

# NATURALISTS AT LARGE APPLICATION

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in Naturalists at Large (NAL). If you wish to be considered as an instructor for our outdoor education programs please return the enclosed application as soon as possible along with a cover letter explaining why you feel qualified to teach in the outdoors. Your application will be kept on file for the next twelve months.

Naturalists at Large was formed in 1985 to provide quality outdoor education programs for both independent (private) and public schools in California.

All our programs are individually designed to meet the specific goals and objectives of our clients. We stress appreciation for the environment, technical and intellectual skills necessary to be comfortable in that environment, and one's responsibility to the wilderness, all in the framework of a caring atmosphere.

Some client schools may desire a very structured academic program, whereas others may be more retreat oriented. Sometimes our programs emphasize personal challenge, group building and/or class unity. The next week we might be providing educational activities that complement classroom objectives. No two schools are alike, therefore no two NAL programs are alike.

Instructors are at the core of any good outdoor program. We expect our instructors to be flexible, knowledgeable and able to work independently with diligence and little direct supervision at a variety of sites throughout California. Because of this we feel it is important to compensate our employees above the normal levels usually found in this field.

Currently, all NAL instructor positions are seasonal – Fall and Spring. If you return the enclosed forms as soon as possible, we will consider you for all appropriate positions.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Richard Stowell  
Executive Director

Enclosures

# NATURALISTS AT LARGE APPLICATION

[www.naturalists-at-large.com](http://www.naturalists-at-large.com)    [staffing@naturalists-at-large.com](mailto:staffing@naturalists-at-large.com)  
**PO BOX 3517 VENTURA CA 93006    PHONE (805) 642-2692    FAX (805) 642-2843**

*(Please type or print)*

POSITION APPLYING FOR \_\_\_\_\_ TODAY'S DATE \_\_\_\_\_

HOW DID YOU LEARN OF POSITION \_\_\_\_\_ (IF INTERNET WHICH SITE? \_\_\_\_\_)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ DATE AVAILABLE \_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT ADDRESS (FROM \_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ PERM. ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT PHONE (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ PERM. PHONE (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

**EDUCATION:**

UNIVERSITY \_\_\_\_\_ DID YOU GRADUATE?    Yes / No

MAJOR \_\_\_\_\_ SPECIAL STUDIES \_\_\_\_\_

GRADUATE STUDIES \_\_\_\_\_ UNIVERSITY \_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

**\*Please attach a current resume and copies of 1<sup>st</sup> Aid/CPR certifications.\***

EMPLOYER & POSITION	ADDRESS & PHONE	SUPERVISOR NAME	DATES	REASON FOR LEAVING

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DO YOU HAVE CURRENT FIRST AID? (circle one) Yes / No

CURRENT CPR? (circle one) Yes / No

**OUTDOOR SKILLS:** Detail (below or on separate sheet) special teaching or outdoor skills relating to backpacking, canoeing, logistics, rock climbing, mountaineering, rafting, cross-country skiing, natural history, science education, first aid training, classroom experience, or group building activities.

AREAS OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

**REFERENCES:** (Familiar with your teaching ability or outdoor education experience. Former employers preferred.)

- |              |                               |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. _____     | (____)                        |
| Name/address | Occupation/Relationship Phone |
| 2. _____     | (____)                        |
| 3. _____     | (____)                        |

Can you provide proof of your eligibility to work in the United States? (circle one) Yes No  
Have you ever been convicted of a felony? (circle one) Yes No  
Have you been convicted of a drug misdemeanor in the last two years? (circle one) Yes No

If yes, briefly describe the nature of the crime(s), the date and place of conviction and the legal disposition of the case. Naturalists at Large will not deny employment to any applicant solely because the person has been convicted of a crime. Naturalists at Large, however, may consider the nature, date and circumstances of the offense as well as whether the offense is relevant to the duties of the position applied for.

**Authorization to check background and references:**

The facts set forth in my application for employment are true and complete. I understand that any false statement or omission of information on this application may result in my disqualification or dismissal. Naturalists at Large is hereby authorized to investigate all statements contained in this application ( and accompanying resume, if any) and further authorize any person , school, current employer (except as expressly noted), past employer(s), and organizations named in this application form ( and accompanying resume, if any) to provide the company with records, information and option that may be useful in making a hiring decision. I release all informants from liability for any damages that may result from furnishing information and option (which is truthful or made in good faith) to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ initials

**Authorization to check criminal records:**

I authorize Naturalists at Large to receive information from any law enforcement agency, including police departments and sheriff's departments, of this state or any other state or federal government, to the extent permitted by state and federal law, pertaining to any convictions I may have had for violations of state or federal criminal laws, including but not limited to convictions for crimes committed upon children.

\_\_\_\_\_ initials

**At- Will Statement:**

I understand that this application is for periodic employment and is not a full time position. I also agree to conform to the rules and regulations of Naturalists at Large (NAL) and that, if hired, my employment will be at-will and may be terminated with or without notice at any time at my option or at the option of NAL.

\_\_\_\_\_ initials

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

*Naturalists at Large is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of an individual's sex, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, or any other considerations made unlawful by federal, state or local laws.*



# NATURALISTS AT LARGE APPLICATION

## WHO WE ARE

Naturalists at Large is a leading environmental education group in California. We have provided outdoor education programs for thousands of students from over 100 of California's independent and public schools. We introduce students to California's diverse landscapes using 30 sites throughout the state.

We pride ourselves on our ability to design outdoor programs that are exciting and fun, while giving students an understanding of the beauty and diversity of our planet. We are committed to teaching people of all ages the lifetime skills to be at ease in the outdoors and to understand the ecosystems of the West: *mountains, deserts, and seashores*.

We work with schools to help identify their outdoor education goals and then tailor programs to meet their specific needs. Our staff works with each client every step of the way. We prepare educational materials specific to each program, make presentations to the students and faculty, and provide all the support services necessary to make every program a success.

## THE NATURALISTS AT LARGE TRADITION

Naturalists at Large was founded by Richard Stowell, a former independent school administrator, to fill a void he realized existed in available outdoor education programs. Existing providers offered only "packaged" programs, where schools had to fit themselves into a pre-defined, inflexible program. Naturalists at Large does not offer "one-size-fits-all" programs, but instead works with schools to design a program that meets their own outdoor education goals.

## OUR PHILOSOPHY

Naturalists at Large believes that no one can truly appreciate the outdoors unless they are *comfortable*. All participants in Naturalists at Large outdoor education programs learn the important art of being comfortable in the outdoors, while having fun. The necessary skills are numerous, but the skills and techniques that give us the ability to truly enjoy the wilderness are only the foundation. Learning to be comfortable while cross-country skiing in Sequoia National Park or rock climbing in Joshua Tree National Park provides students with a unique opportunity to discover harmony with the natural world, and memories that will last a lifetime.

In addition to outdoor skills, our programs build cooperation, self-confidence, and leadership skills. Outdoor settings foster cooperation with one another, while challenge and responsibility promote self-confidence.

We recognize that the students are not self-selected, but are usually required to participate by their schools. Our outdoor goals are designed to be appropriate and specific to each student's age and background.

## SAFETY

Our philosophy of comfortable outdoor experiences is the cornerstone of our risk management program. Our instructors are all certified in First Aid and CPR, and each site has specific emergency plans. The most effective part of our safety program is prevention: instructors provide ongoing instruction prior to, and during, each activity and throughout all programs. Teaching students to be aware of potential hazards, and to handle them as a group, helps to ensure an enriching and safe experience for all of us.

## SENSE OF PLACE

All Naturalists at Large outdoor programs offer something more than a passing acquaintance with the lands we visit. Our instructor's contagious enthusiasm leave participants with a "sense of place" and appreciation for these unique and irreplaceable resources. All programs stress minimum impact wilderness travel, respect for the land, and its fragile nature.

Naturalists at Large offers outdoor education programs throughout California, including: the Sierras, the lower Colorado River, Joshua Tree National Park, Catalina Island, coastal redwoods and more. For many schools NAL provides three or more years of outdoor education, building on skills and concepts, and connecting the experiences of the students.

## OUR INSTRUCTORS

Naturalists at Large instructors come from a variety of backgrounds: the traditional classroom, outdoor education, commercial guiding (i.e. white water rafting, etc.), adjudicated youth programs and adventure travel companies, to name a few. All have experience working with children and adults in outdoor settings and have made a commitment to outdoor education.

## NATURALISTS AT LARGE APPLICATION

### WHY WORK FOR NATURALISTS AT LARGE?

NAL provides Outdoor Education experiences for public and private schools throughout the school year.

If you worked for Naturalists at Large:

- You could work at a variety of sites; we use over 30 throughout California:  
  
Sequoia-Kings Canyon, Yosemite, Joshua Tree, Salt Point, Point Reyes, Morro Bay, Pinnacles, Lower Colorado River, Catalina Island, Coastal Redwoods, Santa Monica Mountains, San Bernardino Mountains, Big Basin, Death Valley and Mono Lake - to name a few.
- You could work with a variety of ages; we work with 4<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
- You could instruct in a variety of activities: ropes courses, kayaking, canoeing, rock climbing, snorkeling, backpacking, and cross-country skiing.
- You could teach environmental sciences: ecology, botany, zoology, geology, and/or astronomy.
- You could be the instructor for groups of 12 to 14 students.
- You could work with a variety of great staff.
- You could work 1 to 6 day programs.
- You could work 1 to 30 programs a year.
- You could work in a variety of roles. We have specialist positions for rock climbing, ropes courses, kayaking, snorkeling and waterfront.
- You could receive special training. NAL provides additional training for ropes courses, Catalina Island, the Colorado River, outdoor commissary, rock climbing/anchor training, program coordinating, backpacking and natural history.

The bottom line is that by working with NAL you could work in great places with great people, teaching a variety of lessons to a wide range of young people. With this kind of programming and site diversity you could continually learn, recreate and educate. You get *all this* and competitive pay. We look forward to hearing from you.