



POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

ROCK CLIMBING GUIDE / INSTRUCTOR

Available summer 2009

Overview

Acadia Mountain Guides, Inc. is seeking multi-pitch Rock Climbing Instructor / Guide for the 2009 summer season. We seek expert climbers who are passionate about rock climbing and sharing this information with others.

The typical day begins around 7:30 am with a morning guides meeting to set the stage for the day. Clients arrive usually between 8 – 9:00 am for most local guiding. During the summer a large percentage of the guiding in Acadia is comprised of half day entry level sessions for families, couples and groups. These require a high level of organization and efficiency to get a reasonable amount climbing in. Morning sessions run until noon with a 30 – 60 minute break before meeting afternoon clients. After returning from the afternoon session, guides are expected put gear away, complete equipment logs and to complete all course or client related administration such as confirming payment, verifying client data, and reviewing evaluations. The day usually ends around 5:30 pm.

Employees are expected to arrive in early to mid June. Training takes place in mid – late June. Guiding in June is sporadic – expect 1 – 3 days per week. Things get busy in July and August with many staff working 7 days per week. Approximately two guides continue to work through September and early October as the rock season winds down.

Instructor/Guide Related Expectations (80%)

- Appropriately select climbs and manage large and small groups of clients in busy top rope settings
- Appropriately select climbs and lead clients on multi-pitch climbs
- Lead 1 – 2 weeks of advanced youth climbing camp programs per season
- Respect and enjoy the mountain environment
- Enjoy people and teaching climbing sports
- Demonstrate high level of professional competence and ability to instruct technical skills such as belaying, anchoring, partner rescue in efficient and effective manner
- Aware of strengths and weaknesses
- Demonstrate sound judgment and decision-making skills
- Tolerance and patience for adversity, diversity and uncertainty
- Be punctual and reliable
- Able to give and receive constructive feedback, sense of humor
- Maintain high regard for client safety and client experience
- Learn client expectations and strive to meet them
- Develop appropriate curriculum for each client based on skills and ability
- Relate local knowledge including natural and cultural history
- Demonstrate and promote minimum impact practices and environmental awareness
- Provide leadership, instruction and medical care during an emergency
- Inspect and maintain equipment

Guide Administration Expectations (20%)

- Review and file related client paperwork
- Process reservations, prepare and edit written course materials
- Assist in climbing school operation, marketing, and sales
- Contact potential clients and sources of potential clients.

Location / Availability

A variety of positions are available between May 20 – Columbus Day – some full season, some partial season.

Preferred Technical Qualifications

- Recommended age 23 or greater with a minimum of 5 years climbing experience including a diversity of areas and routes. May be waived for exceptional candidates.
- Climbing resume showing a minimum of 50 days outdoor climbing per year and 40 days instructing climbing or guiding in last two years including ascents up to at least grade IV.
- Demonstrated ability to currently and safely lead routes: grade III, 5.10, A1.
- PCIA or AMGA Single Pitch Instructor Certification. (may be completed at start of season)
- PCIA Lead Climbing Instructor Certified or graduate or AMGA Rock Instructor Course or greater for employees guiding multi-pitch terrain (may be completed at start of season).
- Wilderness First Responder and CPR certification
- Demonstrated ability in the following: managing top rope sites safely and efficiently and/or multi-pitch guiding of 2 - 3 clients on grades I-III, teaching and leadership, climbing equipment, natural history, environmental consciousness, judgment and decision-making, improvised rescue, general outdoor skills.
- Requires excellent people skills, solid organizational skills and a strong knowledge of outdoor activities and outdoor equipment.
- Preference will be given to candidates seeking multiple seasons of employment and who are pursuing further guide education and certification.

Benefits

Salary is commensurate with education and experience. Base salary is 100.00 / day for new guides up to \$150.00 / day. Access to professional courses (climbing/ mountaineering, Maine Trip Leader, WMA wilderness medicine, PCIA and AMGA training) is available at discounted rates. Housing assistance options. Pro-purchase access and Worker's compensation insurance provided. Climbing school employees are encouraged to apply for retail positions to earn extra income. One of best aspects of working at AMG is the community of friends and climbing partners you will join.

To apply

Complete our application (available at acadiamountainguides.com) and return electronically with a letter of interest and resume to Jon Tierney (climb@acadiamountainguides.com) or via mail to AMGCS, PO Box 121, Orono, ME 04473. 207-866-7562. After receiving your application, we will evaluate it and, if you are among the qualified candidates, we will arrange an in-person or phone interview. We prefer in-person interviews and can often meet at organizational meetings or major climbing areas. EEOE.

About Acadia Mountain Guides, Inc.

AMG was founded in 1993 and is owned by Jon Tierney. AMG operates a year round program of courses and guiding that extends from the sea side cliffs of Acadia to distant summits in South America and Asia. The school is AMGA accredited and all guide staff have participated in either PCIA or AMGA guide training and certification. Jon is an IMFGA guide who has served on the AMGA Board of Directors and the AMGA Technical Committee and was formerly an AMGA Instructor/Examiner. Jon is the current Educational Director of the newly formed Professional Climbing Instructor's Association and was the original designer and catalyst behind of the AMGA Top Rope Site Manager (Single Pitch) program from 1997-2004.

During the summer, AMG operates primarily out of Bar Harbor, ME – home to Acadia National Park and the summer camps operate out of Orono, ME. Bar Harbor is a busy resort town similar to North Conway, Estes Park, or Jackson Hole. The climbing is predominantly granite and Acadia is known for single pitch sea cliff climbing right over Frenchman's Bay. The 250' Southwall of Champlain Mountain features great lines on superb granite and is ideal terrain for introducing clients to multi-pitch climbing. Forty minutes inland are the Clifton Crags with steep sport climbing on granite (close to Orono). Alpine rock climbing on Katahdin is about 2.5 hours away. Excellent bouldering opportunities abound in Acadia and Clifton.