

Climbing Wall Setting Staff

RecSports Outdoor Program
University of Tennessee

Introduction

Our undergraduate and graduate level staff have a varied background, coming from across the state of Tennessee and beyond. Recreation, biology, information technology, philosophy, art, geology, and speech pathology represent some of the various majors our staff studies.

The love of the outdoors draws this diverse set together. It is our priority to find students who are passionate about the outdoors, want to share this love with others, are willing to learn new skills, and then eventually share these skills with others.

In applying to work for the Outdoor Program, you will be working shifts at the Outdoor Center, plus various special events as scheduled. Working other positions inside our department is possible.

Expectations

You must have a sense that the glass is half full and provide an **attitude of genuine kindness, thoughtfulness and insatiable curiosity** due to a love of learning. **Personalities** who exhibit the above traits, are highly desired.

A positive work ethic is important. While it is work, we enjoy it because we all have a tendency to do our jobs as well as possible and help others to have amazing experiences. We expect you to develop into the type of person who, when you graduate, we are reluctant to let go of because of your work ethic, teaching ability, and warm personality.

You could work anywhere else but **you have chosen to work for the RecSports Outdoor Program.** By working here, you are looking for more than just a paycheck. You should be looking to join a community, to **become an excellent setter** and of course, to develop solid outdoor skills that you can take to all parts of your life.

In return, we expect you will always bring a positive attitude and work ethic and make the Vol Wall an important part of your undergraduate or graduate experience.

We expect **open and direct communication** and hold ourselves and others accountable for duties, decisions, mistakes, words, and actions.

Setters set routes and problems for climbers of all abilities (strength, height, experience, etc). Putting up great routes/problems is a collective effort of all setters to ensure climbers have quality routes to climb. You will receive (and give) a lot of feedback to help make you (and others) better.

The RecSports Outdoor Program is a student run program, with direction and coordination provided by two Co-Coordinators. To make this program run smoothly, **staff is expected to take part in all RecSports Outdoor Program trainings, train younger staff and improve the program however possible.**

Make sure you understand these duties and areas - now is the time to ask questions to see if this is the right fit for you.

Specific Setter Requirements

- Ability to onsight V3+ and 5.10+
- Have at least 1 year's climbing experience, climbing 2x a week or more during the school year
- Ability to climb with and explain good technique
- Comfortable giving and receiving feedback
- Able to communicate effectively
- Has some outside climbing experience
- TR Belay checked off at UT Vol Wall
- Commitment to work a minimum of 6 hours a week
- Attend all required staff trainings and meetings
- Setters work 1-2 shifts per week as a wall attendant in addition to setting (allowing you to watch others climb your routes)

RecSports Requirements

- Minimum First Aid, Adult/Infant/Child CPR and AED (provided by RecSports) or higher level certification

- Enrolled student with a 2.5 GPA or higher
- Checking or savings account for direct deposit
- Have or able to secure within 7 days of an interview the following:
 - original, signed, non-laminated Social Security card;
 - or original passport.
 - These are required IDs to complete new hire paperwork

Job Description

These specific duties and descriptions are in addition to the more general and normal activities that go on daily.

The general activities include, but are not limited to:

- Setting assigned problems and routes at the Vol Wall
- Removing stripped holds from wall (when needed)
- Collaborating with other setters to create problems/routes
- Forerunning other problems/routes
- Giving and receiving and implementing feedback
- Being creative and mindful when setting
- Setting for the annual fall and spring bouldering competitions
- Assist at the actual climbing competitions
- Other duties as assigned.

Time Frame

The RecSports Vol Wall is open 5 days a week while school is in session (Fall, Spring) with different summer hours. Staff who are committed and add value to the program will be asked to stay on each semester until graduation.

Setters work around the Vol Wall hours, ranging from 8:00am – 2:45pm Monday-Friday.

Climbing wall hours: Monday – Thursday 3-9pm, Friday 3pm - 8pm

Wage Range

\$7.25 to \$7.70 after 3 years of service at an entry level. Promotion to higher positions are available.

Average Hours Per Week

6 to 20 hours

How to Apply

Online at <http://recsports.utk.edu/student-assistants>

Be sure to include a cover letter

Your *cover letter* should cover:

- What your most relevant skill & experience is
- Why you want to work with the UT RecSports Outdoor Program
- How you meet or exceed the requirements of the job.

Learn to Rock Climb, Kayak, & Teach –

Apply for to *Student Outdoor Leadership Expeditions (SOLE)* training course, held each spring.

If you apply to work the Outdoor Center, you should submit a resume and application for the *Student Outdoor Leadership Expeditions (SOLE)* training course as well.

For the right person, this spring time 170+ hour outdoor leadership program provides the skills and experiences to eventually become paid trip staff. See the *SOLE* candidate hiring document for information.

No experienced is needed to join this training course.