



CAPTAIN

Part-Time, Seasonal Position

Rivers of Steel Heritage Corporation, managers of the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, is looking to hire a part-time captain for the *Explorer* riverboat, which docks on Pittsburgh's North Shore. The part-time captain is responsible for the safe operation of the vessel, passengers, and the crew.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Rivers of Steel's captains are the core members of *Explorer's* crew. Part-time captains report to the full-time captain and work in partnership with deckhands, site coordinators, facilities managers, and educators regularly.

Captains operate the vessel for all educational, public, private, and partner programs, performing the duties and responsibilities for the positions of deckhand, senior deckhand, and unlicensed engineer. Before going underway, captains perform safety checks and pre-voyage inspections; gather weather and river condition information; ensure the crew has performed necessary preparations; and other tasks to sure the vessel is ready for safe operation.

Captains ensure the vessel is in ship-shape condition for the scheduled program. For education programs, this means all of the required equipment is available and in good operating condition. For charters and public ticketed tours, this means the boat is clean, both inside and out, non-essential equipment is stowed, and the cabin is set up as directed by management.

Captains manage the crew in deck operations, line handling, docking, locking through, sampling, and navigation while underway. Captains will brief the crew as to any non-normal conditions that may affect operations and ensure a safety briefing is conducted prior to any voyage with passengers aboard, in addition to conducting periodic drills.

Captains maintain a high level of knowledge of the pilothouse—including navigational equipment, system alarms / indicators, controls, gauges, and communication equipment—the boat's mechanical and electrical systems, and the boat's emergency procedures. Captains also ensure compliance with the conditions of the USCG's COI.

Essential job functions include the ability to move freely throughout the vessel (including climbing steps and ladders, opening hatches), performing the duties associated with the safe operation of the vessel, and directing the normal and emergency operation of the vessel.

This is a part-time, seasonal position. Paid training is provided.

QUALIFICATIONS

The part-time captain role requires a qualified candidate to possess a USCG 100 ton Master's License and to maintain the physical fitness requirements of the USCG and applicable CFRs, including the ability to move freely throughout the *Explorer* vessel. He / she should have good mechanical and problem solving skills, along with the desire to work with students, teachers, and the public.

**RIVERS
OF STEEL**

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Strong and clear verbal communication and presentation skills are assets to this role, as is time management to ensure that programs start and finish on time.

The part-time captain must have or be able to obtain Pennsylvania Act 33/34 and FBI clearances. All employees are required to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 or submit to a weekly COVID test. *Explorer* employees are also subject to a pre-employment drug screen and will be included in a subsequent random drug screen pool as per Rivers of Steel's requirements from the U.S. Coast Guard / U.S. Department of Transportation. Additionally, the part-time captain will be required to attend CPR / First Aid / AED training sessions offered by Rivers of Steel.

REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the technical and physical skills required to operate a commercial vessel, the part-time captain must be comfortable interacting with the general public frequently. As an ambassador of Rivers of Steel, captains are may be approached by guests with questions and requests. A general knowledge of the organization's programming helps to be able to invite the public to experience our sites in different ways.

The part-time captain should be a resourceful and proactive worker who can troubleshoot and resolve unexpected situations that may arise during the course of a program. Instinctive customer service skills are vital to working with guests in a pleasant and professional manner.

The part-time captain is expected to attend all meetings and training events, including those related to program content, safety, customer service, etc, and other duties as assigned.

ABOUT RIVERS OF STEEL

Founded on the principles of heritage development, community partnership, and a reverence for the region's natural and shared resources, Rivers of Steel strengthens the economic and cultural fabric of western Pennsylvania by fostering dynamic initiatives and transformative experiences.

Rivers of Steel showcases the artistry and innovation of our region's industrial and cultural heritage through its historical and 21st-century attractions—offering unique experiences via tours, workshops, exhibitions, festivals, and more. Behind the scenes, Rivers of Steel supports economic revitalization, working at the grassroots level to deepen community partnerships, promote heritage tourism, and preserve local recreational and cultural resources for future generations.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please provide a detailed resume and cover letter delineating your relevant experience to explorer@riversofsteel.com.

Rivers of Steel is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in hiring, transferring, promoting, terminating, paying, training, benefits, or other actions affecting employees. Rivers of Steel does not make any personnel decisions based on race, color, sex, age, national origin, religion, ancestry, marital status, veteran's status, non-job related disability or handicap, or other prohibited criteria.

