

## Worcester Education Collaborative Woo-Labs College Corps Summer Fellowship Position Description

Are you planning to pursue a career in youth development or teaching and looking for an exciting, hands-on summer experience working directly with youth to support learning and enrichment?

Worcester Education Collaborative (WEC) seeks current college students to serve as part-time College Corps Fellows in its partner youth-serving organizations to support program implementation. This position is ideal for those passionate about positive youth development and interested in expanding their ability to facilitate meaningful, authentic learning experiences for young people under the mentorship of experienced out-of-school time programming professionals.

WEC is launching “Woo-Labs,” a network of community-based partners committed to advancing educational and racial equity and closing opportunity and achievement gaps by improving their capacity to provide high-quality, culturally responsive, project-based learning opportunities for youth. Drawing its name from residents’ nickname for their city, Woo-Labs reimagines education as an ecosystem that includes out-of-school learning, centers students’ lived experiences and agency, and actively works to dismantle bias and inequity.

This summer, Woo-Labs partner organizations serving K-6 students will host College Corps Fellows to support with the implementation of Woo-Labs’ five foundational strategies:

1. Providing student-centered, project-based learning opportunities
2. Promoting students’ social emotional skills
3. Aligning activities with state curriculum standards
4. Using technology to build innovative, sustainable learning systems
5. Applying a common measurement framework to support program improvement

Fellows will work in-person directly at partner sites to execute these strategies, with a focus on building capacity for project-based learning opportunities and measurement framework data collection. Fellows will receive considerable support from both WEC and the partner site, including comprehensive pre-service training and regular professional development on youth development topics such as project-based learning, social emotional learning, trauma-sensitive practices, and state content standards alignment. Each Fellow will serve approximately 20 hours a week for 10 weeks for a total of 200 hours. Schedules will vary by partner organization (see below); generally, Fellows will serve from mid-to-late June to mid-to-late August.

Woo-Labs is committed to building a College Corps of local Worcester students reflective of the city’s rich linguistic, racial, and ethnic identities and cultivating their skills and competencies to provide authentic, high-quality learning opportunities.

### Responsibilities and Duties

- Engage directly with young people to build trusting, affirming relationships
- Help partner site develop and/or implement high-quality project-based learning activities
- Coordinate the collection of Woo-Labs measurement data, including:
  - Collecting daily student attendance
  - Scheduling program observations
  - Implementing student and staff surveys
- Support with site-specific parent engagement and student attendance promotion strategies
- Perform other site-specific responsibilities as needed

## Required Knowledge, Skills, and Experiences

WEC seeks candidates who are:

- Experienced with and/or passionate about positive youth development
- Interested in K-12 education and/or out-of-school time programming
- Skilled at relationship building and fostering supportive learning environments
- Able to work with individuals from various age groups and those with diverse learning styles and racial, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds
- Eager to advance educational and racial equity
- Organized, detail-oriented, and effective time managers
- Enthusiastic team players
- Flexible, quick learners

## Preferred Knowledge, Skills, and Experiences

- Prior experience with K-6 age group
- Familiarity with Worcester community
- Enrolled in a relevant field of study at their college or university
- Bilingualism a plus

## Compensation

Fellows will earn \$15 an hour. Fellows will serve approximately 20 hours a week for 10 weeks for a total of 200 hours and full compensation of \$3,000. Fellows will also receive an upfront signing bonus of \$500. Please note that Fellows must complete a site-specific background check prior to working with youth.

## To Apply

Please submit a cover letter and résumé to Emily Dodge ([edodge@wecollaborative.org](mailto:edodge@wecollaborative.org)). Please indicate in your cover letter if you have any preference on partner site placement. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and positions are expected to be filled by the end of June. Feel free to contact Emily with any questions.

*Worcester Education Collaborative is an Equal Opportunity Employer with a commitment to diversity in the workplace. Worcester Education Collaborative is under the fiscal sponsorship of United Way of Central Massachusetts.*

## Partner Site Information

Woo-Labs will hire 5 College Corps Fellows to serve at the below sites. Applicants will have the opportunity to express their placement preference during the application process.



### African Community Education

The mission of ACE is to assist African refugee and immigrant youth and families in achieving educational and social stability through access to academic support, leadership development, cultural expression, and community outreach in Worcester. Our Summer Reading Program targets our younger students (grades 5-7) and focuses on reading and having fun with books while improving skills and completing the Worcester Public Schools summer reading requirements. It also includes other enrichment and educational activities. The program runs from July 12 to August 19, Monday - Thursday, 12 - 4:30. Field trips may be on Fridays or outside of those hours. After a year of being inside and isolated, our goal is to help our students have fun and be kids again, so ACE seeks people who are outgoing, fun loving, and flexible.



### Mass Audubon's Broad Meadow Brook Conservation Center and Wildlife Sanctuary

Mass Audubon's mission is to protect nature for people and wildlife. Our summer program is our nature day camp serving kids ages 4.5 - 16. We are all about getting kids outside and exploring the world around them in an inquiry-based way, so the camp is 100% outside except for bathrooms and emergency indoor use. The program runs from June 14 to August 27, Monday - Friday, 9 - 3:30. Fellows' hours will generally fall inside this timeframe, though we can be flexible.



### Boys and Girls Club of Worcester

The mission of the Boys & Girls Club of Worcester is to help youth, especially those who need us most, develop the qualities needed to become responsible citizens and community leaders, through caring professional staff who forge relationships with our youth members and influence their ability to succeed in life. Our goal is to make learning fun by providing diverse programming options, creating activities based on kids' interests, and developing high yield learning activities that are hands-on, project-based, and very interactive. The College Corps

Fellow will be instrumental in developing project-based learning activities that will include STEM, social emotional learning, and literacy to help address the unfinished learning that occurred during the pandemic. The Fellow will provide mentoring and enrichment programming to youth ages 5 - 13 during our 9-week summer program (June 21 - August 20) and work between the hours of 8 and 4, Monday - Friday. Successful candidates possess a can-do attitude and sense of humor, have the ability to meet kids where they are at, and are culturally competent.



### Girls Inc. of Worcester

Girls Inc. of Worcester inspires all girls to be strong, smart, and bold. At Girls Inc. we provide a pro-girl and girls-only environment; trusting-mentoring relationships; holistic, compensatory, and intentional experiential content; research-based curricula; hands-on, interactive activities; and sustained exposure to increase positive outcomes. We put our mission into practice through The Girls Inc. Experience, which equips girls to navigate gender, economic, and social barriers and grow into healthy, educated, and independent adults. Our Girls Inc. summer camp serves rising 1st - 7th

graders. Camp runs June 28 - August 20, with two days a week at our campsite, Camp Kinneywood, and the remaining 3 days at our Providence Street building. Ideal Fellow hours are 8 - 3 Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. In terms of particular skills and competencies, we seek Fellows who: have strong written and verbal communication skills, are able to problem solve and make improvements, and are experienced in gender-specific programming.



### YMCA of Central Massachusetts

The YMCA of Central Massachusetts is an association united in a common goal to strengthen our communities and to develop the spirit, mind and body of all persons, regardless of means, through activities guided by and based upon our core values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility.

Our Camp Greendale on Indian Lake (CGOIL) is about learning skills, developing character, and making friends. Our programs teach self-reliance, a love for nature and the outdoors, and the development of attitudes and practices that build character and leadership—all amidst the fun of playing in our splash pad, swimming, archery, playing a variety sports, arts and crafts, talent shows, and building meaningful relationships. Our counselors are dedicated to making sure camp is an amazing experience for every camper. CGOIL runs from June 28 to August 27, Monday - Friday, 7:30 - 6. Our full week of training will happen June 21st - 25th. We are looking for someone who is self-motivated, cause-driven, and able to dedicate 20 hours a week.