



# Highlands Center for Natural History

**Mission:** To support teens in developing leadership skills, learn outdoor education strategies, group management practices and become familiar with/deepen their knowledge of the natural world around them.

## I. Objectives:

- ❖ Develop leadership skills.
- ❖ Gain experience in facilitating experiential learning activities specific to the Central Arizona Highlands.
- ❖ Hone their communication skills in both small and large group settings.
- ❖ Deepen their understanding of the ecology and natural history of the Central Arizona Highlands.
- ❖ Improve problem solving skills, build confidence and take on greater leadership roles amongst the youth.
- ❖ Empower teens to role model team work

## II. Requirements:

- ❖ Attend and participate in Teen Internship Orientation and Summer Nature Camp training the week of May 26th, 2025.
- ❖ Submit one reference letter.
- ❖ Assist with Nature Camp for at least 4 out of the 7 weeks of Camp.
- ❖ Willingness to learn how to facilitate and teach young campers.

## III. Qualifications:

- ❖ Have an interest in the field of education, science education, adventure education and/or nature interpretation.
- ❖ Enthusiasm, interest, sense of fun and wonder.
- ❖ Effective communication skills.
- ❖ Ability to be on time and demonstrate strong time management skills.
- ❖ Willingness to learn and desire to share knowledge with others.
- ❖ Self motivated and independent learner.
- ❖ Between the ages of 14-17 years old, **at the time of application**.
- ❖ Have transportation available to the Highlands Center, daily, when scheduled during Summer Nature Camp hours.
- ❖ Physically able to hike 2 or more miles with a group and over strenuous trail conditions (ie. rocky, hilly, loose, wet, etc.) and occasionally unpleasant weather conditions. Will also be carrying at least a 10lb pack full of gear and games.
- ❖ Able to complete 12 hours weekly, attend training and assist with a minimum of 4 out of the 7 weeks of Summer Nature Camp.
- ❖ CPR/First Aid certified
- ❖ Current background check & Fingerprinting.

#### **IV. Roles/Responsibilities:**

- ❖ Develop real-life work skills (e.g. time management, effective communication, program development, lesson plan writing, and leadership skills)
- ❖ Lead and facilitate small group activities, under the direction of HCNH program staff.
- ❖ Develop skills for behavioral and risk management.
- ❖ Assist in developing new and improved games/activities for campers.
- ❖ Act as a mentor and role model to younger campers and fellow Teen Interns.
- ❖ Complete a final reflection project before the end of the program.

#### **V. Terms of Acceptance:**

- ❖ Applicants will not be considered without completion of the application and the interview process.
- ❖ The Highlands Center reserves the right to change its calendar, withdraw or modify a program or substitute instructors at any time. It also reserves the right to require the withdrawals of any student whose conduct is antithetical to the program or the mission of the Highlands Center, or if there are personal conflicts or physical limitations preventing the intern from fulfilling program requirements.

#### **VI. Application Process:**

- ❖ Applications will be required for all students of the Teen Internship program. Applicants will go through an interview process to ensure that all participants have a clear understanding of the requirements of the program. Applicants will be selected through the Highlands Center Education Staff.