. Onboard Education Coordinator position begins in the spring to prepare for the sailing season and is a full time position until the end of October.

Onboard Education Coordinator responsibilities:

- Work closely with the other Onboard Education Coordinator alternating schedules but sharing responsibilities on the boat and in the office
- Work under the Education Director and Captains while onboard and in the office
- Live aboard the sloop with the option to stay in crew quarters while at office
- Lead two three-hour environmental education programs with up to 50 passengers almost every day on alternating weeks
- Share responsibilities in training crew, education interns and 4 new volunteers to teach the learning stations each week (Stations cover topics such as navigation, fish, macro invertebrates, climate change, water chemistry and history).
- Operate and maintain a trawl net, plankton tow, water quality data equipment, and monitor aquarium life.
- Maintain a strong line of communication between the boat and office
- Spend three days at the Clearwater office in Beacon every other week to prepare administratively for the upcoming week’s volunteers, teachers and students for their time onboard.
- Help Education Director coordinate multi-day Youth Empowerment Programs onboard the boat in July and August
- Be responsible for the comfort, wellbeing and educational preparedness of volunteers and interns
- Help Education Director recruit and interview volunteers and interns
- Stay up to date on environmental issues developing in the Hudson Valley and pass along information regularly to the crew, interns and volunteers
- Be an exemplary crew member and model good shipboard/community behavior

This is a very challenging and exciting position outside on the water, teaching and inspiring the next generation of environmental leaders.

Who can apply?

Applicants should have a degree in education, natural sciences, environment studies, or related fields. Several years of classroom or outdoor teaching experience are also desired. Applicants must be in reasonably good physical condition, be self-motivated, enjoy public speaking, have experience with environmental topics, thrive in communal living conditions and most of all have a passion for teaching. Applicants must be willing to live on board a ship that sails primarily on the Hudson River but changes
docks frequently and have the option of staying in crew quarters while working from the office. Sailing and/or musical experience is not required but is a big plus.

What does the Clearwater Onboard Education Coordinator gain from this position?

Education Coordinators can expect to gain: teaching experience, knowledge of sailing, a greater familiarity with the issues and ecology of the Hudson River, some serious calluses, fantastic tales of adventure, a weekly stipend, and a lasting relationship with one of the most prestigious environmental education organizations in the Hudson Valley. Room and board are included while living on the boat and crew quarters are available while working in the office.

Education Coordinators work seven days on the boat followed by seven days off the boat all season. During the off week, educators must schedule three work days in the Beacon office to call volunteers and teachers, update the volunteer database, continue to expand their knowledge of the Hudson River, and help prepare for summer Youth Empowerment Programs.

How Do I Apply?

If you are interested, please complete the following application.
Send it along with a resume and cover letter to:

Attn: Education Director
Hudson River Sloop Clearwater
724 Wolcott Ave
Beacon, NY 12508
Or email to: educator@clearwater.org

Clearwater Onboard Education Coordinator

Please print and complete the following application. Feel free to attach additional sheets if necessary.

Name:________________________________________ Age ___
Address: ____________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
Telephone: ______________________ E-mail: ______________________________
Emergency Contact Person:____________________________________________
Telephone: ______________________ Address: ____________________________
References: Please provide contact information for two professional references: (name, email, phone number)

____________________________________

____________________________________
1. What teaching experience do you have?

2. Education Coordinators’ primary responsibility is to run the three-hour sails, leading up to 50 students through large group activities as well as coordinating the smaller station rotations. Do you have experience working with large groups and are you comfortable in that setting?

3. Clearwater recruits and schedules 4 to 6 new volunteers each week to help teach the smaller learning stations. Education Coordinators’ spend a full day with the new volunteers training them with our education curriculum and materials. Do you have experience recruiting, teaching or training other adults?

4. Music is an important component in Clearwater’s education programs, do you have any experience playing an instrument or singing with students?

5. Clearwater’s education programs are environmentally based. Have you studied, researched or taught environmental topics before?

6. Clearwater educators work together as a team leading the interns and volunteers but are expected to obey the orders and rules of the captain and mate onboard the ship and are accountable to the Education Director as well. Do you consider yourself a leader? Are you comfortable taking direction from other leaders?
7. Education Coordinators live aboard the boat with the rest of the crew; do you have experience living in a tight communal setting with shared working and living conditions? Is it a lifestyle you enjoy?

8. Have you sailed aboard Clearwater (as a student, volunteer or participant in a leadership program)?

9. Clearwater is always looking for grants, personal donations and other fundraising strategies to support our programs. Do you have experience raising money, writing grants or organizing events?

10. Why do you want to be an Onboard Education Coordinator with Clearwater, and what do you hope to get out of the experience?

Thanks! Please send your completed application plus a resume, a short writing sample and cover letter to:

   Attn: Education Director
   Hudson River Sloop Clearwater
   724 Wolcott Ave
   Beacon, NY 12508
   Or email to: educator@clearwater.org