



Dartmouth Outing Club First-Year Trips

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

Application for Trip Leader Trainer, Trips 2012

What is a Trip Leader Trainer (TLT)?

TLTs are volunteers in charge of recruitment, selection, and training of trip leaders. This involves publicizing and actively recruiting during Winter term 2012; creating/grading the Leader application; creating/running training seminars (Group Dynamics, Risk Assessment, and Wilderness Skills); and conducting the Day 0 Leader training on Gilman Island (see Figure 1).



(Figure 1 above)

TLTing is one of the most important parts of trips. You get to help shape the trip leaders which are the bread and butter of trips and without whom trips would not exist.

The TLTs are members of the Trips Directorate, the group of students who set the tone and policies for Trips 2012. Other members of the Directorate are the Director, Assistant Director, Safety Master, Inclusivity and Outreach Intern, and the Croo Chiefs.

How much time does it take to be a TLT?

This is very variable, but IS a significant time commitment. During the spring term, a TLT might expect to put in about ten hours of work a week (more when reading trip leader applications). Commitments during the summer depend on the TLT-ing schedule that is set up in the spring. During Trips, TLT-ing is a 24-hour-a-day job. Yay!

How many Trip Leader Trainers are there?

Trips 2012 will have three TLTs. TLTs are not pre-assigned to specific areas of leader training.

What are the requirements to be a TLT?

- Each TLT must be a former Trip Leader.
- Each TLT must be in Hanover during Trips 2012 (August 22nd – September 5th plus or minus a day or two)
- TLTs may not be enrolled in summer term courses

- All three TLTs must be around during Spring 2012. At least one TLT must be around during Summer 2012 (likely working with 2 sophomore assistant TLTs).
- All TLTs must be, or be willing to become, driver, van, and bus certified.
- At least two TLTs must have extensive wilderness experience, and must feel comfortable teaching wilderness skills to trip leaders.
- Be comfortable teaching leadership and group dynamics skills to leaders
- Be willing to WORK YOUR BUTT OFF but have a blast doing it
- Have a strong desire to make training a fun, exciting, and useful experience for trip leaders

If you aren't around in the Summer, or don't have much wilderness experience, you can still be a TLT! Trips needs the combined powers of three distinct people, kind of like Captain Planet but with only 3. TLTs work together, pooling their skills and time in order to turn out an awesome training experience.



Sound like more fun than being a creepy version of captain planet!? (See above) Apply!

Applications are **due Thursday, January 5th at 5:17 pm**. Turn in your application via blitz (email anyone?) to DOC.Trips@dartmouth.edu, or in hard copy to the Trips office in Robo 103 (duplex print, save_trees!).

**If you are applying for multiple positions, please turn in a separate application for each position, but the section marked "for all applications" can be identical

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 plain 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 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)**
 - ❖ **A cover letter addressing the following (no page limit, but please be concise!)**
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For all applicants:

If you are also applying to be a 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.

For TLT applicants:

Why are you applying for this position and what can you bring to Trips as a TLT? Please discuss your experience teaching and what factors you found important to keep in mind while teaching. In what ways can Trip Leader Training be improved to be more interesting, effective and engaging? If you could redesign trip leader training, what would you change? Please discuss your outdoors experience, familiarity with areas used during Trips and your affiliation with any DOC clubs. Do you have any medical certifications, how have you applied those skills? If you could design your co-TLTs to complement yourself, what strengths would they have to complement your weaknesses? What are your major time commitments during winter, spring and summer? Are you available to be in Hanover during the summer, or able to travel easily to Hanover to run trainings on a weekend (if you don't know summer plans yet, no worries!)

How are TLTs selected?

The Director and assistant director will read all the applications and make the selection. All applicants will be informed of the decision by January 16, 2012.

Parting words from a former TLT...

Although TLTs lack the glory of other trips positions it is one of the most important jobs for trips. They see every single trip leader and make sure they are ready to lead their trip safely and effectively. They make sure trips stay for tripees and will be a fun and comfortable experience. From Scott, former director: "On the scale from 0 to awesome, TLTs score about an 11.2. The TLTs train every single leader - this training directly affects every single Trippee. TLTs play a *huge* role in creating the Trips experience."

TLTing can be a hard job but it's one of the most important jobs in trips, you AFFECT EVERY TRIPPEE and when you train your leaders well and they lead good trips you have just made more than 1,000 freshman feel very welcome and incredibly happy. When the TLTs are psyched and eager to teach the material in a creative way they can turn leader training into a fun and exciting experience (I swear, I've seen it done many times). TLTs help to ensure the safety and good times of over 1,000 freshman (and 250+ leaders)

Again from Scott, "To be a TLT you have to be selfless and totally stoked on Trips. If this sounds like you, then you're at the right place."

Blitz me or 'doctrrips' if you have any questions about anything. I'm so glad you're applying to be a TLT!! It's a wonderful and super duper important job! Trips 2012 is going to be awesome and fun, and full of creativity in every way to work around the new schedule and still make Trips better than it ever has been before. YAY!

-Emily Mason-Osann (Emo), Trips Director 2012

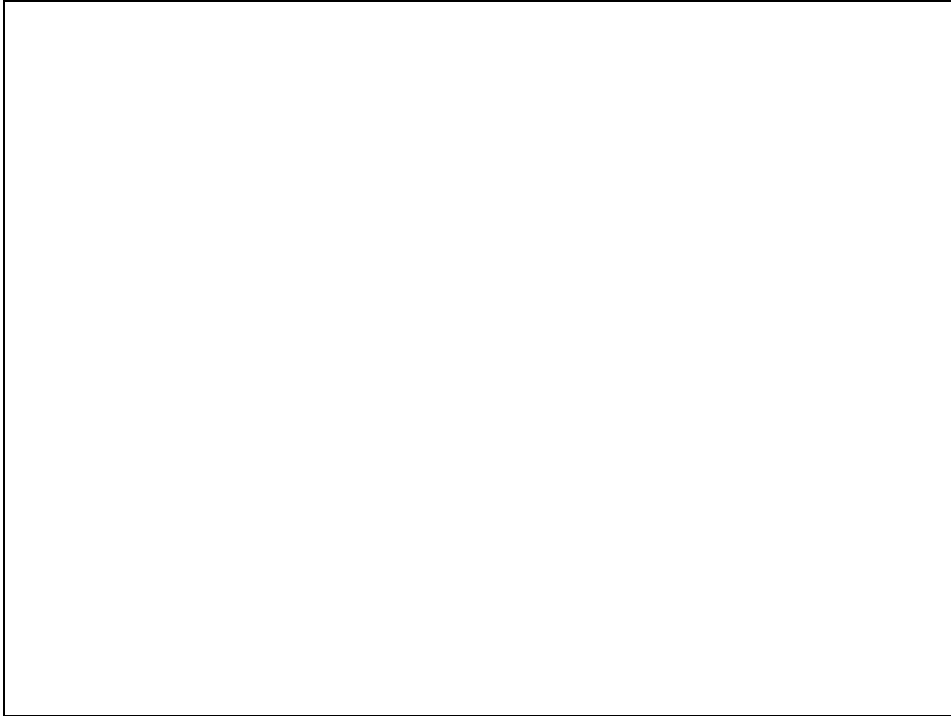


Figure 2. Look how happy all of those trip leaders are because of their wonderful TLTs!!!