



Santa Clara University AmeriCorps Job Descriptions

What is the Silicon Valley HealthCorps?

In an innovative new partnership, The Health Trust has joined together with AmeriCorps and nine local organizations to form the Silicon Valley HealthCorps. The goal of this collaboration is to use gardens, farm to school programs and the work of 46 AmeriCorps members to bring fresh fruits, vegetables and education to residents of Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. The program seeks to engage the community as active participants in promoting and sustaining community and school gardens, and to provide a coordinated, county-wide approach to expanding garden based learning. The program will also increase access to fresh produce through the development of new school and community gardens, low-cost farm stands, and by utilizing a farm-to-school model to increase the amount of fresh and local produce served in school lunches.

What is the BUG Program?

Santa Clara University, founded in 1851, is California's oldest operating institution of higher learning. The University's mission is to educate men and women to be leaders of competence, conscience, and compassion. By combining teaching and scholarship of high quality, an integrated education in the Jesuit tradition, and a commitment to students as persons, we prepare them for professional excellence, responsible citizenship, and service to society, especially on behalf of those in greatest need.

The Bronco Urban Garden (BUG) Program is a new environmental justice initiative lead by SCU's Environmental Studies Institute. BUG increases community food security, sustainability, and environmental literacy in Santa Clara County through the co-creation and technical support of urban gardens and garden education programs. The BUG Program is building a new education and training garden at SCU and is working with several community partners and schools in the Gardner, Washington, and Alma neighborhoods of San Jose.

BUG AmeriCorps Positions

BUG is hiring three full-time members and six part-time members. Full-time members will start in October 2009. Three part-time members will start in October 2009 and three will start in January 2010 and work through the summer.

BUG Part-time Member Duties and Requirements:

- Work with a number of community partners in San Jose's Gardner / Washington / Alma neighborhoods to develop food and education gardens at schools and community centers as well as at homes of low-income residents

- Assist with the development of the new education and community garden at SCU
- Coordinate volunteers including community members and SCU students
- Lead garden related classes and workshops for students and volunteers in the community and lead field trips in SCU's garden.

Required Qualifications

- U.S. Citizen or legal resident, with a high school diploma or equivalent
- Ability and desire to work with diverse groups of people
- Experience with and interest in organic gardening
- Strong desire to work with volunteers and community at the grassroots level

Desired Qualifications

- Ability to communicate in Spanish
- Excellent written & verbal communication skills
- Interest in environmental education working and with school-age children.

Benefits

- \$4,000 Stipend for 10 months (450 hours) of service, distributed bi-weekly
- \$1,415 AmeriCorps education award after completion of the program

Program Details:

Program Location: Santa Clara University, Santa Clara CA

Program Start/End Date: 3 start in October 2010, 3 start in January 2011.

Accepting Applications: until positions are filled

Number of Open Positions: 2 part-time

BUG Full-time Member Duties and Requirements:

- Work with a number of community partners in San Jose's Gardner / Washington / Alma neighborhoods to develop food and education gardens at schools and community centers as well as at homes of low-income residents
- Help lead the development of the new education and community garden at SCU that will be used as an urban agricultural training facility for the campus and community
- Coordinate volunteers including community members, educators, SCU students, and part-time AmeriCorps members
- Develop and lead garden related curricula, classes and workshops for students, volunteers and organizers in the community. Educational programs will be held at the SCU garden and at various locations in the community.

Required Qualifications

- U.S. Citizen or legal resident, with a high school diploma or equivalent
- Experience living and working in low-income communities
- Ability and desire to work with diverse groups of people
- Experience working on community and / or school development projects
- Experience with and interest in organic gardening
- Strong desire to work with volunteers and community at the grassroots level

- Some teaching experience working with children and / or adults

Desired Qualifications

- Ability to communicate in Spanish
- Ability to teach basic ecological horticulture
- Excellent written & verbal communication skills

Benefits

- \$16,000 Stipend for 11 months (1700 hours) of service, distributed bi-weekly
- Health Insurance
- \$5,350 AmeriCorps education scholarship after completion of the program

Program Details:

Program Location: Santa Clara University, Santa Clara CA

Program Type: AmeriCorps

Program Start/End Date: October 2010 - September 2011

Accepting Applications: until positions are filled

Number of Open Positions: 4 full-time