

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the tuition for this program?

We work with your sending school to have your state tuition dollars support you as you participate in the program. We secure grants and donations to cover the rest of the cost.

### What classes will I be taking?

English, math, social studies, science, fine arts, and physical education courses are all part of the program. If you successfully complete the Community Year you will earn full credit in your core curriculum classes and ½ - 1 credit in elective courses.

### Are there special criteria for being admitted to this program?

No. We are looking for high school students who want be active and engaged, who understand what this program is, and who personally choose to do it.

### Does this program follow the regular school calendar?

Yes. Except for the times when we are traveling, we follow a typical school calendar and day format.

### What about sports and/or extracurricular activities?

You'll need to check with your sending school, and you can likely participate in many sports and extra curricular programs

### Do I need any special camping or outdoor gear for the expeditions?

We have a lot of the gear you will use, like tents, backpacks, and sleeping bags. You'll need to supply some personal gear, such as hiking boots and warm outdoor clothes.

**Admissions is on a first come first served basis. For more info or to apply please contact us.**



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*The mission of the Cobscook Community Learning Center is to sustain an educational setting within which people can cultivate understanding and enrich life through experiences in the natural surroundings, with our cultures and traditions, and through access to the arts.*



## THE COMMUNITY YEAR

Building Leadership for a Healthy  
Self, Community and Planet

Are you a high school student looking for an alternative educational program that will transform you and inspire you to become a leader in your community and the world?



Get high school credits while traveling in a hands-on and community environment!

*"First you must learn to fall in love with life; then you can make the world over"*

N.F.S Grundtvig

# The Community Year

**Building Leadership for a  
Healthy Self, Community  
and Planet**

## A UNIQUE EDUCATION

The Community Year is different. We may spend an entire morning learning from a traditional basket maker, or a whole day hiking the Bold Coast trail. We'll be outside A LOT, and we'll travel all over Washington County and beyond throughout the year. As a participant in The Community Year, you'll be a teacher as well as a student. You'll be asked to bring your interests and experiences in to the learning circle. You'll be asked to dig into the soil, swing a hammer, lead a group discussion, share your interests, or plan a day of activities with your classmates. You'll have the chance to determine who we visit, what projects we take on, and where we go. Our curriculum guides us, and then it's up to us to explore the world around us. Give it a try—The Community Year is different.

What is experiential education?

It's a type of education where everyone is actively engaged in learning together, from one another, from the environment, and through direct experience and reflection.

What is expedition education?

It's learning that's associated with explorations and journeys. It's an adventure!.

What is collaborative learning?

It's an interactive approach to teamwork that enables you to combine your skills and resources with others to generate creative solutions.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Community Year Program is an experiential, expedition and placed-based education program for Washington County high school students looking for a unique, inspiring and life-changing educational experience. This program is based at the Cobscook Community Learning Center campus in Trescott, ME. Students will travel the Down East region to learn from local people, explore the various landscapes, and examine issues that people face day to day. This is a form of education



that is relevant and based in real experiences. Students will also participate in service learning projects that teach and encourage lifelong civic responsibility and engagement.

A signature component of The Community Year are three expeditions that take place during the school year. Expeditions allow us to expand out classroom to wilderness areas around the state and country. They allow for nature to be our direct teacher. They allow us to depend on one another—to be a team—as we travel and learn in an outdoor setting. And, they are just plain FUN!



## EXPEDITIONS



### Maine Wilderness Expedition

Start the semester with a 10-day expedition. Explore Maine's natural history. Learn valuable outdoor skills. Get to know your classmates. This is where the adventure begins.

### Southwest Expedition

Take a winter trip to the Desert Southwest on a month-long expedition. From canyons to deserts to new cultures and issues, we'll learn about new and old ways of life in this colorful part of our country.

### Politics and Participation Expedition

In the spring we'll explore how decisions that govern how we live together are made. This trip will include stops in Augusta, New York City, and Washington, D.C. to learn about politics and participation from local to global levels.