

Adventure WV First-Year Trips Program 2018 Trip Model and Positions Overview

AWVFYT trip models are consistently under review, and our 2018 programs may flow differently than some of our programs in the past. To get an idea of the *types* of trip we run, here are a few examples:

- ❖ **Quest:** A 5-day trip that stays at beautiful Camp Muffly and participates in a variety of adventure activities each day, including our high and low Challenge Course, rock climbing, service work with a local organization, and inflatable kayaking on the Youghiogheny River. This trip lodges (and eats!) at Camp Muffly.
- ❖ **Service:** A 6-day trip involving a variety of service work with local and state-wide organizations, as well as travel, rock climbing, and whitewater rafting. This trip camps in tents.
- ❖ **Odyssey:** A 6-day team-building and group development trip using the WVU challenge course, along with rock climbing, hiking, whitewater rafting, and travel. This trip has a combination of lodging in yurts (rustic cabins) and tent camping.
- ❖ **Explore:** A 6-day expedition around the state of WV, including backpacking and whitewater rafting. This trip camps in tents and tarps!
- ❖ **Wilderness:** A 6-day backpacking expedition in the breathtaking Dolly Sods Wilderness Area. This trip camps in rustic cabins and tarps!

Program Support Staff: Program Support Staff are crucial! These individuals work closely with the Adventure WV full-time staff and are responsible for organizing equipment, inventorying and packing food, managing equipment check-in and de-issue (clean-up) after trips, repairing gear, and other miscellaneous duties. These individuals primarily work behind the scenes to help with program logistics and may be asked to fill in as a Trip Leader if needed. Individuals who want to gain experience with the organizational side of programs and who are interested in implementing streamlined approaches to logistical work are sought for these roles.

Trip Leaders: AWVFYT trip leaders work with groups of first-year WVU students in novel and challenging environments. AWVFYT Staff are ultimately responsible for the safety and overall experience of their trips. They ensure that students are informed of all program policies and procedures, and that students adhere to those policies throughout the trip. These individuals need to be well-organized, compassionate, skilled in communication, and capable of teaching and mentoring other students. **We seek leaders with strong communication and teaching skills. Regardless of your prior experience, we will train you in the technical skills required to lead programs. Please do not hesitate to apply even if you do not have extensive outdoor experience.** Trip leaders generally work 4-6 trips each summer.

FAQ:

Are staff paid? Yes. Logistics Specialists start at \$9 per hour. Trip Leaders start with a daily stipend of \$75. Wages increased with years of service at Adventure WV and with certain certifications and trainings.

What is the schedule? Can I request time off? Program Support Staff have a weekly work schedule, which varies between 20-37.5 hours per week. Working mornings, evenings, and weekends is required. Trip leaders have a more irregular schedule, often working week-on, week-off, but also often having back-to-back work weeks or off weeks. Both positions may submit vacations requests, although requests are not guaranteed and schedules are not finalized until April of 2018.

Can I take summer classes? Online classes? Generally, no. Trip leaders find it impossible to take most summer classes, given their complete disconnect from technology for many weeks during the summer. Program Support Specialists occasionally have been able to take a class, but such requests must be cleared with program professional staff prior to enrollment.