

Information on Teaching Positions in the Manzanar Japanese Relocation Area

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INFORMATION ON TEACHING POSITIONS IN THE MANZANAR JAPANESE RELOCATION AREA

Where is Manzanar?

Manzanar is situated in the Owens Valley, Inyo County, in east-central California and can be reached by bus from Reno, Nevada or by train and bus through the Mojave Desert. Lone Pine is ten miles south of the camp; Independence is located eight miles northward.

What about Manzanar?

Manzanar is a permanent location center which now has its population quota of 10,000 Japanese inhabitants. This one community has suddenly doubled the population of Inyo County.

The Army has control of outside patrolling and gates into Manzanar. An Army pass is necessary for camp entrance and egress.

The War Relocation Authority with headquarters at the Whitcomb Hotel in San Francisco has direct control over all relocation projects in California, Arizona, Utah, and Montana.

Are teaching positions under Civil Service?

All teachers are selected subject to the approval of Civil Service. They must meet the California state requirements as to certification. Government positions are offered on a yearly basis with provisions for 26 working-days annual leave per year. Fifteen days of sick leave per year allowed. Vacation leave is granted to suit interests of service.

All government work is now on a wartime basis of 44 working-hours per week. Almost any good teacher spends that amount of time in teaching, lesson preparation, professional reading, or conferences. There will be provisions for Education leave on special purposes. Federal employees are paid bi-monthly with a 5 per cent retirement deduction which may be reclaimed.

What is the length of the school term?

Manzanar schools will attempt to follow the school calendar of Inyo County as to the nine-months school term, opening date, and school holidays.

Where do we live?

Teachers' housing accommodation will be provided, but cannot be definitely promised by the opening of school on September 15.

Single dormitory rooms will cost \$12.50 per month, and family apartments will be \$17.50. A personal dining hall will be operated on a pro rated basis at a cost of about 25 cents per meal. If labor shortage or unexpected delays interrupt the housing constructing, it may be necessary for teachers to live in barracks until living quarters are completed.

What kind of teachers are wanted?

The salaries offered meet only the California average and will not, per se, attract the type of teacher we hope to have in Manzanar. We do expect, however, to locate a group of teachers who have the social interest necessary for a pioneer educational program.

A community school philosophy, a liberal program allowing for the teachers' initiative, and the unique camp life situation brought about by war conditions, offers a real challenge.

We need more than traditional subject teachers. Manzanar teachers must be resourceful in teaching skills, as well as being flexible in their ability to adjust to improvised and sometimes inconvenient teaching situations.

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