



WHITE EARTH TRIBAL & COMMUNITY COLLEGE

GAAWAABAABIGANIKAAAG GABEGIKENDAASOWIGAMIG

Land Stewardship Mentor

Position Description

The Land Stewardship Mentor serves as the lead for the Land Stewardship Internship providing peer leadership, mentorship, and program support for two Land Stewardship Interns. This position is dedicated to strengthening Anishinaabe relationships with land, water, plants, food systems, and community through experiential learning, mentorship, and community engagement. The mentor will help coordinate and facilitate seasonal learning activities that increase community engagement in land-based practices, strengthen cultural identity, and support the transfer of traditional knowledge to future generations.

Duties & Responsibilities

- Mentor and support two Land Stewardship Interns by providing guidance, encouragement, and assistance with land-based learning, project completion, and participation in internship activities.
- Lead and co-facilitate seasonal land-based workshops, demonstrations, stewardship projects, and community engagement activities in collaboration with elders, knowledge keepers, cultural practitioners, and program staff.
- Assist interns in learning cultural protocols, ecological knowledge, and community responsibilities related to maple sugaring, fishing, hunting, traditional harvesting, food sovereignty, and gardening.
- Help develop and prepare educational materials, workshop resources, and hands-on learning activities that support land stewardship and environmental education.
- Support seasonal activities including maple sap collection and processing, seed saving, gardening, soil health activities, companion planting, and community food system initiatives.
- Assist with tracking participation, documenting program outcomes, and collecting information needed for grant reporting and program evaluation.
- Complete required reports, reflections, progress updates, participation logs, and other documentation related to internship activities and personal growth.

- Participate in and help coordinate a final presentation, demonstration, exhibit, project, or community showcase highlighting internship accomplishments, seasonal learning experiences, and stewardship projects.

Work Schedule: This is a **10-hour-per-week internship** with a flexible schedule determined in collaboration with the lead mentor. Hours are typically completed during WETCC's regular business hours (**Monday–Friday, 8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.**). Occasional evening or weekend activities may be required to support community events or program initiatives. This position is based on-site at the WETCC campus in Mahanomen, Minnesota, with occasional travel as needed.

Advertised Salary: \$39.00/hour; non-exempt temporary 9-month position ending May 2027

Knowledge, Skills, & Abilities

- Interest in Anishinaabe culture, history, and environmental stewardship.
- Basic understanding of or willingness to learn Anishinaabe land-based teachings, cultural protocols, and relationships with land, water, plants, and wildlife.
- Knowledge of or interest in Indigenous environmental stewardship, food sovereignty, and traditional ecological knowledge.
- Strong verbal and written communication skills.
- Excellent interpersonal and relationship-building skills.
- Organizational and time management skills with the ability to manage multiple responsibilities and support intern activities.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Outlook, PowerPoint).
- Ability to maintain confidentiality and demonstrate professionalism.
- Ability to organize and facilitate workshops, stewardship activities, and community engagement events.
- Ability to work outdoors in varying weather conditions and participate in seasonal land-based activities.
- Ability to mentor and support peers in a collaborative and culturally respectful learning environment.

Certificates, Licenses, & Registrations

- Valid driver's license and insurance to travel as needed.

Minimum Qualifications

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform the essential duties and responsibilities listed above. The qualifications listed below represent the required education, experience, knowledge, skills, and abilities.

- Demonstrated respect for Indigenous ways of knowing and a willingness to learn through intergenerational relationships with elders, knowledge keepers, harvesters, gardeners, cultural practitioners, and community members.
- Ability to work collaboratively with students, faculty, elders, and community members.
- Interest in land stewardship, food sovereignty, environmental learning, traditional ecological knowledge, and community engagement.
- Ability to maintain a consistent internship schedule throughout the 9-month grant period.
- Willingness and ability to participate in outdoor, seasonal, and community-based learning activities.
- Reliable transportation for participation in community-based activities.

Preferred Qualifications

- Coursework in Indigenous Studies, Environmental Science, Natural Resources, Agriculture, Sustainability, Biology, Ecology, Tribal Governance, Education, or a related discipline.
- Experience volunteering or working with Tribal organizations, environmental programs, community gardens, conservation initiatives, schools, cultural centers, food sovereignty programs, or community organizations.
- Experience participating in gardening, seed saving, environmental stewardship projects, community food systems, outdoor education, or traditional ecological learning activities.
- Experience planning, coordinating, or facilitating community events, workshops, environmental programming, cultural activities, educational programming, or youth engagement opportunities.
- Ability to mentor, support, and encourage interns in a collaborative and culturally respectful learning environment.
- Familiarity with community-based environmental initiatives, food sovereignty projects, ecological monitoring, cultural documentation, photography, mapping, or community-based research activities.
- Familiarity with grant-funded programs, data collection, or program evaluation.
- Basic knowledge of Anishinaabemowin and a willingness to further develop language skills.
- A combination of education and experience may be considered.

Applicant Materials Required

Cover letter, resume, one professional reference letter, completed WETCC application, and background check consent form. The application and consent form can be found at www.wetcc.edu.

About WETCC

Established as a not-for-profit tribally controlled educational institution of higher learning, the first Charter was approved on February 5, 1998, "...to provide adult education and post-secondary educational services to enrolled members of the White Earth Reservation and to other eligible Indians and non-Indian residents of the area..."

Initial Candidacy for Accreditation by The Higher Learning Commission was granted on October 14, 2004, with full accreditation granted on October 8, 2008.

Purpose Statements

- The college will present learning as a life-long process of discovery of knowledge embedded in the intellectual disciplines and the traditions of the Anishinaabe people.
- The college will support the self-determination of the Anishinaabe people through the preservation and promotion of their history, culture, and language.
- The college will seek to address the social, political, and economic needs of the White Earth Reservation through programs that encourage service to the community.
- The college will promote a philosophy based on the seven teachings of the Anishinaabe.

Mission

White Earth Tribal and Community College is an institution of higher learning dedicated to academic excellence grounded in Anishinaabe culture, values, and traditions.

Vision

Gaa-miinigoowizid Anishinaabe Gibimiwidoomin niigaanakeyaa – "We all are carrying into the future the way the Anishinaabeg was gifted."

Equal Employment Opportunity Employer

The White Earth Tribal & Community College in accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institute is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, sex, familial status, sexual orientation, and reprisal.

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