



## Great Lakes Education Intern

Inland Seas Education Association (ISEA) seeks an enthusiastic individual looking to gain experience with outreach, environmental education, and public-speaking for the 2024 program season (early May through mid-August). The Great Lakes Education Intern delivers educational programming aboard traditionally rigged schooners and shoreside for people of all ages.

Most programs are delivered aboard our educational vessels, and include teaching activities that explore Great Lakes topics including: water quality, food web dynamics, invasive species, forage fish, zooplankton, benthic macroinvertebrates, as well as engineering practices and underwater technologies.

Previous sailing experience is not necessary, though most of the work (teaching, interacting with others) will be conducted from aboard the vessels, both dockside and underway. Room and board is included as part of this internship opportunity, if needed. **Early career professionals and those wishing to transition into environmental education careers are highly encouraged to apply.**

*Note: ISEA hosts multiple internships concurrently each year (posted at [schoolship.org](https://schoolship.org)) and several interns work at ISEA throughout the season. This posting describes one 15-week internship position.*

### **Season Details:**

Spring (April 29 - June 7): ISEA interns will deliver ISEA "Schoolship" programs based out of Suttons Bay and Traverse City, MI to K-12 school groups. Spring programs occur as 3-hour day-sails and shoreside ROV (remotely operated vehicle) Engineer & Explore. There are typically two of each program per day, Monday through Friday.

Transition Week (June 10 - 14): ISEA interns will help transition our vessels and materials to be ready for summer programs. The Great Lakes Education Intern will also support the Education Coordinator in preparing for the 4-day shoreside Watershed Day Camp.

Summer (June 17 - August 9): ISEA interns will help deliver custom educational programs to the general public and organized youth groups, with some of these programs taking place at away ports, e.g. in the Straits of Mackinac, Chicago, IL, Houghton, MI and in Detroit, MI. Summer programs include 2- and 3-hour day-sails, as well as the opportunity to live aboard the vessels while at away ports, and can include evenings and weekends. The Great Lakes Education Intern will also support the Education Coordinator in delivery of the 4-day shoreside Watershed Day Camp from June 24-27.

### **Primary Responsibilities:**

#### Education

- Aboard the ship and on shore, deliver educational units to students, families, and community groups that emphasize hands-on involvement and relate to Great Lakes topics, including water quality, food web interactions, underwater technologies (ROVs), and maritime culture/history.
- Provide support to education programming, possibly including but not limited to: management of program equipment and materials, assistance with program survey evaluation, and data entry.

- Represent ISEA, maintaining a positive and professional attitude while interacting with participants and passengers.

#### Outreach

- Publish a series of blog posts, short videos, and/or other media formats reflecting on your experience and connecting the importance of environmental education as a key tool in conservation efforts.

#### Ship Operations

- Direct passengers in safe behavior aboard the ship at all times.
- Understand and comply with the ship's rules, policies, and Standing Orders.
- Assist with cleaning and general maintenance 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 ISEA staff meetings as needed.
- Assist with other activities related to ISEA's educational mission.

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

#### **Eligibility:**

- *Mature adults 18 years and older;*
- *Some college-level courses completed, 2+ years of college completed is preferred.*

#### **Skills/Prerequisites:**

- Enthusiastic about teaching and learning
- Ability to work well with youth and adults
- Willingness to learn and teach new subject material
- Interest in Great Lakes science and environmental issues
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills—written and verbal
- Strong team player
- Ability to work weekends and evenings as needed (summer months)
- Ability and willingness to travel and live aboard the ship 1-10 days (summer months)
- Not subject to severe motion-sickness
- Ability to work in turbulent waters and challenging weather conditions

#### **Term:**

April 29 through early-August, flexible end date (*approximately 15 weeks*)

The *ideal* candidate would start **April 29, 2024** in order to receive the most training days before our spring programming begins on May 6, 2024, and continue through the summer season, at least through August 9, 2024.

**Expectations:**

Interns are expected to be available for approximately 40 hours per week for ISEA-related work. In the spring season interns might work closer to 35 hours per week, while in the summer season, especially when working at away ports living aboard the ship, interns might work 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 interns plan accordingly and limit any external commitments during this period.

**Compensation:**

A base stipend of up to \$7,500 is available, dependent upon completion of the full 15 weeks.

This internship is supported by the [Chrysalis Fund through Conservation Nation](#).

**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, interns are expected to live aboard the schooner 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)*