



Teacher Ranger Teacher- Professional Development Opportunity Interpretation and Education

Professional Development Opportunity

The Teacher Ranger Teacher program is a professional development opportunity for K-12 teachers to spend the summer acquiring new skills in experiential learning through a program provided by a partnership between the National Park Service (NPS) and the University of Colorado Denver. The participants spend between four and six weeks in an NPS unit developing a major educational project and participating in an online graduate course from University of Colorado Denver. The goal of the program is to train teachers in the resources and themes of the NPS so that they can return to their schools in the fall and incorporate their new skills into their classroom activities. NPS aims to especially reach students from underserved schools and districts by recruiting teachers from Title 1, urban or rural schools and from tribal schools to participate in the Teacher Ranger Teacher program.

Fort Smith National Historic Site

301 Parker Ave. Fort Smith, AR 72901

Park Contact: Pat Schmidt

Park Contact Email Address: Pat_Schmidt@nps.gov

Park Phone Number: 479.226.3725

Projected Dates of Detail: May – Sept. exact dates to be determined

Housing Availability: NO

Stipend: \$3000.00 upon completion of program and graduate course requirements

Graduate Credit: 3 graduate credit hours through University of Colorado Denver

Program Hourly Requirements: Total of 230 hours of effort; 160 hours of major educational project, 45 hours of online coursework, discussion, course readings, 25 hours of NPS operational experiences.

Additional Information:

- a) Review the park's current education programs to identify areas for improvement and/or revision in order to develop a "best practices" in reaching the focus audience.
- b) Develop new lesson plans and an education strategy for helping developmentally and intellectually challenged students connect with the park's resources.
- c) Educate teachers and families of special needs children about the opportunities and educational/recreational programs that exist at FOSM and the NPS.
- d) Promote "Find Your Park" and Fort Smith National Historic Site as part of our education programming



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Application

Applicant Name:

Home Address:

Home/Cell Phone:

Email Address:

Applicant's School Name:

School District/State:

School Address:

School Phone:

Grade level and subject(s) taught:

1. **Do you teach at a Title I school?** If yes, what percentage of your students qualify for Free and Reduced-Price Lunches?
2. **Can you commit to approximately 4-6 weeks of time (230-240 hours) during the summer season (May-August, depending on park needs)?** No Yes
3. **Describe your most effective unit or lesson plan that actively engages students in learning. How is it showing success?**
4. **Why do you want to participate in Teacher Ranger Teacher?**

