

# ROPE Outdoor Trip Leader



**Pay Rate: Stipend (See below for benefits)**  
**Supervisor: Assistant Director, Outdoor Programs**  
**Contact: [kjc5@rice.edu](mailto:kjc5@rice.edu) or 713-348-4069**

## **Job Description:**

ROPE Trip Leaders are responsible for the overall facilitation of their outdoor trip. Leaders are expected to foster meaningful environments for trip participants, while simultaneously safeguarding the psychological and physical health of each individual. This position requires interpersonal communication skills, the ability to think critically, and the flexibility to work both independently and cooperatively with other instructors.

## **Specific Responsibilities:**

- Plan and develop outdoor trip itineraries in cooperation with the Assistant Director and co-leaders.
- Conduct themselves in a professional manner and remain available to participant needs throughout the duration of trip.
- Demonstrate knowledge and ability to manage risk, facilitate group experiences, and provide leadership for program activities.
- Adapt to changing conditions and provide essential guidance for participants.
- Teach and abide by "Leave No Trace" outdoor ethics on all outdoor trips.
- Learn and teach specific camp craft skills (tents, stoves, backcountry cooking, etc.) to ROPE trip participants.
- ROPE Trip Leaders beyond their first year of training will assist with training incoming cohorts of trip leaders.
- Lead at least 2 trips per semester for a minimum of 4 trip days.

## **Minimum Qualifications:**

- Must have a passion for the outdoors and outdoor recreational programming.
- Must be able to think independently and make decisions for everyday and emergency situations.
- Must be organized and meet deadlines.
- Must have a positive attitude and interact well with ROPE trip participants.
- Must have willingness to learn and practice new outdoor skills and activities.
- Must have the ability to earn a CPR, and Wilderness First Aid Certifications.
- Must possess a valid driver's license.

**Benefits:**

- Leadership training including group management skills, decision making, risk management, environmental ethics, and expedition behavior.
- Technical outdoor skills training including kayaking, canoeing, rock climbing, caving, backpacking, basic camping skills and wilderness medicine.
- Access to equipment, outdoor trips (when space is available), & training materials.
- Leave No Trace Trainer, Technical Skills, and Wilderness First Aid certification opportunities.
- ROPE apparel and outdoor pro-deal access through College Outside.

**Training Requirements:**

- New Leaders must attend the Outdoor Leader Training Trip - 8 day expedition is held January before the spring semester or May following exams.
- Annual fall re-orientation trip.
- Attend primary training trips in September (Labor Day Weekend) and January (Martin Luther King Weekend) each year.
- Monthly and semi-annual meetings/trainings to review, plan, and develop our outdoor programming.
- Van and trailer safety review.
- Wilderness First Aid Certification - ROPE provided within first year.

**Stipend Pay Structure:**

	<u>Day Trip</u>	<u>Overnight Trip</u>	<u>Extended Trip</u>
Lead	30	50	100
Assistant	25	40	75
Apprentice	20	30	50

Leaders will be regularly assessed for general group management and leadership development grounded in general camping and backpacking. Technical skill training will be available for leaders to demonstrate or develop additional trip leading areas and advance position within the organization

**Email completed application to [kjc5@rice.edu](mailto:kjc5@rice.edu). Handwritten applications will not be accepted.**

# Rice Outdoor Programs & Education Trip Leader Application



## PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rice ID: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Year of Study: FR Y SO JR Y SR GR Y Anticipated date of graduation: \_\_\_\_\_  
College: \_\_\_\_\_ Major/Dept \_\_\_\_\_

## QUALIFICATIONS/WORK EXPERIENCE

List all qualifications, certifications, and relevant work related experience you have. Please attach a copy of your certifications, training, and expedition log, if available.

Please list two references who are familiar with your outdoor experience or leadership qualifications.

Name & Phone of Reference	Company/ Organization	Position	Relationship
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I understand that any false or misleading information given in this application will automatically disqualify this application from the employee pool or result in termination of employment.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Rice Outdoor Programs & Education

## Trip Leader Questionnaire



**The following questions are to be handed in with your application. Feel free to use additional space.**

1. What makes you want to be a ROPE Trip Leader? What will you bring to the position and organization?
2. Please share with us about something that you are passionate about apart from the outdoors.
3. What other commitments do you hold at Rice (e.g. committees, clubs, sports)? Trip leading is a serious commitment. Participants have paid to join our trips and are relying on leaders to be prepared and engaged. How will you make sure you are prepared and active within ROPE?
4. What would you consider the most important aspect(s) of being a leader?

5. Describe a time during which you have had to make a difficult decision? What was the alternative and why did you make your choice?

6. ROPE leaders are responsible for a variety of planning and decision-making on and off trail. Provide an example for each of the following decision making styles where that style would appropriate and why: Directive, Consultative, Democratic, Consensus, & Delegate.