

Position Title: Pikes Peak Outdoors Lead Ambassador

Organization: Rocky Mountain Field Institute

Reports To: Program Director

Supervises: 2–4 Trail Ambassadors

Employment Status: Full-Time

FLSA Status: Non-exempt

Position is grant funded for a minimum of three (3) years.

Position Summary

The Lead Ambassador supports the Pikes Peak Outdoor Ambassador Program by overseeing and guiding a small team of Trail Ambassadors while promoting safe, inclusive, and positive experiences across the region’s parks and trail systems. Serving as a team lead in the field, this position helps coordinate day-to-day ambassador activities, ensures consistent public engagement and education, and maintains strong communication between ambassadors, partner agencies, and other stakeholders. The Lead Trail Ambassador plays a key role in supporting stewardship efforts, monitoring trail conditions, and upholding high standards of professionalism, data quality, and community engagement across all assigned sites. The incumbent should be highly motivated and prepared to help develop a brand-new program. Strong communication and organizational skills are a must.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

Team Leadership and Coordination

- Provide daily direction and on-site support for 2–4 Trail Ambassadors, ensuring consistent coverage, quality engagement, and adherence to program expectations.**
- Lead daily check-ins, assign patrol routes, and guide priorities based on partner needs, field conditions, and program goals.**
- Assist with training new ambassadors in public engagement, data collection, stewardship practices, and safety protocols.**
- Serve as the primary point of contact for troubleshooting field challenges, visitor conflicts, or unexpected conditions encountered by the team.**

- **Support a positive team culture, modeling inclusive engagement and professional communication.**

Public Engagement and Education

- **Serve as a friendly and informed representative of partner agencies across city, county, state, and federal lands.**
- **Provide accurate information on trail systems, park amenities, safety, regulations, and natural resources.**
- **Ensure ambassadors are delivering consistent and inclusive messaging to the public.**
- **Educate visitors about Leave No Trace practices, responsible recreation, and shared-use trail etiquette.**

Monitoring and Stewardship

- **Conduct regular field patrols and assist ambassadors in identifying visitor use trends, trail conditions, signage needs, and safety or maintenance concerns.**
- **Review and ensure accuracy of team data submissions, including trail condition assessments, visitor counts, and public feedback.**
- **Support and help coordinate volunteer workdays, cleanups, and community stewardship events.**
- **Communicate key field observations to RMFI leadership and partner agencies in a timely and organized manner.**

Partnership and Outreach

- **Coordinate with local land management agencies to identify priority areas for patrols and adjust team deployment as needed.**
- **Represent RMFI at community events, outreach activities, partner meetings, or stewardship events.**
- **Help create or refine educational materials, outreach messaging, and social media content related to trail use, sustainability, and stewardship.**

Administrative and Other Responsibilities

- **Maintain accurate logs of team activities, visitor interactions, and field conditions.**

- **Assist with data review, evaluation measures, and reporting for grants and partner programs.**
 - **Provide feedback on team performance and operational needs to the Program Director.**
 - **Perform other duties as assigned to support RMFI's mission.**
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Qualifications

Education and Experience

- **High school diploma or equivalent required; college coursework in outdoor recreation, environmental education, natural resources, or related fields preferred.**
- **Experience in customer service, community outreach, environmental education, or field-based public engagement strongly preferred.**
- **Previous experience in a team lead, crew lead, or supervisory role (formal or informal) highly valued.**
- **Experience working with multi-jurisdictional land management partners is a plus.**

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- **Strong leadership skills with the ability to support, motivate, and guide a small team in the field.**
- **Excellent communication and interpersonal skills with a collaborative and inclusive approach.**
- **Ability to work independently while also coordinating team activities and adapting to changing field conditions.**
- **Strong competency using GPS units, mobile data collection apps, and basic mapping tools.**
- **Familiarity with trail maintenance principles, visitor-use monitoring, and outdoor education techniques.**
- **Wilderness medicine certification preferred at start of employment.**
- **Experience operating 4x4 offroad vehicles.**

- **Comfortable working outdoors in variable weather and terrain, walking or biking several miles per shift.**
 - **Bilingual is a plus.**
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Working Conditions

- **Primarily field-based with regular outdoor work in variable weather and terrain.**
 - **Will require evening, weekend, or holiday shifts.**
 - **Must be able to lift and carry up to 30 lbs.**
 - **Requires travel across multiple jurisdictions using a personal or organizational vehicle (mileage reimbursement available if applicable).**
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Compensation and Benefits

- **Hourly rate: \$24hr**
- **Benefits: Health & Dental Insurance, Simple IRA, paid time off, sick leave, paid holidays, cell phone stipend, long-term disability and life insurance, pro deals, overnight travel per diem, and overtime eligibility.**