



About the Cahaba Environmental Center

The Cahaba Environmental Center (CEC) is the flagship education program of the nonprofit Living River, a residential center nestled within a deep bend of the Cahaba River. The CEC, located in Montevallo, Alabama, is focused on inspiring students of all ages to become stewards of the natural world through hands-on, experiential environmental science programming. Our residential environmental education program offers students from schools across Alabama the opportunity to live and study for 3-5 days at our center, exploring standards-aligned content while utilizing the US's fifth most ecologically diverse river and surrounding forest as a classroom and laboratory. In this unique environment, traditional classroom learning is brought to life through full immersion into, and hands-on exploration of, the natural world. Beyond providing a deep connection to place, the CEC facilitates social and emotional learning as well, connecting students to their peers and to themselves.

Our Mission:

The mission of the Cahaba Environmental Center at Living River is to inspire and empower learners of all ages to become stewards of the natural world by connecting them to the Cahaba River.

Program Objectives:

- Students will make personal connections to the Cahaba River through first-hand experiences.
- Students will increase their awareness and understanding of Alabama ecosystems and human interactions with the Cahaba River.
- Students will connect with each other and gain a better sense of community.
- Students will become empowered to make positive decisions as environmental stewards.

For more information on our programs, please check out our website at www.cahabaec.org.

Summary of Position

A CEC educator provides high-quality environmental education to K-12 learners in and around Central Alabama. Our educators create community within their students and teach about the rich cultural history and diverse ecosystems found on our site, telling the ongoing story of the Cahaba River watershed through inquiry-based education. Each educator leads one field group of 8-12 students throughout the school's 1-5 day visit. This provides a chance for our talented educator to develop meaningful relationships with their students and tailor lessons and activities to best meet the interests and needs of the group. During off-times throughout the season, educators will take on personal projects that benefit both their individual goals and the overall betterment of the CEC.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree, preferably in Environmental Science, Education, Environmental Education, Biology, or a related field
- Enthusiasm for learning and teaching about the natural world and human cultural history
- Creativity, initiative, sense of humor, flexibility and team spirit
- Ability to work and live in a small community and contribute as a collaborative team member
- Comfortable working in the outdoors in a variety of weather conditions
- Willingness to work flexible hours including some evenings and occasional weekends
- Current CPR and First Aid certification
- Valid Driver's License
- Pre-employment or post-hire background screening and criminal history check

Responsibilities Include:

- Facilitate an engaging natural and cultural history experience for K-12 students
- Create a safe, positive learning environment for learners through positive reinforcement, role-modeling, and cultural sensitivity
- Lead safe and engaging canoeing trips on the Cahaba River
- Facilitate teambuilding experiences
- Provide leadership in risk management before, during, and after classes (e.g., respond to emergencies, administer first aid, maintain first aid kits, complete incident reports)
- Serve as a positive role model to visitors and fellow staff members
- Maintain teaching materials and perform regular maintenance duty each week, or as necessary
- Participate in staff meetings
- Represent and support the Cahaba Environmental Center in marketing and activities that promote enrollment, as needed
- Complete projects that support and improve the CEC's education program

Start/End Date

The spring season runs mid-February until the end of May 2018

Compensation and Housing

\$300 per week + housing. Cahaba environmental education staff will live in shared housing. Each educator will have his or her own bedroom and a shared bathroom. The Cahaba staff house will have a community living space, laundry facilities, and a kitchen. The educator community will be provided meals during programs.

To Apply

Please send a cover letter, resume, and three references to Shannon Moore, Program and Outreach Coordinator, at smoore@livingriver.org.