



## Seasonal Educator Deckhand

Inland Seas Education Association (ISEA) seeks an enthusiastic, hard-working individual to join our team as a Seasonal Educator Deckhand. This position is responsible for delivering educational programming and serving as a crew member aboard the traditionally rigged tall ship schooner, *Alliance*. This position requires participation in a DOT-approved drug testing program.

The 2024 season (early May through mid-October) will include delivering day-sails and overnight programs around the Grand Traverse Bay region of northern Lake Michigan, the Straits of Mackinac, and Detroit, MI.

### ***Primary Responsibilities:***

#### Educator

- Deliver educational units to student, family, and community groups that emphasize hands-on learning and relate to Great Lakes topics.
- Lead group lessons during overnight programs, including science, sailing, and team-building activities.
- Provide support to education programming, including but not limited to: maintenance of program equipment, lead program activities, and develop new activities for overnight programs.

#### Deckhand & Ship Operations

- Train to fill the role of crew member aboard *Alliance*.
- Participate in a pre-employment and random drug test program as required by the United States Coast Guard ([click here to learn more about this regulation](#)).
- Learn assigned emergency response duties.
- Assist in directing passengers in a safe manner aboard the ship.
- Understand and comply with the ship's rules, policies, and Standing Orders.
- Assist with cleaning, maintenance, and repairs as needed.

*Note: While living aboard the ship, all persons (ISEA staff, interns, and volunteers) are expected to participate in basic daily chores and tasks related to living and working in a small, shared space. These tasks occur before and/or after the scheduled programs, extending the work day during this time.*

### ***Secondary Responsibilities***

- Participate in staff meetings.
- Assist with other activities related to ISEA's educational mission.

ISEA fosters a community of learning. All seasonal employees and interns are encouraged to take on tasks that will help them reach their education and employment goals.

**Skills/Prerequisites:**

- Degree (enrolled or graduated) in Life or Earth Sciences (*biology, chemistry, geology, limnology, environmental and water resources, marine biology, etc.*) preferred
  - And/or professional experience in teaching, leading, or facilitating STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) or Environmental Education activities, lessons, or topics
- Enthusiastic about teaching and learning
- Ability to work well with youth and adults
- Willingness to learn and teach new subject material
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills
- Strong team player
- Ability to work weekends and evenings as needed, especially July and August
- Ability to travel and live aboard vessel up to three weeks at a time
- Able to climb ladders and use companionways aboard the vessel
- Able to lift 40 lbs and haul halyards, dock and anchor lines
- Physically able to perform duties required of emergency operations aboard the vessel
- Not subject to *severe* motion-sickness
- Ability to work in turbulent waters and challenging weather conditions
- Experience with or knowledge of ship operations (preferred, not required)

**Term:**

May – mid-October (5.5 months)

The ideal candidate would begin no later than **April 29, 2024** to begin training for our spring programming, which begins May 6, 2024. Options to start in mid- to late April are available, and would allow for even more crew-specific training opportunities aboard *Alliance*.

Spring crew training would culminate in full crew participation for the summer season, June through August, and fall season, September through mid-October.

End date is flexible, but the ideal candidate would be able to stay through October 13, 2024.

**Compensation:**

- A stipend of up to \$12,000 is available for completion of the full 24 weeks.
- Sea Service documentation is available for those interested in continuing in the professional maritime industry.
- ISEA can also support students earning internship college credit through their university.

**Expectations:**

This position is expected to work approximately 40 hours per week on *Alliance* related duties and tasks. In the spring season, the educator deckhand will cross-train on learning to teach our educational programs and learning to fulfill crewing duties aboard the ship. In the summer season, especially when working at away ports living aboard the ship, work is closer to 50 hours per week.

It is important to note that during the summer travel season, neither internet access nor indoor work spaces can be guaranteed. It is recommended that all seasonal staff plan accordingly and limit any external commitments during this period.

***Room & Board:***

On-site, shared dormitory housing is reserved and available for non-local candidates at our Suttons Bay campus. Aboard the ship, it is customary for lunch to be provided on work days, and for all meals to be provided on overnight transits and when working at away ports (summer). When delivering programs outside of the Grand Traverse Bay area, the candidate is expected to live aboard the ship for summer programming, June through August, in a shared living space with other ISEA staff and volunteers.

Applications will be considered on a rolling basis, with preference given to those applying by end-of-day **February 11, 2024**.

*Apply by email with resume and letter of interest:*

*Juliana Lisuk, Associate Director - [jlisuk@schoolship.org](mailto:jlisuk@schoolship.org)*