

American Alpine Institute^{Ltd.}

Alaska Range Support Internship

The American Alpine Institute is currently seeking applicants for the Alaska Range Support Internship. This particular entry level position will require one to work a short period of time in Bellingham, Washington before moving up to Talkeetna, Alaska for the climbing season.

AAI runs eight to fifteen trips in the Alaska Range from the end of April through the beginning of July. Alaska Support Intern will assist the guides and the program coordinator with the logistics of setting up each expedition.

Time Commitment & Schedule:

Mid-April through mid-July. Most weeks, we will require 30-40 hours; though occasionally (especially at the beginning) weeks will be 40+ hours.

Applicants who cannot commit to an April start, will not be considered.

Minimum Qualifications and Requirements:

- Good driving record and valid drivers license.
- Experience with event and/or logistical planning.
- Good organizational skills.
- An ability to communicate via cell phone and email.
- Valid passport or enhanced driver's license.
- An ability to manage time well.
- An ability to work effectively without direct supervision.
- Applicants should be US citizens or hold a US work visa.

Descriptions of Duties and Responsibilities:

The primary goal of this position is to assist AAI program coordinators and guides in various aspects of planning and carrying out AAI's Alaska Range climbing programs and expeditions, including Denali trips.

- Plan, order, and pack food for the season beginning in Bellingham, WA
- Set-up AAI's base in Talkeetna
- Stock and organize food and gear rooms
- Provide transportation and logistical support for AAI guides and clients before and after climbing trips.

- Facilitate exchange of needed group gear between expeditions.
- Unpack, clean and re-prepare expedition gear between trips.
- End of season tear down and inventory.

Compensation and Benefits

A \$4000 living stipend will be paid in segments throughout the duration of the job. While in Alaska, lodging, transportation, and some food (breakfast, lunch, dinner from AAI's AK food inventory) will be provided.

You will have the opportunity to participate in one or more of AAI's courses or trips. Employees in this position are awarded a \$5000 credit that may be applied toward any of AAI's group programs based in the Pacific Northwest.

Experience Received

- First-hand experience with planning, coordinating, and carrying out mountaineering expeditions in logistically complex environments
- Insight into and experience with mountain guiding companies and professional mountain guides
- Mountaineering, glacier travel, and expedition climbing experience as part of the course.

More Information

Most interns will come to Bellingham in early to mid-April and begin to help pack for the program. Some will participate in a Denali Prep program at nearby Mt. Baker to understand what they are packing for.

In late April the intern and one of the guides will make the four-day drive from Bellingham through Canada, to Talkeetna. For the next week, the pair will organize food and equipment before the first set of guides arrives.

The standard week for the intern will begin on a Tuesday when the guides fly into Anchorage. The intern will drive down, pick them up and bring them back up to Talkeetna. The intern and the guides will pack food and gear Wednesday through Friday. On Saturday the guides will drive back down to Anchorage to meet the Denali climbers. On Sunday, they will come back up and fly onto the glacier.

Some of the climbers will not make it up the mountain and will be sent out on a ski plane. The intern will be required to meet the climbers as they return and help them with lodging and transportation back to Anchorage.

The intern will assist with each trip as it returns from the mountain.

One of the real values of the intern's experience is the relationship that he or she develops with not just the guides, but with the glacier pilots. Many interns have the opportunity to fly with the pilots many times.

At the end of the season, the intern will help pack everything up and will drive back to Bellingham with one of the guides. Most are back in the Lower 48 around July 10th.

Where will I live?

The intern will stay with the guides at the Talkeetna Hostel, a building that we rent out for the season. Lodging will be included with the internship.

When should I apply and what is the hiring season?

The American Alpine Institute accepts applications from the beginning of November through late January. Preliminary interviews begin to take place at the end of January and the position is usually filled by the second week of February.

To Apply:

Log onto:

<https://alpineinstitute.wufoo.com/forms/alaska-internship-application/>

For more information please contact Wyatt Evenson at 360-671-1505 or email wyatt@alpineinstitute.com.