

EXPEDITION INSTRUCTOR

POSITION TYPE: Daily/Hourly, Non-Exempt

SCHEDULE: Summer 2025, specific dates outlined below

BASE: Anchorage, AK

FIELD RATE: \$200-\$230/day, **HOURLY PREP RATE:** \$22/hour

ROLE OVERVIEW

Alaska Geographic seeks experienced expedition instructors to lead up to five exceptional 5–7-day backcountry experiences between June 4-Aug 11, 2025 for Alaska teens and educators. You'll foster a deeper connection to Alaska's public lands through four free experiences for teens and help educators bring these lands into their classrooms. All participants and Student Leaders undergo a rigorous application process, nominated by community members who recognize their potential. Students attend at no cost to them.

As an AK Geo Instructor, you'll create an engaging, inclusive environment for diverse Alaskan teens in a dynamic backcountry setting while collaborating with a co-lead and public land agency staff in the field. Some trips will also include a Student Leader as part of the leadership team.

PROGRAM DATES & SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Teacher Course details [here](#), Student Course details [here](#)

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND TEACHER COURSE – JUNE 4-10

- 2+ seasons instructing sea kayaking in a professional setting
- ACA Kayak Touring Level 2 required
- Experience sea kayaking in Prince William Sound strongly preferred
- Experience with use of tide charts, maps, and marine navigation
- General instructor requirements (below)
- Required prep & decommission dates – June 3 & 11, June 20 & 29

SWAN LAKES CANOE TRIP – JUNE 13-18

- Experience canoeing in a professional setting required
- Able to portage a canoe up to 1 mile
- ACA Canoe certification preferred
- General instructor requirements (below)
- Required prep & decommission dates – June 12 & 19

DENALI FIELD CAMP – EARLY JULY DATES TBD

- General instructor requirements (below)
- Required prep & decommission dates – TBD

TANGLE LAKES BACKPACKING & STEWARDSHIP – AUG 4-10

- Able to carry a 50lb+ pack for 8+ hours/day on uneven terrain
- General instructor requirements (below)
- Required prep & decommission dates – Aug 3 & 11

GENERAL INSTRUCTOR RESPONSIBILITIES & REQUIREMENTS

- Must have current Wilderness First Responder.
- 4+ seasons professionally guiding or instructing in a backcountry setting.
- 2+ years working with teens (exception: PWS Teacher Course).
- Proven group management experience in an expedition setting.
- Manage 7-10 teens (or teachers) in a dynamic outdoor environment – including, but not limited to, the management of backcountry travel, wildlife, cooking and stove use, off-trail hiking, and navigation in unpredictable and extreme weather conditions.
- Facilitate place-based learning and group discussions while using inclusive language and practices that accommodate our diverse student groups.
- Work closely with one co-instructor (exception: PWS Teacher Course)
- Administer risk management framework, often in partnership with agency staff in the field (backcountry rangers, etc). Serve as primary Wilderness First Responder on program.
- Communicate clearly and effectively to other guides, students, office staff, and agency partners
- Assist Program & Logistics Coordinators with pre and post trip gear logistics – including, but not limited to, menu planning, food purchasing, gear pulls, van loading, etc (prep and decommission days are paid at hourly rate)
- Drive 15 passenger van with trailer on city streets, unpaved roads, and on the Seward, Glenn, and Denali highways.
- Willingness to be flexible and adaptable, understanding that programs may change on short notice due to weather, water taxi delays, road conditions, agency partner abilities, or other unpredictable circumstances. These situations may happen while on course, extending program days.
- Must be able to lift 60 pounds regularly and throughout the day.
- Must have a valid driver's license and a clean driving record.
- Must be legally authorized to work in the U.S.
- Must be able to pass a background check.

- Must be 21+ years old.
- Housing is not available on non-field days.

ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Alaska Geographic is the official nonprofit education and fundraising partner to Alaska's National Parks, National Wildlife Refuges, National Forests, and BLM Conservation Lands, creating and delivering exceptional education programs and products through our collaboration with public lands agencies.

Alaska Geographic is a dynamic non-profit that offers a diverse array of outdoor programming, expeditions, stewardship projects, and education tours around Alaska to engage people in their public lands. We have been running successful programs since 2009 and have two education program bases – Anchorage and Denali National Park. For Denali Education job postings, please visit akgeo.org.