

**Position Title:** *Program Manager, Citizen & Community Science*

**Reports To:** Executive Director

**Date:** January 21, 2022

**FLSA Status** Exempt

BSCS Science Learning has an immediate opening for the position of Program Manager, Citizen & Community Science. We seek a creative, entrepreneurial individual to participate in partner recruitment and support for FieldScope, BSCS's platform for citizen and community science.

### **About BSCS Science Learning**

BSCS Science Learning is an independent, nonprofit organization that develops, studies, and disseminates powerful approaches to science education. Our mission is to transform science teaching and learning through research-driven innovation. Founded in 1958, BSCS has brought the experience of inquiry learning to millions of students and teachers across the U.S. and around the world. Today, BSCS conducts research, develops instructional materials for elementary and secondary education, offers professional learning programs for teachers, and conducts leadership development programs for schools and districts. Underlying all this work is a deep commitment to providing all young people with equitable, inclusive, and just science learning opportunities.

### **Background**

FieldScope is software platform that provides the technology infrastructure for networked field studies. Networked field studies are scientific investigations that involve the collection and analysis of data from geographically distributed locations. FieldScope was designed to serve the needs of citizen and community science projects engaged in networked field studies by offering an easy-to-use platform for uploading, sharing, and analyzing data and observations. Information about FieldScope is available at [fieldscope.org](https://fieldscope.org).

BSCS Science Learning supports FieldScope and its community of users as part of its mission of transforming science teaching and learning. The development and promotion of FieldScope by BSCS is being driven by two synergistic goals: (1) broadening participation in *science* through community and citizen science projects and (2) creating opportunities for *science learning* through authentic investigations with data.

Following the release of a new version of FieldScope with an updated infrastructure and a completely re-designed user interface in 2021, BSCS has launched a major effort to expand FieldScope's reach. BSCS has recently received funding to develop and implement a recruitment strategy for new projects. Currently FieldScope hosts 25 citizen and community science projects generating 57,000 new observations each year. Our goal is to quadruple the number of projects and double the number of observations per year over the next three years by recruiting new projects to the FieldScope platform and helping our hosted projects to grow their participant communities and annual observations.

## **Position Overview**

The Program Manager will be a member of a team that is working to achieve FieldScope's scientific and educational goals. The Program Manager will play a central role in BSCS's efforts to expand the community of FieldScope project partners. They will participate in audience research, strategy development, creation of recruitment materials, and execution of the recruitment strategy. They will also play an active role in supporting individual project partners and facilitating the community of FieldScope project partners.

## **Essential Duties and Responsibilities**

The primary responsibility of the Program Manager will be recruiting individuals and organizations to use FieldScope as a platform for community and citizen science projects and providing them with the support to successfully set up and manage their projects. This will include developing informational resources, organizing peer-support communities, and providing direct support. The Program Manager will also be involved in the process of planning and designing enhancements to the FieldScope platform and in strategic development for the growth of FieldScope's scientific, social, and educational impact. Depending on interest and expertise, the Program Manager could become involved in educational outreach and the development of educational programs.

## **Experience and Expertise**

BSCS is looking for an individual with experience in organizing or coordinating public participation in science or monitoring projects, including projects that characterize themselves as community science, citizen science, volunteered geographic information, or participatory research.

Additional requirements include:

- The Program Manager must have a bachelor's degree in a natural, social, or applied science, or a similar level of expertise gained through experience.
- The Program Manager must be outgoing and have the appropriate mindset and skills for promoting FieldScope and providing support to "clients".
- The Program Manager must have experience using data analysis software or data analysis tools within other software is essential.
- The Program Manager must also have sufficient technical skills and expertise to conduct routine system administration tasks on FieldScope and the FieldScope website.

In addition to these requirements, any of the following would be desirable:

- Experience in marketing, sales, or outreach.
- Experience conducting field research;
- Experience working in a museum, zoo, nature center, or other informal science setting;
- Graduate coursework or degree in a relevant field of natural, social, or applied science;
- Experience with GIS or other geospatial data analysis tools;

- Experience working with historically marginalized groups, including Black, Indigenous, immigrant, disabled, or low-income populations.
- Expertise in project management, staff supervision, or grant proposal-writing.

### **Essential Qualities**

The following are required to function effectively in this position:

- A commitment to the scientific and educational goals of FieldScope;
- A commitment to equity and social justice;
- Strong internal motivation;
- Flexibility and openness.
- Ability to work effectively as a member of diverse teams.
- Strong written and oral communication skills.

### **Additional Information about the Position**

Salary range: The full-time, annual salary range for this position is \$70-90,000, depending on experience and qualifications.

We are open to either local or remote work arrangements for this position. Preference will be given to applicants who live in the Colorado Springs region or are willing to relocate here. This position requires public speaking and travel. (BSCS has temporarily suspended travel requirements for all positions in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.)

### **BSCS's Commitment to Social and Environmental Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion**

BSCS is committed to advancing science learning that is inclusive, meaningful, and advances the work of social and environmental justice. To learn more, visit <https://bscs.org/our-work/equity-social-justice/>

BSCS Science Learning is committed to the recruitment of a diverse staff so that we can bring the broadest possible range of perspectives to our mission of improving science teaching and learning for a diverse audience. We are an equal opportunity employer. All applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, sex, color, religion, national origin, disability (physical and/or mental), sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, veteran status, military obligations, marital status, pregnancy, genetic information, or any status protected by federal, state, or local law.

### **BSCS as a Workplace**

BSCS offers competitive compensation and a generous package of benefits, as well as a flexible and inclusive work environment, with a strong commitment to the professional growth of all staff. Our benefits for full-time staff include 26 days a year of paid time off, medical and dental insurance, and a generous retirement plan.

As a nonprofit research and development organization, BSCS's work is funded through a combination of government and foundation grants, service contracts from school districts and other education-focused institutions, licensing revenue, and charitable donations.

BSCS's offices are in Colorado Springs, ranked #4 in US News & World Report's 2020 Best Places to Live. Located along the Front Range of the Rockies one hour south of Denver, Colorado Springs is known for a mild climate, a vibrant arts community, and year-round outdoor recreation.

For additional information about BSCS and our work, prospective applicants are encouraged to review the BSCS web site ([www.bsccs.org](http://www.bsccs.org)).

**To learn more or apply:**

Questions about the position and applications should be sent to [careers@bsccs.org](mailto:careers@bsccs.org). Please include "Program Manager, Citizen Science" in the subject line.

Applications should include:

1. Resume or curriculum vitae.
2. Personal Statement (maximum 3 pages) that describes (1) your relevant prior experiences in community science, citizen science, or other form of participatory science or monitoring activity (2) your philosophy about outreach and recruitment and how they have been informed by your educational, personal, and/or professional experiences; and (3) your views about equity, inclusion, and social justice in science and how they have been shaped by your educational, personal, and/or professional experiences.
3. List of three professional references.
4. Cover letter. In your cover letter, please indicate:
  - a. why you are interested in this position at BSCS Science Learning;
  - b. whether you prefer to work locally in Colorado Springs or remotely.

We will begin reviewing applications on February 9, 2022 and will continue to accept and review applications until the position is filled.