

Outdoor Pursuits Programmer Position Description

Updated 11/10/25

Position Title: Outdoor Pursuits Programmer (Student Employee), Gonzaga Outdoors Trip Leader

Department: Gonzaga Outdoors

Direct Supervisor: Gonzaga Outdoors Co-Curricular Program Manager, Stuart Beezley

Fixed-Term: Start Date: August, 2026 to End Date: Mid-May 2027

Time: 10-12 hours per week (primarily weekends and evenings)

Compensation: Semesterly Full housing stipend for room in Marian Hall plus \$550/semester paid out bi-weekly

Room Description: Choice of either a double room with a roommate of your choice or a double room as a single.

Summary: The two Outdoor Pursuits Programmers (OPP) are responsible for engaging students within the Outdoor Pursuits Living Learning Community in Marian Hall. The OPPs are the Gonzaga Outdoors Trip Leaders required to live in the building and will act as student leaders to Marian and liaison between Housing & Residence Life and GU Outdoors. This includes leading single and multi-day trips, hosting various community building events such as movies, speakers, skill clinics, and bike/ski tuning events. This position involves marketing and communication skills to effectively communicate with event sponsors, manage trip sales, meeting with residents and work collaboratively with Gonzaga Outdoors and Residence Life Staff. You will be hired as a Trip Leader and go through the same training required for all Gonzaga Outdoors Trip Leaders. At the end of this fixed term position, you are invited to continue as a volunteer trip leader for Gonzaga Outdoors.

Marian Hall is located at 1015 East Boone Avenue. As the Outdoor Pursuits community, residents share a passion for outdoor recreation and an interest in environmental issues. The Marian community provides outdoor adventures and activities to foster friendship, teach outdoor skills, and promote an ethic of conservation and stewardship.

Perks:

- Full housing waiver plus \$550 semesterly stipend paid out bi-weekly
- Professional development as an outdoor educator including a full trip leader training progression, Wilderness First Aid certification, backpacking training, winter camping training and potentially other certifications and trainings
- OPPs attend trips and events at no cost to themselves

Position Responsibilities

In-Hall Responsibilities - 40%

- Craft a welcoming and inclusive community for all First Year Students who have selected to live in the Outdoor Pursuits Living Learning Community (LLC)
- Act as a role-model and outdoor mentor to Marian residents
- Be available to residents on a regular basis
- Implement Outdoor Pursuits programming
 - Plan and implement weekly Marian Mondays (featuring speakers, services, workshops)
- Work with-in approved budget for events
- Market events
- Research new events to bring to campus

Out of Hall Responsibilities 60%

- Implement and lead two monthly weekend activities
- Implement and lead two mid-week activities per month
- Meet weekly with Gonzaga Outdoors supervisor and monthly with Residence Life
- Assist with 2 on-campus Gonzaga Outdoors events each semester
- Trip Leaders will lead a minimum of two trips per semester (Your trips for Marian will count for these)
- Trip lead for Gonzaga Out of Bounds (GOOB), our new student extended orientation program (Aug 2026)

Applicant Requirements

- Interest in learning outdoor skills. You **do not** need previous outdoor experience to apply. Accepted applicants will receive outdoor skill training throughout their time as a trip leader
- Communication and interpersonal skills to effectively work with co-leaders, students, professional staff, and other partners
- Desire to lead and educate Gonzaga students in and about the outdoors
- Desire and intent to make the outdoors more inclusive, diverse, and equitable
- Ability to uphold policies, procedures, and boundaries of Gonzaga Outdoors and Housing & Residence life
- Attend **New Trip Leader Training Backpacking Section**
- Attend New Trip Leader Classroom Training (8 x 90-minute sessions one evening per week, starting after Spring Break)
- Must attend Wilderness First Aid (WFA) training, one section in March and one in May. Full weekend commitment (paid for by Gonzaga Outdoors)
- Must trip lead for Gonzaga Out of Bounds (GOOB) August 2026
- Must attend most Trip Leader meetings – twice a month, typically during a weekday evening

Helpful Non-Required Applicant Skills

- Familiarity with event planning
- Familiarity with budget management
- Familiarity with Microsoft 365 programs
- Familiarity with outdoor skills; including but not limited to: hiking, snowshoeing, nature interpretation, backpacking, climbing, paddle sports, skiing, fishing, hunting, & biking

**Applications are due Friday, December 5th, 2025, at
11:59pm.**

**Note: At-will Employment – OPPs are employed on an at-will basis. OPPs must maintain good academics and conduct standing through their time on staff.*

Please email outdoors@gonzaga.edu if you have any questions about Gonzaga Outdoors or the Outdoor Pursuits Programmer Position.