Position Summary
NESS’s full-time, year-round Education Specialist will help NESS achieve its mission of building brighter futures through ocean adventure education. As part of NESS’s world class program staff, the Education Specialist merges inquiry-based learning with innovative programming to guide students on their personal journeys of discovery. This position will create curriculum, develop and implement programs, and nurture relationships with customers and partners. NESS Education Specialists are on the front lines of providing NESS’s high quality programs and maintaining NESS’s strong culture of safety. This is a great opportunity for a passionate, motivated individual to be an integral part of this vibrant, growing organization. Programs include academic year classes and summer programs, primarily for Pre-K-12 youth. You must be motivated, able to work within a team as well as on your own, and have proven skills working with children. This position reports to a NESS Program Director.

Duties and Responsibilities

• Develop curriculum and programs
  o Work closely with NESS Program Directors and other NESS staff to develop educational curricula for:
    ▪ Academic year programs for Pre-K-12 students
    ▪ Summer programs for youth
    ▪ Professional development programs for teachers and administrators
    ▪ Academic programs for non-school organizations (e.g. scouts, students with special needs)
  o Create inquiry-based lesson plans for the NESS curriculum, aligning with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and CT/RI state standards
  o Understand the importance of STEM/STEAM education in the classroom and how to use the cross cutting concepts of the NGSS; maintain familiarity with NGSS and CT/RI state science standards
  o Bring innovative concepts to curriculum development efforts, with a focus on STEM/STEAM

• Implement programs
  o Teach academic, summer, and professional development programs, following NESS curriculum on and off the water
  o Show the ability to be comfortable working with all age groups and abilities
  o Undergo periodic Program Quality Assessments to continuously improve inquiry-based learning skills
  o Implement NESS’s Safety Plan and Emergency Action Plan, as needed
  o Maintain campus and offsite safety at all times
  o Assist NESS’s outcome measurement efforts
  o As required, coordinate other NESS staff to implement programs

• Nurture relationships to develop and expand NESS programs, especially during the academic year
  o Maintain vigilant focus on customer needs
  o Develop working relationships with teachers, administrators, and parents within the K-12 education sector
  o Work closely with teachers to develop programs that complement their classroom activities
  o Develop relationships with industry experts and leaders

• Assist in maintaining NESS equipment
  o Assist in maintaining inventory of program and watersports equipment and supplies, including routine maintenance on kayaks, surfboards, SUPs, fishing gear, masks & snorkels, wetsuits, boogie boards, etc.
  o Assist in maintaining lab inventory and cleanliness as well as classroom/program supplies, including specimens and scientific equipment
  o Assist in overseeing the NESS aquariums, including keeping records of animals on site, performing routine maintenance (including water changes), maintaining feeding schedules, and managing aquarium volunteers
  o Assist in maintaining NESS technology, including the eno interactive whiteboard, microscopes, cameras, iPads, augmented reality sandbox, and any future technology additions
The Successful Education Specialist will:

- Have in-depth knowledge of curriculum development, science subject matter, STEM/STEAM curriculum
- Create and implement engaging hands-on curriculum that is difficult to replicate in the classroom
- Be knowledgeable of all NESS programs and have strong interpersonal skills to interact with the general public, educators, school administrators, teachers, and other agencies and groups
- Effectively facilitate large groups of students in a classroom setting, while maintaining NESS classroom culture and implementing NESS curriculum
- Have the ability to multitask with a high degree of awareness and knowledge related to the responsibilities assigned by the Program Director

Minimum Requirements

- **Education/Certifications**
  - BA or BS in Marine Science, Biology, Oceanography or a related science
  - Teaching certification desirable
  - USCG OUPV 6-Pack License or greater
  - ARC Waterfront Lifeguarding, CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer and First Aid
  - Participation in NESS’s random drug testing program
  - Criminal history check
  - Valid Driver’s License & your own transportation

- **Skills/Knowledge/Experience**
  - Well-developed skills in inquiry-based learning, curriculum development, and program development
  - Skills, knowledge, and experience in Marine Science, Sailing, and Adventure Sports instruction preferred
  - Strong culture of safety in an outdoor educational setting
  - Effective skills in written and verbal communications, problem solving, decision making, group dynamics, public speaking, and task organization
  - Proven field and classroom management skills to effectively manage and organize students
  - Strong team player and excellent motivator
  - Ability to forge effective working relationships with:
    - NESS program staff, operations staff, development staff, office staff, directors, volunteers, students, and parents
    - Partner schools’ and organizations’ staff, including teachers, administrators, and leaders
    - Local community partners
    - Technical community leaders and peers
  - Working knowledge of and experience with Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint)

Compensation

- Compensation commensurate with experience
- Comprehensive benefits package, including paid vacation, holidays, sick days, and personal days; health and dental insurance; and short term disability insurance

NESS is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

Please send your cover letter and resume to: Mistral Dodson, mdodson@nessf.org, NESS Program Director

About NESS

New England Science & Sailing Foundation (NESS) is an ocean adventure education nonprofit engaging students in experiential learning to build confidence, teamwork, and leadership skills. Sailing, kayaking, and other water sports serve as platforms for inclusiveness and personal discovery, for fostering community and environmental stewardship, and for teaching STEM concepts (science, technology, engineering, and math). With a mission of building brighter futures through ocean adventure education, NESS has developed a broad range of year round experiential learning programs both on and off the water that fully immerse individuals of all ages into the marine environment, promoting ocean literacy, ocean safety, and fun, real-world learning. An independent 501(c)(3), NESS operates in multiple locations and will teach over 5,000 students in 2016. For further information about NESS please visit www.nessf.org.