



The Alaska Center Education Fund
Alaska Youth for Environmental Action (AYEA) | ayea.org
Alaska Conservation Foundation | Conservation Internship Program (CIP)

2026 Intern Job Description for AYEA Youth Leadership Intern

Job Title: AYEA Youth Leadership Intern

Location: Anchorage, AK

Dates: 12 weeks, flexible start and end dates between May 18th and September 30th, 2026

Compensation: \$20/hour for up to 32 hours/week over the 12 week internship. You will be paid as an hourly employee of The Alaska Center Education Fund and will also be eligible for the travel stipends provided by the Alaska Conservation Foundation.

Organization Description

Alaska Youth for Environmental Action (AYEA) inspires and trains rural and urban Alaskan youth ages 13-18 to become leaders in the climate justice movement. AYEA provides high-quality leadership training opportunities and supports youth-led community action projects and campaigns on a variety of environmental justice issues. Youth in AYEA come from a diverse array of cultural, geographic, economic, and social backgrounds.

AYEA is a program of The Alaska Center Education Fund, whose mission is to educate and engage Alaskans of all ages to support clean air and water, build healthy and resilient communities, and raise an active voice for a strong democracy. We provide inspiring outdoor education for children, train and mentor youth organizers, and support nonpartisan civic engagement for young voters and unrepresented peoples in our electorate. The Alaska Center Education Fund is a sister organization to The Alaska Center, a 501(c)(4) organization that advocates on climate change, clean energy, and clean water, and elects leaders who champion these issues. Together, we are working to support a transition from our current extractive economy to a just, equitable, and sustainable one.

Position Description

The 2026 AYEA Youth Leadership Intern will work to support the Alaska Youth for Environmental Action (AYEA) program by assisting with outreach, summer trainings, helping local AYEA chapters work on their campaign and project goals, and providing support with planning and executing AYEA's fall Youth Organizer Summit. Additionally, the Youth Leadership Intern will assist as needed with some of The Alaska Center's other programs to build additional skills in advocacy and leadership. This may include: tabling and outreach at various summer events, representing AYEA at Trailside Discovery Camp, and helping with The Alaska Center's advocacy work around democracy, climate and clean energy, and salmon.

Intern Responsibilities:

- Participate in trainings and discussions about youth leadership, community organizing, climate justice, and advocacy to build your own skills and knowledge in these areas;
- Serve as an assistant trainer at summer workshops for AYEA participants. There is the chance that some workshops may involve travel to remote communities or other communities on the road system;
- With the support of your supervisor, develop and lead at least one workshop for AYEA youth;
- Attend meetings or events of the Anchorage AYEA chapter and, with the support of your supervisor, assist the teen members in working towards their project goals;
- Depending on start and end dates of the internship, assist with logistical planning and execution for the 2026 AYEA Youth Organizer Summit;
- Assist as needed with other programs at The Alaska Center Education Fund.

Intern Qualifications:

- Interest and alignment with The Alaska Center Education Fund's vision, mission, and programs;
- Some familiarity with community organizing, and/or environmental education and youth programming, either as a participant or in a leadership role - or strong desire to learn;
- Demonstrated ability to effectively engage and communicate with people (especially youth) from diverse backgrounds;
- Commitment to racial justice and equity, and understanding of intersections between climate justice and racial justice;
- Understanding of Alaska communities, environmental and social justice issues, cultures, and history - or a strong desire to learn and grow in these areas;
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively in a hybrid setting - comfort in using a variety of tech tools to advance the work (zoom, google suite, etc.);
- Strong existing relationships with young people, ideally Alaskan youth; a preference will be given to Alaskan applicants or those with family or cultural ties to Alaska;
- **A Note About Travel:** While not guaranteed, there may be the opportunity for this position to travel over the summer to assist with AYEA trainings or workshops in different Alaskan communities. Means of travel could include commercial airline, small plane, boat, ferry, etc. and travel would likely entail long days and overnight stays in communities with the possibility of delays due to weather, etc. Sleeping arrangements could include hotel, home-stay, school floor, etc. AYEA would cover housing, meals, and transportation during travel.

Housing and Transportation Considerations: This internship is based in Anchorage, AK.* Anchorage is the largest city in Alaska, but as a city of a little over 200,000, is very suburban compared to most larger cities in the rest of the U.S. Interns are responsible for their own housing, transportation, and personal costs during the internship. However, depending on the dates of the internship, The Alaska Center Education Fund (AKCEF) is able to offer interns a discounted shared-housing option in Anchorage with other AKCEF seasonal staff. The AKCEF office is located on a bus route.

*Note that with another AYEA staff member based in Fairbanks, AK, a Fairbanks-based internship would be considered for the right candidate who already had their own housing and transportation in Fairbanks.

Contact AYEA Program Manager Leila Pyle with any questions: leila@akcenter.org