



PennState
College of Health and
Human Development

**Recreation, Park, and
Tourism Management**

***Position: Post-Doctoral Researcher – Longitudinal study of youth
development through Tall Ships Sailing***

***The Pennsylvania State University
State College, Pennsylvania***

The Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Management in the College of Health and Human Development at The Pennsylvania State University seeks a qualified postdoctoral researcher in youth development through outdoor experiential learning to work with Dr. Pete Allison, in the Kurt Hahn Consortium for Values and Experiential Learning. The project is in close collaboration with *Grand Banks Preparatory School* in Canada and will involve regular travel and meetings with various stakeholders.

Individuals with research experience in education, youth development, recreation, experiential learning, or longitudinal methods are encouraged to apply.

This individual will collaborate with an interdisciplinary team to advance research on long term influences of sailing on youth development. The role will include leading a multi-year research project, managing steering group meetings, reviewing relevant literature at the junctures of the above-mentioned subject areas, development of methodology, metrics, data collection, management and analysis. This is a multi-year project so the individual will need to contribute to a strategic planning process and funding applications.

The postdoctoral researcher will help to prepare journal articles, present at academic and professional meetings, and assist with preparation of materials. Substantive expertise in an area of longitudinal studies and database skills are desired. Opportunities exist for first-authored publications and to develop grant writing skills. The candidate will be encouraged to collaborate but also to work toward an independent line of research.

Context

The Department of Recreation Park and Tourism Management (RPTM) is a vibrant department within the College of Health and Human Development. Academics in the Department embrace a broad conception of all aspects of the fields they teach and research; as well as collaborate across the College and beyond which demonstrates their belief and commitment to interdisciplinary understandings.



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The largest campus in the Penn State system, University Park is home to a diverse population of about 46,000 undergraduate students. Penn State University Park students enjoy passing iconic buildings like Old Main daily, while also taking advantage of amenities in new facilities across the 13 square mile campus.

Penn State University Park is located in the small city of State College, a quintessential college town with its small eateries and quirky shops that line the street marking the border between downtown and campus. Nestled near the base of Mount Nittany, the surrounding area of central Pennsylvania is known as "Happy Valley".

Excellent dental, vision, and health insurance are provided as part of a post-doc. There are also a lot of university resources for such as speaker series, workshops and seminars to contribute to continuing professional development.

State College offers immediate access to extensive outdoor recreation, school districts, music and events. Surrounded by State Parks and the Pennsylvania Wilds to the north there are a multitude of outdoor recreation opportunities including camping, backpacking, canoeing and mountain biking. For city breaks, Pittsburgh, Manhattan, Philadelphia and Washington DC are all within 4 hours or less driving time. Employment at Penn State offers an incredible opportunity to enjoy the beauty of the central Pennsylvania outdoors combined with all of the culture, sports, and entertainment a large university community can bring. More information on the area and all of its amenities can be found here: <http://www.visitpennstate.org/>.

Candidate information

This position requires a PhD or equivalent degree in a relevant field. The department seeks a candidate who is self-motivated, detail-oriented, responsible, team-oriented, and creative, with excellent interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to synthesize literature. The strongest candidates will be highly motivated, capable of independent work with experience in areas that will contribute to progressing the project. International experience is desirable and international applicants are encouraged. Some teaching may be involved. Some international travel is required.

Penn State is committed to and accountable for advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion in all of its forms. We embrace individual uniqueness, foster a culture of inclusive excellence that supports both broad and specific diversity initiatives, leverage the educational and institutional benefits of diversity, and engage all individuals to help them thrive. We value inclusive excellence as a core strength and an essential element of our public service mission.



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We will begin seeking applicants during the summer and fall of 2019, and we anticipate the successful candidate will start in Fall 2019 or early Spring 2020.

To be considered, candidates must apply online (<https://psu.jobs/job/88599>), and upload a letter of application describing interests, qualifications and relevant experience, a current curriculum vita, and complete contact information (name, current position title, mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address) for three professional references. This is a fixed-term appointment funded for two years from date of hire with excellent possibility of renewal. Informal inquiries and questions can be directed to: Dr Pete Allison pra7@psu.edu

Job Number: 88599