

Director of Education, Kopernik Observatory & Science Center

[Kopernik Observatory and Science Center](https://www.kopernik.org/visitor-info/about-kopernik/) (KOSC) is seeking a Director of Education who is an enthusiastic, visionary leader, passionate about STEM education. The Director of Education will lead the development of innovative, forward thinking educational experiences for school-aged students. The Director of Education will work with the Executive Director, Board of Directors, the Manager of Technology, and KOSC's team of educators to fulfill its vision and mission: (<https://www.kopernik.org/visitor-info/about-kopernik/>) in new and powerful ways.

The Part-Time position of Director of Education will possess the following qualifications:

- Educator with five years minimum experience in the field of K-12 education or museum education or related fields of informal science/technology/engineering education.
- Working knowledge of the New York State K-12 science standards (NYSSLS/NGSS).
- Demonstrated experience developing innovative science curriculum and/or extra-curricular science programs for school-aged students.
- Experience leading and evaluating formal and/or informal educational programs for school-aged students, particularly in the areas of science, technology, mathematics, and engineering.
- Working knowledge of web-based software (e.g., Google Suite), and a willingness to learn new systems.
- Excellent communication skills (written and verbal)
- Self-motivated, creative, resourceful, and outgoing
- Active membership in professional science teacher associations and/or networks
- School and/or museum administration experience is preferred but not required.

Under the supervision of the Executive Director, the Director of Education will maintain the following responsibilities:

- Recruit, train, and supervise a team of part-time KOSC educators
- Manage and supervise K-12 school programs:
 - Create, revise, update annual school program catalog and disseminate to school districts.
 - Serve as a liaison to local schools and the broader educational community in promoting and advancing Kopernik school programs.
 - Work with area educators and regional BOCES to develop, coordinate and provide on-site field trip experiences and district-based school programs for K-12 students.
 - Serve as the principal educator/teacher for all school programs.
 - Coordinate the scheduling, billing, and staffing of school programs.
- Coordinate non-residential Summer Camp program:
 - Establish the annual summer course programs.
 - Create a program schedule and catalog.
 - Work with the Executive Director and Manager of Technology on outreach to advertise and promote camp offerings and registration.
 - Secure summer teaching staff.

- Coordinate summer curriculum planning and camp set-up.
- Have summer availability to supervise camp sessions.
- Develop and support informal educational experiences for pre-K-12 students:
 - KoperniKids preschool program.
 - Weekend science and technology camps.
- Secure speakers for Friday Night programs (March – mid-December) in collaboration with the Executive Director
- Support the Executive Director in the process of researching and applying for grant funds and donations.
- Maintain strong professional relationships with community institutions, educators, and agencies to develop new opportunities, ensure program relevance, and forge partnerships.
- Attend and support Kopernik special events as needed - including evening and weekend events.
- Oversee and coordinate the acquisition, storage, and distribution of education materials and resources.

The Director of Education is a part-time position requiring a commitment of between 20 and 30 hours a week:

- Location: Flexible, based on workshop schedules and programming. Locations will include Kopernik, remote, and within schools.
- Hours: Flexible scheduling during the workday (8am-4pm) based on programming needs with occasional Friday nights and/or Saturday programs.
- Salary: \$32/hour for between 20-30 hours/week (flexible) -
- Starting Date: December 1, 2026
- Application deadline: November 6, 2026

Interested candidates can apply by submitting a cover letter along with a detailed resume via email with the subject heading, "Director of Education Application" to:

Andrew Deskur, Executive Director
ddeskur@kopernik.org

Please direct questions relating to this position to Andrew Deskur via email.