

BE PART OF A TEAM

You'll be part of a staff team that may include a park superintendent, law enforcement ranger, office staff, maintenance crews, housekeepers, restaurant and marina staff, and/or lifeguards. In some cases you will work with other full-time or seasonal interpreters. All staff share a goal of helping visitors have the best possible experience at the park.

YOUR DUTIES MAY INCLUDE:

- Developing and presenting interpretive programs based on your park's resources.
- Writing news articles and media releases.
- Researching and recording information on the park's flora, fauna, and history.
- Conducting campground rounds to visit with guests, answer questions, do informal interpretation, and promote programs.
- Completing a special project to build your professional portfolio and benefit your park.
- Assisting with routine park operations and emergencies when needed.

HOW DO I APPLY?

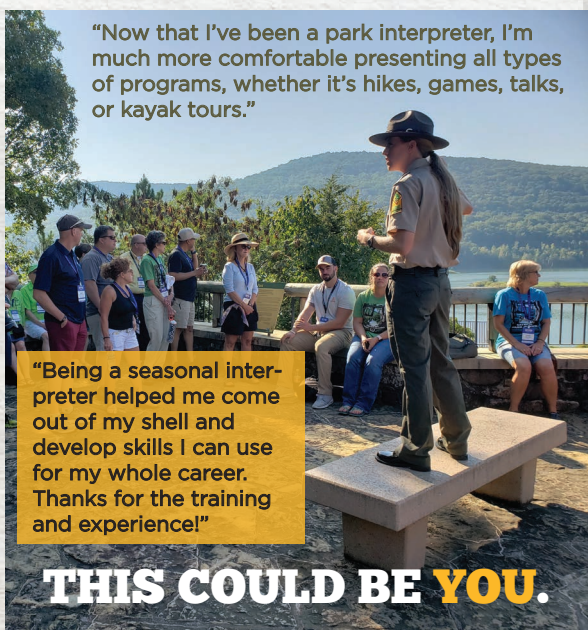
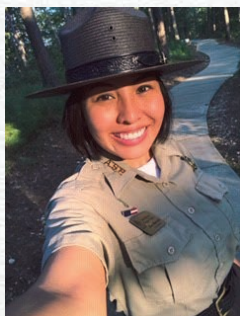
Starting in February, apply online at [ArkansasStateParks.com/about/employment](https://arkansasstateparks.com/about/employment) (search job description "interpreter").



Point your mobile device at this QR code for more details.

First hiring wave deadline to apply: February 18, 2024. Following, vacancies will remain advertised until filled.

For further information or questions, contact: Program Services (501) 682-2187
Human Resources (501) 682-6888



OUR MISSION

PROVIDING	quality recreational & educational opportunities
PRESERVING	natural, historical, & cultural resources
ENHANCING	the economy
LEADING	in resource conservation
HONORING	tradition & seeking innovation



PICTURE YOURSELF WORKING HERE



SEASONAL PARK INTERPRETER JOBS

Arkansas State Parks offers seasonal interpreter positions all over the state. This year approximately 25 positions will be filled, ranging from 3-9 months.

Some begin in March; others are summer only. All are considered part-time, but you can expect a 35-40 hour work week during peak visitation season (peak varies by location). These positions can count for college internship credit. Read on for further details.

WHAT IS AN INTERPRETER?

These positions used to be called “naturalist,” but we do much more than just identify plants and wildlife. We encourage visitors to discover the outdoors for themselves and to value the natural, cultural, and historical resources of the parks and museums they visit.

Interpreters are a core part of our uniformed “park ranger” team; however, they are not law enforcement officers and you will not carry firearms. We do have a law enforcement/emergency services program; contact us if you are interested in that career track. Read more on interpretation at: <https://tinyurl.com/AboutInterpretation>

DIVERSE PEOPLE AND PLACES

Arkansas’s 52 state parks reflect the diversity of our scenic landscapes and natural and cultural resources; likewise, our visitors are as diverse as the plants and animals we help them discover.

At most parks, interpreters offer 3-5 programs per day in summer, and on weekends throughout the year. The actual number varies by site.

Activities include guided hikes, historic site tours, kayak trips, outdoor skills workshops, boat cruises, nature games, and more. Evening programs are also popular, such as night hikes, campfires, owl prowls, star parties, spider searching, and amphitheater talks.

GROW AND LEARN

Your job as an interpreter may be intense, but it can be one of the most rewarding experiences of your life. You will have opportunities to:

- Pursue the credential of Certified Interpretive Guide through the National Association for Interpretation.
- Introduce visitors to the unique places, plants, animals, and stories of Arkansas.
- Sharpen your nature identification skills and expand your understanding of the relationships among people, land, and history.
- Work with and learn from other seasonal and full-time park professionals.
- Develop confidence and strong communication skills by leading hikes, talks, games, and demonstrations in various settings.
- Gain valuable professional experience that will benefit you in any conservation career.



AM I RIGHT FOR THIS JOB?

You must meet these requirements:

- Have a minimum of two years undergraduate credit (preferably courses in writing, oral communication, history, and natural sciences), OR a combination of work-related experience and applicable college courses.
- Display strong skills in public speaking, writing, leadership, and creativity.
- Have a working knowledge of the park resources at the site(s) where you hope to be assigned (e.g. natural sciences, environmental principles, Arkansas history, and/or archeology). All candidates should be familiar with Arkansas flora and fauna. If seeking a lake/river assignment, you must have swimming and boating skills.
- Be available to attend a paid, four-day interpretive training workshop in either April or May.
- Be able and willing to work most evenings, weekends, and holidays.
- Have a valid driver’s license and pass driving record and criminal background checks.
- Have physical condition sufficient to work outdoors, under varying strenuous conditions.

