Kupu 'Āina Corps
Frequently Asked Questions

Can I apply to be considered for the program if I’m not a US citizen?
Anyone who can provide proof that they are eligible to work in the United States may apply to this program.

Are these opportunities limited to certain age groups?
While there are no age limits, crew leaders are required to be at least 21 years of age and older to fulfill Kupu’s vehicle/rental insurance policy.

Do I need to have a background in conservation or natural resource management to be considered for these roles?
If you are considering becoming a Crew Leader then it is preferable that you have relatable outdoor experience, however if you are interested in being considered for either the Crew Member or Individual Placement positions then it is not necessary.

What is the duration of this Program?
Early October – Mid December, 2020. Dates are subject to change.

Are there full time and part time opportunities available?
Yes, we just ask that you specify your availability within the application.

What are the education requirements for this program?
Most sites require at least a high school diploma or equivalent to participate, however, higher education may be required at some sites.

What are the position types available and what do their responsibilities entail?
You can read our full position descriptions on our website at www.kupuhawaii.org/ainainnovation.
Individual Placement - Assigned to an organization and work directly with organizations staff
Crew Member - Assigned to a team of several people with a crew leader
Crew Leader - Oversee a team of 4-6 people and help to oversee

What is the compensation rate for each position?
Crew Leader - $18.00 per/hr
Crew Member - $15.00 per/hr
Individual Placement - $15.00 per/hr

Does this program provide health care benefits?
Yes, the participants have the option to receive Kaiser Permanente healthcare benefits during their service term as long as they are working full-time. Kaiser healthcare is issued through Kupu’s third party provider, Altres. Although the health benefits are not mandatory for participants to use, a good majority of our current participants do use it and take advantage of having coverage during their term.

Does Kupu or any of Kupu’s partner sites provide housing?
Each participant is responsible for their own housing and transportation. Kupu does not provide housing or transportation. The cost to rent a room/apartment will vary from island to island, if you are planning to relocate we would recommend that you look online (Craigslist/Airbnb/etc).

Will Kupu have rolling admissions to be considered for this program?
Yes, our applications will remain open until we’ve filled all positions or completed the term.

Can I be enrolled in school while in the program?
While commitment to this program throughout its entirety is very important, we also understand the importance of education and also support participants in their pursuit to obtaining higher degrees. A minimum commitment of 40 hours/week is expected to complete the program on time. Not to say that this isn’t possible though as many of our previous participants have managed to balance a full-time service term while taking 1-2 classes per semester. We recommend this to be a topic of conversation between the applicant and site manager prior to accepting the position.

What sort of Host Sites could I be placed within?
Host sites can range from government agencies, for-profit companies and/or community based non-profit organizations.

Are there any opportunities to gain relevant qualifications to these fields?
Yes, we are offering training and certification opportunities.

What is Kupus' plan regarding Coronavirus?
We can save lives and stop COVID-19 if each of us does our part. Due to the unprecedented nature of this pandemic Kupu will continue to follow state and local government recommendations and policies that relate to COVID-19. As part of the collective effort to combat this disease. Participants will be required to adhere to the host sites’ social distancing protocols, health precautions and Kupus COVID-19 Vehicle Policy.

Will there be opportunities to telework?
Some host sites are open to the idea of teleworking if social distancing policies cannot be adhered to. This is a discussion that can be had with the supervisors at your host site.

If you have any additional questions please feel free to contact us at opportunities@kupuhawaii.org