



# Dartmouth Outing Club First-Year Trips

---

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

## 2013 Croo Chief Application

---

### What's a Croo Chief?

Croo Chiefs make things happen. The croos, while all pretty different in their functions, exist to support the mission of Trips and make all the 'behind-the-scenes' details come together. While the croos add a unique and high-energy dimension to the program, their primary role is to support the trip leaders and tripees. I promise it will be LOTS of fun and a lot of responsibility – you will help choose croo members, set the tone & attitude for your croo, and be an integral part of shaping the overall mission and direction of Trips 2013!

It's a big job, but it's incredibly rewarding and an amazing way to dedicate your time to welcoming the '17s (!!!) to Dartmouth. Croo Chiefs, in addition to specific logistics planning for your respective croo, maintain a "big picture" understanding of the program and assist other directorate members as needed. Being a Croo Chief is a great way to carry on the traditions you love, change those that you don't, and make Trips a better program every year.

Hanover, Lobj, Vox, and Connection croos will each have two chiefs. Grant, Klymbing, and Mountain Biking croos will each have one chief. All croo chiefs are paid with my eternal gratitude, endless appreciation, and love (as in...not with dollars).

The Croo Chiefs are part of the Trips Directorate – the group of students who share in coordinating the planning and execution of the entire program. Other members of the Trips Directorate include: Director, Assistant Director, Trip Leader Trainers, Outreach Coordinator, Safety Master, and Sustainability Coordinator.

### What are the different croos?

Hanover Croo, Lobj Croo, Vox Croo & Grant Croo chief positions are only open to students who have been on these croos before. Hopefully you remember what your respective croo does! (jk, all directorate roles have incredibly useful manuals with directions on what to do. Don't worry!)

Mountain Bike Croo: This is new initiative, so you should be a visionary leader who can take ownership of making this group as successful and efficient as possible! Your croo (probably 3-4 in total, you decide!) will be based out of Oak Hill for the duration of Trips and will work with each section of mountain biking trips helping them learn the basics of biking and leading them around the easier trails. A passion for teaching introductory/beginner bike skills is a must. The specific duties of this croo will be determined once a chief is selected. This will be a really cool, pilot project to lead & implement, so excitement, flexibility, and an innovative spirit will be essential!

Klymbing Croo: While prior climbing/DMC experience is a must, Klymbing Croo experience is not (and neither is correct spelling)! As chief, you will work with 3 other students to greet and coordinate the logistics of all ten climbing trips. This Croo teaches basic climbing, ensures safety, and hosts an evening programs for trippees – all while making the trippees as comfortable as possible. You must be top rope certified and pumped up about teaching basic climbing to lots of inexperienced trippees & leaders!

Connection Croo: Are you passionate about building community, helping new students adjust to Dartmouth, and planning fun events & programs? This croo is still evolving, so we're looking for chiefs who are creative and have a vision for this group. Your goal is to connect with incoming class by welcoming trippees back from the wilderness, facilitating events/programs during Pre-O and keeping the Trips spirit alive during the academic year! Amazing communication skills and a knowledge of other student life programs (Collis, O-Team, etc...) will be essential. Prior C-Croo experience is NOT required.

### **Requirements to be a Croo Chief:**

- HCroo, Lobj Croo, Vox Croo, and Grant Croo chiefs must be former croolings from the same croo. The Klymbing Kroo and Mountain Bike Croo chiefs must have relevant skills/experience pertaining to climbing and biking, respectively. The Connection Croo chief must have either led a DOC trip or been a part of any croo before.
- All croo chiefs MUST be around/nearby Hanover in the spring of 2013 and during Trips (August 20ish – September 12ish, dates are not yet finalized).
- Ability to think creatively, critically, and thoughtfully about how the Trips program can improve and evolve.
- Must be willing and able to become College driver certified by August 2013.

### **How much work does this position require?**

Being a croo chief is VERY different than being a crooling; you will be a critical part of leading and planning the program, as well as representing Trips to the broader Dartmouth community. Once selected, croo chiefs can expect to be an active participant in directorate meetings & retreats, assist with outreach activities, and help shape the vision for the program. \*\*Croo chiefs do NOT (necessarily) need to be in Hanover during the winter or Summer terms.

In the spring, croo chiefs will be responsible for reading applications for both croo members and trip leaders, and participating in the final selection for all croo members. Additionally, croo chiefs will be handling much of the logistical planning and preparation for their specific role in Trips. This includes a lot of communication with other directorate members so we can ensure the program runs smoothly! While each croo has a very important and distinct role, croo chiefs should be excited about working with the entire Trips program – it's your job to see the "big picture" of Trips and lead your croo accordingly.

## **This sounds like the most fun thing EVER. How do I apply?**

Applications are **due Monday January 7<sup>th</sup> by 7:17pm Eastern (early applications are also encouraged)**. Please submit your application via EMAIL to [DOC.Trips@dartmouth.edu](mailto:DOC.Trips@dartmouth.edu). You may also submit your application in hard copy (double-sided printing!) to the Outdoor Programs Office in Robinson Hall.

---

### **Your application must include the following:**

- ❖ A cover page with your name, class year, contact information, and D-Plan through the Fall of 2013.
  - ❖ Your past involvement with DOC Trips (leader, croo, TLT, etc...)
  - ❖ The specific directorate position(s) you are applying for.
  - ❖ A list of any relevant certifications you have and their expiration dates (i.e. EMT, WFA, etc...)
  - ❖ A cover letter (no more than 3 pages single-spaced please!) addressing the qualifications & questions listed below.
  - ❖ Two references (1 student + 1 other) with appropriate contact information. Your references should have a general understanding of the Trips program.
- 

### **General Cover Letter Questions**

If you are applying for another directorate position (Croo Chief, TLT, Safety Master, Outreach Coordinator, Sustainability Coordinator), you can leave this portion of your cover letter identical.

Discuss your motivation(s) and interest in the Trips program; why do you want to be involved in Trips 2013? Describe your understanding of the program's mission, philosophy, and goals. How do you imagine the program in 10 years? Describe your leadership style and discuss how you handle projects, deadlines, and multi-tasking. Briefly (I mean it!) describe your involvements on campus.

---

### **Croo Chief Cover Letter Questions**

These questions are specific to the Croo Chief role and, along with the general questions above, should be addressed in your cover letter.

#### ALL Chief Applicants:

Given your understanding of the role of croo chief and how it is different from that of a crooling or leader, please discuss your motivation and goals in applying? Discuss how your experiences, both inside and outside of Trips, will inform your role as a croo chief. What suggestions do you have to improve the croo you are interested in leading? Discuss some of your ideas, dreams, and goals for your croo and for Trips 2013. What is the overall tone you believe Trips should set and how will your croo play into that?

What are your schedule and time commitments for the winter and spring, terms (i.e. off-term location, in-season athlete, hard classes, thesis, other campus jobs, etc...)? *Remember that croo chiefs should be around Hanover in the spring term and during the entirety of DOC Trips (Aug. 20ish – Sept. 12ish).*

Hanover/Lodj/Vox/Connection Croo Applicants: What skills and strengths do you believe your ideal co-chief should have that complement your own weaknesses? How do you envision your relationship with your co-chief?

Vox Croo Applicants: Please describe your outdoor experience and qualifications regarding safety, medical care, and managing risk.

*\*\*Advanced safety certification is NOT required to apply. I just want to get a sense of what your prior exposure is to these topics.*

Connection Croo Applicants: Please describe your experience & interest with building community, and planning campus events/programs; also address your ability to think creatively and critically about freshmen orientation activities and Connection Croo's role in those activities.

Grant/Klymbing/Mtn. Bike Croo Applicants: Please address your qualifications and prior experience with kayaking, climbing, or biking, respectively. Please be detailed!

**\*\*Feel free to mention or highlight anything else you feel is important or relevant to the position(s) you're applying for or the program in general!**

---

### **How the Croo Chiefs are selected:**

The Director and Assistant Director will read all croo chief applications and make the final selections. Former croo chiefs and/or croo members may be consulted for their input, but the final decision rests with with the 2013 Director & Assistant Director. For the Grant, Klymbing, and Mountain Biking croo chief roles, the director will contact DOC sub-club leaders for an appraisal of each applicant's skill level and leadership ability.

Every effort will be made to arrange interviews (in-person, phone, or Skype), but due to the volume of applications, an interview is NOT guaranteed for all candidates.

**\*\*If you are without reliable internet access during the winter term, please send a blitz to the [DOC.Trips@dartmouth.edu](mailto:DOC.Trips@dartmouth.edu) account as early as possible.**

All applicants will be notified no later than Monday January 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Parting thoughts...

*"I would insist that the person who spends four years in our North Country and who does not learn to hear the melody of rustling leaves, who has not stood enthralled on the top of Moosilauke on a moonlit night, who has not seen a sunset from one of Hanover's hills, who has not thrilled at the whiteness of the snow-clad countryside in winter – I would insist that this person has not reached out for some of the most worthwhile educational values accessible to them at Dartmouth."*

--Ernest Martin Hopkins (Dartmouth College President, 1916-1945)

DOC Trips is a program like no other; its impact upon both the first-year class and the community as a whole is truly meaningful and has only become stronger in its 77-year history. The program has endless potential to improve and carry on what makes Dartmouth a special place to call home and each year, more and more of that potential is realized. Croos serve a critical function in Trips – you all make things happen and you do it with incredible organization, thoughtfulness, and with the experience of tripees in mind.

The next 8+ months are an opportunity for this directorate to innovate, reflect, and improve upon a program that already has tremendous success. Take some time as you complete this application to reflect upon your own experience with Trips and consider what will make this program so special for the '17s (all the work over the next few months will be totally worth it, I promise!).

I am SO appreciative that you are considering the Croo Chief position. Please feel free to contact me with any questions (even over winter break). This role is vital to the success of DOC Trips and I look forward to reading your application!

Chris O'Connell '13  
Trips Director 2013