Job Description
Schooner SULTANA Deckhand Educator

Last update: October 2026
Position Will Be Filled on a Rolling Basis

SUMMARY

Regulatory Minimum Age	18 years old
Criminal Background Check Required	Yes
Pre Employment & Random Drug Testing Required	Yes
Employment Type	Seasonal
Standard Work Days/Hours	Varies, Generally 40 Hours Per Week
Overtime Status	Exempt
Job Location	Chestertown, Maryland - Various Chesapeake Ports
Period of Employment	March - November (specific dates determined at hiring)
Staff Housing Provided	Yes
Board Provided	Partial
Weekend Work	Yes
Residential (Overnight) Work	Yes
Paid Holidays	Applicable federal holidays during term of employment
Sick & Safe leave	Up to 5 paid days per year pro-rated for term of employment
Health Insurance Eligibility	Eligible if term of employment is 90 days or greater
Health Insurance	100% employer paid coverage (details provided in interview)
Reports to	SULTANA Captain
Salary	$500 per week adjusted for experience

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Sultana Education Foundation (SEF), is a private non-profit 501(c)(3) organization based in Chestertown, Maryland that works with over 10,000 students annually, nearly half of which are carried on the namesake schooner SULTANA, a replica of an 18th century revenue cutter used by the Royal Navy to enforce tax law. The SULTANA is used as an educational platform focused on teaching History and Ecology.

Deckhand-Educators deliver the education programs of SEF under the direction of the Education Director, as well as operate the vessel under the direction of the Mate. SULTANA's sailing season begins in March each year and concludes in November. In spring and fall the focus is on 1.5-3 hour programs for late elementary age students. Summer is occupied with multi-day programs, some of which are liveaboard.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Implement SEF's award winning education curriculum
- Handle dock lines, set sail, furl sail, work aloft
- Deliver in depth programming and oversee camper safety during summer programs

CORE QUALIFICATIONS

- Experience working with children in an educational setting preferred
- Traditional sailing experience a plus
- Bachelor's degree or equivalent educational experience preferred
- Must be able to handle the physical demands of life aboard a tall ship, including lifting (50lbs), climbing, and working in varied weather conditions
- Must be able to use sharp tools or power equipment safely, with instruction
- Must be able to observe details at close, medium, and far range

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS REQUIRED/PREFERRED

(SEF may assist and cover expenses for required certifications)

- First Aid & CPR (required)
- Lifeguard Certificate (very welcome)

ABOUT THE SULTANA EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Sultana Education Foundation provides hands-on educational opportunities that promote stewardship of the Chesapeake Bay's historic, cultural, and environmental resources. By helping students of all ages develop an appreciation for the Chesapeake Bay, Sultana is working to create a community of individuals who are dedicated to preserving this irreplaceable treasure.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

The Sultana Education Foundation (SEF) is committed to and accountable for advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion in all of its forms. We embrace individual uniqueness, foster a culture of inclusion 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 inclusion as a core strength and an essential element of our public service mission.

HOW TO APPLY

Email resume, cover letter, and two references to Kate Dumhart, Senior Captain
kdumhart@sultanaeducation.org