



2026 Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) For youth ages 15-18



Denali National Park and Preserve

Federal Summer Jobs Program for High School Students

Denali National Park and Preserve is offering unique summer employment opportunities for teenagers. This program is open to all applicants ages 15 through 18. To participate in the program, applicants must have the consent of a parent or guardian. **Housing is not provided.** Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) participants will be paid a special remote park YCC wage of \$15 per hour and will work for 8 weeks beginning on or about June 7, 2026, and ending on or about July 31, 2026. The application period is February 2, 2026 – February 20, 2026. In 2026, the park will fill up to nine YCC positions, as described below.

Do you enjoy working outdoors?

Trails (up to 6 positions):

This position works for the trails crew of Denali National Park and Preserve. Work is performed outdoors in all weather conditions and is physically challenging. Duties may include:

- Hiking as many as 8 miles per day with a 20-pound backpack, trail brushing, clearing drains, repairing trail tread, hauling materials, transplanting native vegetation, digging, installing signs, and collecting data.
- Tool use may include shovels, picks, sledges, rakes, wheelbarrows, and hand tools.
- This position may include light custodial work.
- YCCers are responsible for actively participating in safety trainings, adhering to safety policies and wearing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when required.



▪ **Position Requirements:** by June 7, 2026, must be at least 16 years old (to work 10-hour days). Must be younger than 19 years old for the entire time from June 7, 2026 through July 31, 2026.

▪ **Work Schedule:** 10-hour days, 4 days per week, Monday - Thursday, 7:00am - 5:30pm, for a total of 40 hours per week. This position may have the opportunity to work an additional 2 weeks, for a total of 10 weeks. Must be younger than 19 years old through August 15, 2026, if extended to 10 weeks.

Do you enjoy sharing Denali National Park and Preserve with others?

Interpretation: Denali Visitor Center (up to 2 positions):

This position requires a willingness to be outgoing and comfortable talking with people (individuals and groups) and having a positive outlook on customer service. Duties include:

- Staff the Denali Visitor Center front desk to provide quality customer service and orientation to park visitors, including answering trip planning questions, sharing safety information, and working with Junior Rangers.
- Rove the Denali Visitor Center Campus, Riley Creek Campground, and front country trails to greet visitors, answer questions, share safety information, and provide informal interpretation.
- Staff a “touch table” based on natural or cultural history topics, for example, a focus on moose or animal tracks and scat, and talk with visitors about park resources.
- Research and develop a short talk (as long as 10 minutes) to deliver to visitors at the Denali Visitor Center or at picnic tables at the Savage River.
- Assist with projects as assigned and shadow park staff in a variety of disciplines.



- **Position Requirements:** must be at least 15 years old and younger than 19 years old for the entire time between June 7, 2026 and July 31, 2026.
- **Work Schedule:** If selectee is 16 or older, they will work eight, 9-hour days and one, 8-hour day per each two-week pay period; exact schedule can be flexible, but the selectee will work 9 days and a total of 80 hours every two weeks. If selectee is 15, they are limited to working 8 hours per day and 5 days per week, for a total of 40 hours per week.

Do you love dogs and working outdoors?

Kennels (1 position):

Youth Conservation Corps selectee assists with the following duties:

- All aspects of the care, feeding, exercise, and training of 28-plus active Alaskan huskies weighing between 60 and 90 pounds.
- All aspects of dog yard, pen, and equipment maintenance and repairs as needed.
- Informal interpretation and safety in the dog yard before, after, and between demonstrations for the visiting public.
- Delivery of interpretive programs and dog sled demonstrations, including handling and harnessing dogs for the run.
- Raising and training any puppies born during the work season.
- This position requires extensive physical labor outdoors in all weather conditions. Applicants must be comfortable working with large, energetic sled dogs, talking with visitors, and performing physical tasks.



- **Position Requirements:** must be at least 15 years old and younger than 19 years old for the entire time between June 7, 2026 and July 31, 2026.
- **Work Schedule:** 8 hours, Monday through Friday 8:30am-5:00pm, for a total of 40 hours per week.

Application Process Information

Enrollee Eligibility

- Be at least 15 years of age by June 7, 2026, and not reach 19 years of age during employment.
- Be a permanent resident of the continental United States, its territories, possessions, or trust territories.
- Must possess a Social Security card.
- Must have housing; **park housing is not available**.
- Must have transportation to and from the work site.
- **Important: In the *Additional Information* section of the application form, please state your preferences (1, 2, 3 – with 1 being your top choice) for the positions for which you want to be considered – Trails, Interpretation, and Kennels.** Supervisors will make selections based on applicants' desired position priority list, application, and interview. We hope to be able to match applicants with the work experience they desire. The park will give first preference to local applicants who have not yet participated in YCC. Second preference will go to all applicants who have local housing. The park does not provide housing. Out of state applicants need to find their own local housing.
- Application forms are available from the Denali National Park and Preserve, Human Resources Office, by emailing DENA_HR_Requests@nps.gov and from all high school guidance offices in the Denali Borough School District, as well as online.

Link to YCC application: [YCC application](#)

or copy and paste into browser: <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/youthprograms/upload/DI-4014-YCC-Application-Form.pdf>

- Submit your application package via e-mail or regular mail to:

Denali_applications@nps.gov	OR	HR Office Denali National Park -YCC PO Box 9 Denali National Park, AK 99755
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- Applications must be received via e-mail **by 11:59pm on Friday, February 20, 2026, or postmarked by Friday, February 20, 2026**. For the applicant to be considered for positions, mailed applications must be received by Friday, February 27, 2026. Applicants may be contacted by selecting officials starting March 9, 2026.
- Individuals selected for participation in the program must have a Social Security card. Social Security card applications are available from the Social Security Offices located at 101 12th Ave, Fairbanks, or 222 W 8th Ave, Anchorage, and should be filed as soon as possible to allow time for processing.
- Interpretation and Kennels positions require a background check due to building and computer access.
- For more information about how to apply, please contact Denali National Park and Preserve Human Resources at DENA_HR_Requests@nps.gov.