



Dartmouth Outing Club First-Year Trips

P.O. Box 9, Hanover, New Hampshire 03755

APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, TRIPS 2012

What does the Assistant Director do?

The Assistant Director works with and for the Trips Director for all of Trips 2012, helping the Director do her job. Organizing Trips is an incredibly complex job and without an assistant director things could easily fall apart (Figure 1). However, once the director has their partner they can create something far more spectacular (Figure 2) that hopefully doesn't involve them falling flat on their butts.

Specific tasks include helping the director come up with a vision for trips 2012, communicating with '16s and their parents, reading applications and selecting croo members and trip leaders, planning logistics for food and transportation for more than 1300 people, meeting with school administrators, speaking at the lodge during trips, or any number of other things that will need to be done in order to pull off Trips 2012.

The Assistant Director is a member of the Trips Directorate, the group of students who set the tone and the policies for Trips 2012. Other members of the Directorate are the Director, the Croo Chiefs, Safety Dork, Inclusivity and Outreach Intern, and the Trip Leader Trainers (and possibly others).

What are the requirements to be Assistant Director?

- The Assistant Director must have helped out with Trips in the past, either as a trip leader, croo member, or directorate member.
- The Assistant Director must be in Hanover for the winter, spring, and summer terms of 2012, as well as during Trips 2012 (can not be in classes during summer term). Trips 2012 will run from the last 2 weeks of August through the first week of September.
- Supreme desire to work incredibly hard for Trips 2012 and to like having fun (possibly most important requirements).



Figure 1 pre-assistant director, ouch!



Figure 2: A Director and assistant director during Trips 2011 (they won the gold medal)

How much will the Assistant Director work? Do he/she get paid?



Figure 3: You, hard at work

The AD will work as hard as this donkey (Fig 3) and might feel a little overwhelmed at times (Fig 4), but it will always work out, we are planning institutionalized fun after all. The AD is paid for 10 hours of work per week in the winter, 20 hours/week during the spring, and 40 hours/week during the summer. Nobody gets paid while Trips is happening. In general, no one gets paid very much to create Trips, and the AD is no exception. What's more, it's expected the AD will be willing and eager to put in time far beyond their compensated hours (especially around Trips time).

The news isn't all bad, though. It is also expected that Trips 2012 is going to be really fun, and that putting in extra hours might be fun as heck. Remember, you get to hang with me! (woo!) If you're willing to put in the hard work, it will be worth it.



Figure 4: You, slightly over loaded with work

Looking at overloaded vehicles is really entertaining so I thought I would provide you with some more images for your amusement...



This sounds like more fun than a slip n' slide greased in Crisco! (we're not doing that at the Lodj...) How can I apply?

Applications are **due Thursday, December 15th at 2 pm** (early applications are also encouraged). Turn in your application via blitz (email anyone?) to DOC.Trips@dartmouth.edu, or in hard copy to the Trips office in Robo 103 (I won't be there December 8-13th but you can slide it under the door if you want!) (duplex print, save_trees!).

Your application should include the following.

- ❖ **A cover page with your name and year. Feel free to liven up the cover with an epic drawing, goofy picture, reflective haiku, finger painting, witty remark, etc. Your cover won't be part of the selection process so unadorned is fine too.**

Also, the cover is a great place for doodling when you get bored answering all these questions. Now you can spend time finding puppy photos on the net and still feel like you're working on your app!

- ❖ **Your D-plan through the fall of 2012.**
- ❖ **Your past involvement in Trips.**
- ❖ **A cover letter (no more than 3 pages single spaced please!) addressing the qualifications and questions listed below.**
- ❖ **A reference (or two) we could talk to if we have any questions or concerns (this could be a student, professor, staff member etc... but they should have some familiarity with trips**

The same for all applications

If you will be applying to be a TLT, Safety Master, Outreach Intern or Croo Chief, you can leave this part of your cover letter identical if you want.

Discuss the mission, philosophy and purpose of Trips and why you want to be involved in Trips 2012. What should Trips look like in 10 years? Discuss your experience working in groups both as a leader and non-leader? What is your leadership style? Briefly (I mean it!) discuss your involvements on campus.

Specific for Assistant Director applicants

What are your motivations for applying for this position knowing it's a lot of work and not a lot of trippee time? What can you bring to this position? In what capacity have you been involved with Trips and how would that inform your work as assistant director? What are your dreams for Trips, both this year and long term (think about the schedule change)? Discuss your skills and weaknesses in the following areas:

- Organization and logistical abilities
- Creative problem solving
- Delegation and dealing with stressful situations when exhausted
- Ninja
- Wilderness and outdoor experience (This is not a prerequisite, I just want to get a

feel for your knowledge of the area and that O of DOC Trips)

What are your schedule and time commitments like for the rest of the year (i.e. no classes, hard classes, theses, in season, being a bum... etc)? Lastly, feel free to touch on anything else that you think is important and you want me to know or think about when making this decision.

How the Assistant Director is selected

As the Assistant Director and Director will be working very closely together for more than six months (we'll be best friends), the Director will read all the applications and make the selection. Some applicants will be offered phone or skype interviews over winter break. If you are unavailable for a skype or phone interview during winter break, please note that on the application and let me know that ASAP (don't wait until December 15th to let me know that if possible). All applicants will be informed of the decision by the end of winter break.

Parting thoughts...

Some inspiration from Pete Gadomski, Director 08:

"Trips is like a party. It's a big, crazy, three-week-long, adventure-packed, state-wide party, where we students of Dartmouth dress up crazy, spend way too much of our own money and time, and generally are just stoked about life. Why? To show the incoming class, the '16s, that college isn't all about the library, that it isn't all about the grades or med school or the future (though those things are all well and good and important). College is a personal experience too, an intensely personal one, where we learn and we grow and we meet people that challenge us. AND...we do crazy stuff! Crazy stuff like Trips, like parties with goofy themes, like the snowball fight on the green at first snow, like so many fun things you've done during your one or two or three years here. Trips is our big chance to break in the '16s the right way, the fun way, to get them thinking right off the bat about accomplishing great things, both at Dartmouth and in life, having fun all the while."



Trips is an incredible program, as I'm sure you know already. It's a unique opportunity to bring together the Dartmouth community in an effort to improve and carry on what really makes Dartmouth special. The next 9 months will bring lots of fun, silliness and laughter as well as lots of work. This year is going to present a unique challenge because of the schedule change, so it's going to be full of new ideas and reinvention. Take some time to really think about what makes this program so special (it will make you happier during finals).

I'm so so so so glad you're considering this position. The Assistant Director is vitally important to trips and I can't wait to read your application!

-Emily Mason-Osann

Trips Director 2012