



Organization: Colorado Avalanche Information Center

Avalanche Forecaster, Ridgway to Rico area - Primary for Northern San Juan Mountains Backcountry Zone
Avalanche Forecaster, Winter Park to Steamboat area- Primary for Front Range and Steamboat Zones

Class: Temporary Seasonal (Training in October and fulltime November 1 through April 30)

Compensation: \$20-22/hour DOE

The Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC) is a program of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources. Our mission is to provide avalanche information, education and promote research for the protection of life, property and the enhancement of the state's economy.

The CAIC has ten offices throughout the state and 19 employees. The group provides daily mountain weather and avalanche forecasts for backcountry regions and transportation corridors, and works in a close partnership with the Colorado Department of Transportation. The CAIC also provides snow and avalanche education to groups ranging from elementary school to university students, and work-place safety training for a variety of industries. Forecasters consult with local, state, and federal government agencies and provide support for search and rescue operations.

These forecaster positions will work both independently and with other CAIC staff to provide backcountry avalanche information and safety training for public recreation. The work locations for these positions are in the Rico to Ridgway and the Winter Park to Steamboat areas, but the exact locations are open to discussion.

Essential Job Functions

- Collect field data on snow, weather and avalanche conditions
- Work with forecasters in other offices to analyze snow, weather and avalanche observations and determine current and future trends in avalanche danger
- Write accessible and technically accurate public safety products on backcountry avalanche conditions
- Teach avalanche safety courses
- Support other avalanche safety operations including mechanized ski operations, backcountry guiding operations, and search and rescue

Job Skills

Essential

- Operational avalanche forecasting experience
- Strong written and spoken communication skills
- Excellent fitness and winter backcountry travel skills (motorized and non-motorized)
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office, Google Apps, and web-based software packages

Desired

- Experience with computer network systems
- Experience with data base and data management systems
- Experience with web applications



- Experience with Geographical Information Systems

Qualifications (minimum)

- 2 years of operational avalanche forecasting experience
- Professional avalanche training such as: National Avalanche School, Level III, AVPRO, AAA Pro2, CAA Level II, or equivalent training course
- Current Wilderness First Responder and CPR certification

Qualifications (desired)

- Undergraduate or graduate degree in an earth or physical science, or engineering
- Search and rescue experience
- Ski industry or backcountry guiding experience
- AAA Certified Instructor or AIARE Qualified Instructor

Interested applicants can send a resume and cover letter to:

Colorado Avalanche Information Center
1313 Sherman St. Rm 423
Denver, CO 80203
or email application materials to: liz.gideon@state.co.us

To apply, send a resume, three professional references, and cover letter to:

Colorado Avalanche Information Center
1313 Sherman St. Rm 423
Denver, CO 80203

Letters of reference are not required, but can be sent to the same address.

Applications will be accepted through July 31, 2019. We will conduct interviews the week of August 12 at the CAIC Leadville Office.

Notes:

- There is no state residency requirement to apply for this position.
- This position will require backcountry winter travel in all types of terrain. The employee will supply appropriate clothing and travel equipment.
- This position will require winter driving. When state vehicles are not available, the employee will supply an appropriate vehicle for winter travel. Employees are eligible for state travel reimbursement.
- Work load is 40 hours/week, but will include weekends and holidays, early morning and evening hours.
- Compensation is an hourly wage and does not include any benefit package. The employee is eligible for pre-approved over-time pay.

