



## McDowell Environmental Center Director

**The mission of the Camp McDowell Environmental Center is to connect people to their environment, teach respect for the Earth and its beings and promote a commitment to lifelong learning.**

Looking for a way to make the world a better place? Well, here at McDowell we are doing it every day! We are looking for someone to take the reins of our amazing residential environmental center.

### **About McDowell Environmental Center and the Director position:**

McDowell Environmental Center (MEC) is a residential environmental center located at Camp McDowell in northern Alabama's canyon country next to the Bankhead National Forest. With 1100+ acres to explore and utilize as a classroom, we are a premier environmental education center in the Southeast. We host about 9000 participants a year from a range of urban and rural, public and private schools. We are looking for the perfect person to lead our team of professional educators in a full time position as our Director.

McDowell Environmental Center has 5 permanent staff who work year round and 14-15 seasonal instructors who work 8-9 months a year. As the Director, you are the leader of this grand group. You must be a mature person who is willing to work long hours, mentor others, keep a positive attitude through thick and thin, have great flexibility, and be an environmentalist who is familiar with the natural world. You must be an independent worker, a self-starter, one who leads by example, and has great initiative. We are looking for a person passionate about making the world a better place by starting right in our own backyard...Alabama!

As the MEC Director, you will work closely with the MEC Assistant Director and Program Coordinator to lead in staff training, marketing and promotion via teacher workshops and teacher conferences, curriculum development, assist with grant writing and website development. You must have great people skills in order to relate to the hundreds of teachers and parents who come through our residential program each year, as well as relating to your co-workers with whom you work and live. You must love teaching children in the great outdoors, because all McDowell leadership staff also teach. We think it is important to keep touch with why we are here! Your direct supervisor is the Director of McDowell Educational Programs (includes MEC, McDowell Farm School and Magnolia Nature Preschool).

To learn more about McDowell Environmental Center see our website at [www.campmcdowell.com](http://www.campmcdowell.com) and check out the environmental center page as well as our sister program the McDowell Farm School page. Go to our Facebook pages as well to follow along with our daily adventures! We are a wonderful place to live and work.

## **More About Camp McDowell:**

McDowell Environmental Center (MEC) is a part of a larger Camp McDowell “family.” Camp McDowell is owned by the Episcopal Church and was established in 1947. In addition to MEC, there is McDowell Farm School, the Alabama Folk School, the Magnolia Nature Preschool, and a 150 hotel style room Conference Center. There are two summer camp programs on site, Camp on Clear Creek and the Camp at Bethany, where facilities are accessible and camps are inclusive. Facilities include two chapels, three dining halls, 13 lodges, numerous meeting spaces, individual and dormitory-style cabins, a dance and performance facility, art studios, two pools, and extensive recreational facilities. Go to [www.campmcdowell.com](http://www.campmcdowell.com) for more details and information.

## **Minimum Requirements:**

Environmentalist; Forward thinker; interpersonal skills with peers, co-workers, and all who come through the program; teaching experience (preferably in the outdoors); experience in staff management and program development; open minded; excellent written and verbal communication skills; basic computer skills; ability to connect to children; Bachelor’s degree or higher; flexibility; personal initiative; make a great first impression; commitment to at least 3-5 years of hard work; experience with budget creation and management; collaborative thinker.

## **Preferred Requirements:**

Medical training such as Wilderness First Responder (WFR); naturalist skills; successful grant writing and fundraising experience; experience with media marketing; knowledge of the flora and fauna of Alabama (or willingness to learn); experience with residential environmental education; experience with developing and coordinating events and workshops; experience managing ropes course; experience with Ropes Courses is preferred; experience working and living in a residential community.

## **Benefits:**

Blue Cross health insurance, a private apartment or home with kitchen provided, a nice retirement plan, 1100+ acres to explore and creeks to paddle, flexible work schedule during non-residential season, and peace of mind because you are doing your part to make the world a better place.

## **To apply for this position:**

Please send your resume, a cover letter convincing us why you are the best one for this position, and at least 3 professional and 2 personal references to Maggie Johnston, Director of McDowell Educational Programs at [MECjobs@campmcdowell.com](mailto:MECjobs@campmcdowell.com) . You may mail it to Maggie Johnston, 105 Delong Rd, Nauvoo, AL 35578. The Search Committee will begin the review of candidates’ resumes and application materials on November 17, 2017, and will continue to accept applications and nominations until the position is filled. It is strongly suggested that you submit your information prior to November 17.