Maine Primitive Skills School

Application for Wilderness Immersion Apprenticeship 2023/2024

Full Name:\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_             Date:\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name you go by:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ [    ] Male          [    ] Female

Age:\_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone:    \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_        Your Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Send all information to:

Name:

Street:

City/State:    Zip:

Mobile Phone #:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Business/Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone #:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Specific Apprenticeship Program Applying for: Residential Session(s), Non-Residential, etc.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**MPSS Apprentice Selection**

Being an apprentice has been likened to being trained as a crew member on a world class sailing team.  What strengths do you bring and what is the level of commitment you have toward developing skills and working with the Maine Primitive Skills School “crew”?  Provide examples if possible.

Experiential learning toward being a mentor and community builder is a centerpiece of what we do.  Describe your comfort level with the idea of you teaching as a part of your own learning curve

**MPSS Apprenticeship Areas of Study Survey**

What attracted you to the MPSS apprenticeship program?

Which areas of interest do you feel will be really engaging?

Which areas of interest do you feel will be your most challenging?

Which topics the school offers are you the least interested in?

(e.g., Flintknapping, basket weaving, blacksmithing)

**Maine Primitive Skills School Apprenticeship Areas of Focus Inventory**

Please answer the following questions (feel free to write on the back of each page). 1-3 paragraphs is an appropriate length for each response.

1. What are your strengths as a student? In what areas will you need the most support?

1. How would you contribute to making a small and close-knit community successful? Please give examples of how you have done this in the past.

1. How would your friends describe you?

1. Please list wilderness skills, outdoor experiences, and nature study activities/programs in which you have been involved in recent years. Which have been your favorite and why? Please be specific and include the names of schools, camps and summer programs. (A bulleted list is fine for this question.)
2. What pressing questions do you have about the program?

1. What pressing questions do you have about the staff?

1. What would your ideal program look like?

    MAINE PRIMITIVE SKILLS SCHOOL APPRENTICESHIP CONTRACT

**Please read carefully . It is important for students to understand and agree to these ways of being. (For students ages 18 and older)**

\_\_ I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, am choosing wholeheartedly to participate in the Maine Primitive Skills School  program because I am excited to learn new skills, meet new people, spend time in the great outdoors and have lots of fun.

\_\_ I am willing to live in a simple way without the comforts of home such as showers or flush toilets.

\_\_ I understand that I will be living with a group of people and it is important to consider the group’s needs before my own.

\_\_I understand that how I behave effects everyone in the group. I will strive towards always being helpful, positive and friendly in my actions toward others.

\_\_ I know that expectations are high and attainable. I am expected to treat others and myself with respect.

\_\_ I am responsible, to a certain degree, for my own safety. I will use common sense and always think before acting.

\_\_I will take great care of myself, the landscape, and my community.

\_\_ I will share the load in daily chores and responsibilities, such as cooking, clean up, gathering firewood, keeping my area(s) organized, and participating in service project(s).

\_\_I realize that I am entering the home of the plants and animals and I will carry myself with great care and respect.

\_\_ I understand that I will need to work hard, push my physical and emotional limits and deal with success and failure. I will be learning difficult skills that require practice and patience.

\_\_Sometimes it will be hot, sometimes it will rain and sometimes I will be bothered by mosquitoes or other people. The only thing I have control over in these situations is my attitude and how I choose to react.

\_\_ I understand that I will be joining a group of exceptional people of all ages and I will come back a stronger person.

\_\_I know that I will be welcomed as a member of the Maine Primitive Skills School community and there will be great support for me when I need it.

\_\_ I understand that I must attend the orientation week/ inventory trip.

\_\_ I accept the challenge to teach and present as part of my own skill development and as a means to sharpen and process my mentoring and community building skills.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Student’s Signature                            Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**MEDIA RELEASE FORM**

Approval by self/ parent/guardian

The below listed parent/guardian hereby grants express permission to any agent of the Maine Primitive Skills School to take, manufacture, print, display and transmit by any means all photographic and video images created while at the Maine Primitive Skills School.  All still images and video become the property of Maine Primitive Skills School.

**Waiver of Claims:** In consideration of the benefits to be derived from participation in this Maine Primitive Skills School activity, any and all claims against Maine Primitive Skills School, the staff/members, and the participating organization, or against the officers, employees, agents, or other representatives of any of them, or any other persons working under their direction or engaged in the conduct of their affairs, arising out of any accident, illness, injury, damage, or other loss or harm to/or incurred or suffered by the applicant named below or to his or her property, in connection with or incidental to the Maine Primitive Skills School media documentation through photography and videography, are hereby expressly waived by the applicant and the applicant’s family or guardians.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Students Name

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Street address                Town

**PARENTS/GUARDIANS.** Please read all of the above statements before giving your approval.  I hereby approve and agree to all of the terms, conditions and waiver of claims:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Adult Signature of Parent/Guardian Signature                         date

**ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES.**

*\*\*\*\*\*PLEASE READ BOTH SECTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING\*\*\*\*\**

**Program(s) Attending:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_    Date(s):\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Dear Maine Primitive Skills School Parent(s), Guardian(s) or participant age 18(+),**

During the programs with Maine Primitive Skills School your child (or you if you are 18 or older) will be living outside, walking barefoot, working with sharp tools and fire, climbing tall rocks and trees, jumping into streams, swimming in swamps, marshes, lakes, and rivers, carrying heavy loads over uneven ground, living in the elements and with the possibility of getting cold, wet, hot, sun burned, poison ivy. We may also be driving in vehicles on roads, by far the most dangerous of all of our activities. While we can often predict the coming storm, we cannot always predict other drivers around us.

There are objective risks of getting hurt in all of what we do. It is our job as teachers and guides to be well prepared to do all we can to protect and take care of all our participants. We are people too, and we may make mistakes. Besides human mistakes there are natural events such as floods, storms, etc, and some times those events are more powerful than we are.

By signing this agreement, you acknowledge that in exchange for the privilege of your child’s (or you if you are 18 or older) participation in Maine Primitive Skills School programs, you accept all of the known and unknown risks involved. If you are 18 or older you also acknowledge that as an individual you are responsible for your own safety and you agree to use common sense and exercise thought before actions. If your child is 13 or older you are confirming here that you have gone over carefully with your child the student contract and you believe that your child has a good understanding of what is expected of him/her in regards to their own responsibility in taking good care of her/him self as well as the equipment used at Maine Primitive Skills School. Your child (or you if you are 18 or older) will be asked to repair or replace any items that get lost or damaged under their/your care.

Participant Name (please print)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Adult Participant or Parent of Participant **(ONLY IF 18 OR OLDER):**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**PARTICIPANT RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT**

***READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING – Only for parent or participant’s (if age 18 or older)***

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in the program, related events and activities, I, the undersigned, acknowledge, appreciate and agree that:

1.    The risk of injury from the activities involved in this program is significant, including the potential for permanent paralysis and death.

 2.    I knowingly and freely assume all such risks, both known and unknown, even if arising from the negligence of the releases or others, and assume full responsibility for my participation.

3.    I willingly agree to comply with terms and conditions for participation. If I observe any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the attention of the nearest official

    immediately.

4.    I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, hereby release, indemnify and hold harmless Maine Primitive Skills School, its officers, officials, agents and/or employees, other participants, sponsors, advertisers, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the event (releases), from any and all claims, demands, losses, and liability arising out of or related to any injury, disability or death I may suffer, or loss or damage to person or property, whether arising from the negligence of the releases or otherwise, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.

*Participant’s Signature*

***(ONLY IF AGE 18 OR OLDER)***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_    *Date* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF PARTICIPANT OF MINOR AGE:*(PARTICIPANT IS UNDER AGE 18 AT TIME OF REGISTRATION)*** This is to certify that I, as parent/guardian with legal responsibility for this participant, do consent and agree to his/her release as provided above of all the Releases, and, for myself, my heirs, assigns, and next of kin, I release and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releases from any and all liability incidents to my minor child’s involvement or participation in these programs as provided above, even if arising from the negligence of the releases, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

*Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_    Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**Academic Probation and Dismissal Criteria**

**DEFICIENCY IN PARTICIPATION AND PROGRESS**

Students are expected to remain engaged in the process and make normal progress throughout the program of the residential apprenticeship. This is defined as participating in course material, producing regular journal entries, producing tangible projects related to the curriculum strands, and achieving benchmarks within those strands with a success rate of 80%, which is the equivalent of satisfying the “Sustainable” level of competency within each strand. Students not making normal progress will have the opportunity to make up deficient benchmarks in remedial work and during the Apprenticeship Trips. In addition, students are expected to meet the Maine Primitive Skills Schools standards of participation as reflected by direct involvement and journal entries. The staff and apprentices will meet once each week to review journals and benchmarks comprising the academic records of students in the program.

Students are placed on probation according to the criteria below; students on probation or suspension are not considered to be participating and/or progressing to their abilities. In cases of repeated poor performance, a student may be dismissed from the Apprenticeship. In cases when a student’s participation and progress changes, a decision to either remove the student from Academic Probation or remove them from the Apprenticeship Program will follow.

**Academic Probation**  
Students are placed on academic probation for two weeks if they:

1. Fail to improve in participation and/or progress; or
2. Fail to meet a “Sustainable” (80%) level of competency in two or more benchmark strands.
3. Fall more than two weeks behind on journal entries.

Note:

Students on academic probation will be assigned to work closely with an instructor to address challenge areas for the two weeks of academic probation. Students on academic probation who do not improve in participation and/or progress within those two weeks will be asked to leave the program without refund of tuition.

**Academic Dismissal**  
Students are placed on academic dismissal if they:

1. Fail to Participate and/or show Progress in the Program after two weeks of support and guidance during Academic Probation.
2. Fail to engage in the process of skills development and evaluation to include course attendance, productive involvement in skill sessions, and/or attendance in weekly check-in with journals.
3. Fail to exceed beyond the “Novice” level of 60% in more than five benchmark strands at the completion of any Phase during their Apprenticeship.

A student on Dismissal for academic deficiency normally is suspended for one year and may be asked to complete another Inventory Trip before being readmitted. Students are

expected to earn a Bench Mark Performance rating of 80% or better in these courses. Other conditions for readmission are set by the Instructor Core and stated in writing at the time of suspension. A suspended student must submit a letter requesting readmission. While suspended, students are not permitted to visit campus without the written permission of the Adult Programs Director. Generally, permission to visit campus is only granted for educational or status determination purposes. Students are permitted to submit an application for Individual course study or Off-Campus Study (normal deadlines apply); however they are not eligible to apply for residential programs or International Programs through Maine Primitive Skills School.

I verify that I have read and understand the conditions for being placed on Academic Probation as well as the criteria for Academic Dismissal.

Refunds

Full Wilderness Immersion Program (spring, summer, fall, and Winter sessions) Refund Policy

* **Withdrawal before Day 10** entitles the attendee a refund of tuition paid minus the cost of courses attended, but may not be less than 20% of tuition cost (20% is non-refundable)
* **Withdrawal from the program after Day 10** entitles attendee to no refund, and responsible for payment of any remaining tuition balance.

Spring Semester Only Refund Policy

* **Withdrawal before Day 5** entitles the attendee a refund of tuition paid minus the cost of courses attended, but may not be less than 20% of tuition cost (20% is non-refundable).
* **Withdrawal after Day 5** entitles the attendee to no refund and responsible for any unpaid tuition balances.

Fall Semester Only Refund Policy

* **Withdrawal before Day 5** entitles the attendee a refund of tuition paid minus the cost of courses attended, but may not be less than 20% of the tuition cost (20% is non-refundable)
* **Withdrawal after Day 5** entitles the attendee to no refund and responsible for any unpaid tuition balances.

Pro Rata Refund for GI Bill Recipients

* The School will refund the unused portion of prepaid tuition and fees on a pro rata basis.  Any amount in excess of $10.00 for an enrollment of registration fee will also be prorated.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_            \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name                            Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature