



Northwest Avalanche Center

Job Announcement—Education and Operations Manager
August 12th, 2016

The Northwest Avalanche Center (NWAC) is a collaborative effort between the US Forest Service Northwest Avalanche Center and the nonprofit Northwest Avalanche Center. The mission of NWAC is to save lives and reduce the impacts of avalanches on recreation, industry, and transportation in the Cascade and Olympic Mountains of Washington and Northern Oregon through mountain weather and avalanche forecasting, data collection and education. This position is funded and managed by 501(c)3 nonprofit arm of NWAC.

Position Summary

The NWAC Education and Operations Manager will manage the Professional Observer Program; run the educational programs; and oversee the risk management of these operations. This entails working on a variety of tasks in a dynamic nonprofit environment.

Specific responsibilities include, but are not limited to

- Oversee NWAC's educational program and budget
 - Hire, coordinate, and oversee a pool of paid and volunteer instructors (56 instructors last season).
 - Maintain/expand NWAC's avalanche awareness program (approximately 200 classes per season throughout our forecast area)
 - Teach classes as needed
- Lead educational partnerships with other local organizations
- Oversee NWAC workshop series—*Going Deep*
- Curate content for the Northwest Snow and Avalanche Workshop (NSAW)
- Maintain the educational section of the NWAC website
- Work in conjunction with NWAC's Executive Director on grants targeting education and field operations
- Work with NWAC Development and Communications Manager on safety and conditions-oriented communications
- Contribute and manage content of the NWAC blog
- Lead the NWAC field operations and the Professional Observers Program
 - Hire, train, and manage field staff
 - Oversee field operations budget
 - Work with NWAC Avalanche Meteorologists as liaison to field staff
- Attend both large and small NWAC fundraising events
- Work with the Executive Director to build and maintain sponsorship with industry companies who fund our educational and field programs
- Prepare brief written progress reports for monthly Board of Directors meetings
- Prepare annual report summarizing program accomplishments

Required Skills and Qualifications

A qualified applicant will, at a minimum, work (or have worked) in the snow and avalanche industry. This includes ski patrol, highway workers, mountain guides, forecasters, etc. The minimum qualifications are as follows:

- Completion of AIARE or AAA Level 1 *and* Level 2 avalanche classes
- AAA Certified Instructor or AIARE Qualified Instructor
- Thorough knowledge of avalanche hazards and a minimum of five years of experience recreating in backcountry avalanche terrain
- Excellent fitness and winter backcountry travel skills
- Previous *professional* snow and weather data recording experience

- Ability to write accessible and technically accurate descriptions of snow and avalanche conditions
- Extremely strong technological skills including mobile, web, desktop; ability to learn and implement new platforms and software
- Exceptional organizational skills
- The ability to take initiative and work independently
- Strong written and verbal skills
- Bachelor's Degree or equivalent work experience

Recommended Skills and Qualifications

- Professional avalanche training, such as National Avalanche School, AIARE III, AVPRO, CAA Level II, or equivalent training courses
- AMGA Ski Guide or Ski Mountaineering Certification
- Professional member of the AAA
- Previous avalanche forecasting experience

Working Conditions

- The Education and Operations Manager will work a 40-hour week often including weekends, evenings, and field work.
- This position requires backcountry winter travel in all types of terrain. You must supply appropriate clothing and equipment suitable to backcountry travel.
- This position is based at the NWAC offices located one-block south of Greenlake in Northeast Seattle.
- This is a six-month position, beginning in October 2016.

Benefits

- \$19 to \$22/hour DOE
- Monthly cell phone reimbursement
- Healthcare stipend
- Flexible schedule
- Discounted/free skiing and gear
- Fun and rewarding work atmosphere

How to Apply

Interested applicants can send resume and cover letter to scott@nwac.us. Please write *Education and Operations Manager* in the subject line of your email.

Applications will be accepted through Monday September 5th, 2016. The expected start date is early October, 2016.

Visit www.nwac.us for more information about the Northwest Avalanche Center