WORK & TRAVEL USA

Enchanted Parks, Valleyfair - Ride Operator

HOST INFORMATION

Company Description:

Valleyfair - Shakopee, Minnesota

- Upper Midwest's largest amusement park, 30 minutes from Minneapolis and Saint Paul.
- Features 75+ rides and attractions, including Superior Shores Waterpark, Planet Snoopy, live entertainment, and thrilling roller coasters.
- Fast-paced, team-oriented workplace focused on guest service, communication, teamwork, and professional skill development.
- Summer climate is warm and welcoming, with temperatures typically ranging from 70°F to 90°F (21°C to 32°C).
- Long-standing host of Summer Work & Travel

Associate Benefits

- Competitive wages
- Free admission to the parks all season
- Discounted associate meals
- Complimentary uniforms
- Affordable on-site housing at $8.90 per night
- Build friendships with associates from more than 15 countries
- Associate-only ride nights, Waterpark and game nights plus several other pop-up events

Cultural Exchange Opportunities

- MAY- Welcome Week Celebration
- JULY - Worldwide Wednesday Daily Food Specials
- JULY - Summer Grill-out
- JULY - Soccer/Football tournament
- AUGUST - Exchange Day Block Party

Explore Minnesota

- Easy access to public transportation and ride-sharing services
- Visit the world-famous Mall of America, professional sporting events, concerts, museums, restaurants, and shopping districts
- Experience American culture through local festivals, community events, and attractions throughout the Twin Cities metropolitan area

Host Website: https://valleyfair.enchantedparks.com/

Site of Activity: Enchanted Parks, Valleyfair

Parent Account Name: Enchanted Parks

Host Address: 1 Valleyfair Drive Shakopee , Minnesota , 55379

Nearest Major City: Minneapolis , Minnesota , Less than 25 miles away

PLACEMENT INFORMATION

Job Description:

Ride Operators are responsible for safely operating rides and attractions while providing guests with a positive and enjoyable experience. Safety is the primary responsibility of this position, and associates receive training on ride operation procedures, safety requirements, and emergency response protocols.

Essential duties include operating amusement rides and attractions; monitoring ride systems and safety controls; checking lap bars, seat belts, and other restraint devices; assisting guests with boarding and exiting rides; providing instructions and answering guest questions; maintaining cleanliness of assigned areas; and ensuring all operating procedures and safety standards are followed at all times.

Ride Operators work closely with team members and supervisors to create a safe, welcoming, and efficient environment for guests. This position requires strong communication skills, attention to detail, sound judgment, and the ability to remain alert and focused throughout the workday.

Work is performed primarily outdoors and requires standing, walking, reaching, and working in varying weather conditions for extended periods. Associates must be able to follow safety procedures, interact professionally with guests, and respond appropriately to operational needs and emergencies.

Typical Schedule:

Schedules vary based on business needs. Associates should expect morning, afternoon, evening, weekend, and holiday shifts, averaging 35-50 hours per week during peak season.

Seasonal changes to job duties or available hours: Yes

After Labor Day (September 6, 2027), the park operates weekends only. Hours are typically reduced to 20 or fewer per week, with some cleaning and end-of-season duties available.

Drug Test required: Yes

COMPENSATION

Hourly Wage: $17

Eligible for Tips: No

Estimated weekly wages including tips: $680

Bonus: No

* All figures above are pre-tax

Estimated average number of hours per week: 40

Estimated minimum number of hours per week: 35

Estimated maximum number of hours per week: 48

Potential fluctuation in hours per week:

Weekly hours may vary based on park attendance, operating schedules, special events, staffing needs, and weather. More hours may be available during peak periods, with fewer hours during slower weeks.

Average number of hours per week reached by last year's seasonal employees: 48

Overtime Policy:

No, exempt from paying overtime by law

JOB REQUIREMENTS

English Level required:

★★★★★☆ Upper-Intermediate

Required to be 21+: No

Previous Experience required: No

Qualifications & Conditions

Lifting

Lifting requirement: 25lbs/11kgs

Description:

Lap restraints or ride vehicles could require pushing or pulling up to 25lbs
Standing for entire shift

Handling cleaning chemicals

Working outdoors

Working under direct sunlight

Job Training required: Yes

Length of job training:

16 hours

Hours per week during training period: 16

Different wage during training period: No

Start on specific day of the week: No

Training requirements:

All Ride Operators are required to complete company orientation, department orientation, ride operation training, and location-specific training before working independently. Training includes ride safety procedures, operating requirements, guest service expectations, emergency response procedures, communication standards, and safe operation of assigned attractions. Associates will complete the International Ride Operator Certification (IROC) program and receive hands-on training at their assigned ride or attraction. Ride Operators must demonstrate an understanding of all operating procedures, safety policies, and emergency protocols and

successfully complete any required assessments before being considered fully trained. Ongoing training and safety reviews may be required throughout the season.

Need to wear uniform: Yes

Uniform Policy:

Associates will be provided with the required uniform components for their assigned position at no charge. Associates are responsible for keeping their uniforms clean, presentable, and in good condition throughout their employment. Company-issued name tags and ID badges must be worn and visible at all times while on duty.

Cost of uniform: $0

Uniform laundry: Participant responsibility

Dress Code: Yes

Description:

Associates are expected to report to work in their assigned uniform each scheduled workday and comply with all grooming and appearance standards. Uniforms must be clean, neat, and in good condition. Clothing, accessories, or visible items that are not part of the approved uniform are not permitted unless authorized. Company-issued name tags and ID badges must be worn and visible at all times while on duty.

CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES

Types of Cultural Opportunities:

Company Parties, Karaoke Nights or Talent Shows, Movie or Game Nights, Trips to Nearby/Major Attractions, Will provide information about Events, Local Resources, Attractions/Sites, Local Community, Holiday Events, Potlucks or Dinners

Additional Details about Cultural Offerings:

Learn about Shakopee, MN!

Mall of America

Minnesota and Como Zoo,

Canterbury Park (Horse Racing),

Downtown Minneapolis approximately 35 minutes from Valleyfair

Minnesota Twins (Baseball)

Local Cultural Offering:

The Twin Cities and Shakopee offer numerous festivals, concerts, farmers markets, and community celebrations throughout the summer, including the Minnesota State Fair, the second largest state fair in the U.S. These events provide opportunities to experience American culture and local traditions.

HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION

Housing Provided: Yes. Employer Guarantees employer - owned or employer - arranged housing to all hired participants. May find own (can choose alternative).

Employer-owned or employer-arranged housing description:

All international participants who accept employment with Valleyfair are guaranteed housing. Rooms are assigned by Valleyfair and roommate requests cannot be guaranteed. Housing accommodations typically consist of up to four associates per room with bunk beds. Participants should be prepared to use either a top or bottom bunk based on room assignments. Amenities include air conditioning, Wi-Fi, a refrigerator in each room, laundry facilities, shared restroom facilities, common lounges, a community kitchen, televisions, games and limited workout equipment, outdoor spaces, and 24-hour housing staff support. Bedding, linens, pillows, cookware, utensils, and personal items are not provided and must be purchased by residents. Housing costs are communicated before arrival and are automatically deducted from payroll. Residents are expected to follow all housing policies and community standards as a condition of residency.

Lease Agreement: Yes

Onsite Amenities:

WiFi: Yes

Description:

Free on-site Wi-Fi is available. Common rooms are equipped with smart Tv's to allow log in to personal streaming accounts. Each building has basic workout equipment and games for resident use as well.

Phone Service: Yes

Description:

A telephone is available at the main desk in each housing building. Participants who need mobile service can purchase a SIM card from local retailers upon arrival.

Kitchen facilities: Yes

Description:

Kitchen facilities are available on the first floor of each building only and include stoves, microwaves, and sink. Additional seating is available on the upper floors.

Laundry facilities: Yes

Description:

Each housing building has an on-site laundry facility with washers and dryers available for resident use. Instructions for using the equipment will be provided.

Occupancy Requirements for Provided Housing:

Minimum Occupancy Per Room: 2

Maximum Occupancy Per Room: 4

Suggested Occupancy Per Room: 2 - 4

Rooming Arrangement Description:
Valleyfair assigns up to four residents of the same gender identity per room. Room assignments and roommate information will be included with the housing agreement distributed before arrival. Rooms are not co-ed. Residents must follow all housing policies, including established visiting and quiet hours.

Provided Housing Cost:

Required to Pay for Provided Housing: Yes
Cost per Week: $62.3

Housing Cost Deducted from Paychecks: Yes

Utilities Costs: No

Housing Deposit: No

Transportation to Worksite:

Walking Commute Time
Estimated commute time: 15 to 30 minutes

Description: Associate Housing is approximately 1 mile from the worksite and located entirely on Valleyfair property. Associates can walk to work using designated pathways through the guest parking lot and backstage trail. The walk typically takes 20 minutes.

Biking
Estimated commute time: Under 15 minutes

Bicycles are provided free of charge: No
Bicycles are not provided: Yes
Bicycles are available to rent: No

Estimated cost: $

Description: Associate Housing is approximately 1 mile from the worksite and located entirely on Valleyfair property. Associates may bicycle using designated routes through the guest parking lot and backstage trail. Traffic is generally light, and no public roads are required. The ride typically takes 5 minutes.

Local Bus, Subway or Train
Estimated commute time: 15 to 30 minutes

Estimated cost: $4
Total: Yes Per Day: No

Description: Bus stops are within walking distance of housing. MVTA provides service to Shakopee, Mall of America, and MSP Airport. Fares are typically $2-$4 per trip, with pass options available. Schedules and routes: www.mvta.com.

ARRIVAL INFORMATION

Arrival Instructions:

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We recommend flying into Minneapolis-Saint Paul International Airport (MSP), located approximately 25 miles (40 km) from Valleyfair and Associate Housing.

Associate Housing Check-In Address:
5605 East Highway 101, Shakopee, MN 55379 (**Do not use the main park address.**)
This building has a lime green stripe.

- Participants should plan to arrive between 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m.
- If your flight arrives after 10:00 p.m., please arrange overnight accommodations and check in the following morning.
- The travel time from the leaving the airport to arrival at housing is approximately 35-minutes.

Transportation

Valleyfair does not coordinate or provide transportation from the airport to housing. Participants are responsible for arranging their own transportation upon arrival.

Options

- Transportation options from MSP Airport include Uber, Lyft, and public transportation.
- Uber and Lyft are typically the fastest and most convenient options, with travel times of approximately 25 to 30 minutes depending on traffic.
- For a lower-cost option, the Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA) operates Route 495, which provides service between MSP Airport and Shakopee, including a stop at Valleyfair. Fares are typically $2 to $4, and trip planning information is available at www.mvta.com/trip-planner.

Suggested Arrival Airport:

Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport, MSP, Less than 25 miles

Estimated cost of transportation to worksite from suggested airports: $25 to $50

If arriving after regular hours:

Suggested After-Hours Accommodation:

Crowne Plaza Suites MSP Airport - Mall of America
3 Appletree Square
Bloomington , Minnesota 55425
https://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/bloomington/mspia/hoteldetail
(952) 854-9000
$150 to $200

Hampton Inn & Suites Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport/Mall of America
2860 Metro Drive

Bloomington , Minnesota 55425
https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/mspamhx-hampton-suites-minneapolis-st-paul-arpt-mall-of-america/
(952) 854-7600
$150 to $200

Hampton Inn Minneapolis/Shakopee
4175 Dean Lakes Boulevard
Shakopee , Minnesota 55379
https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/mspskhx-hampton-minneapolis-shakopee/
(952) 641-3600
$150 to $200

TRAINING AND ONBOARDING

Pre-Arrival Onboarding: Yes

Housing Application:
All international participants who are offered and accept a position with Valleyfair are guaranteed housing in Valleyfair Associate Housing.

Housing accommodations are automatically reserved once your employment offer has been accepted. Housing lease agreements and related housing documentation will be provided by Thrive Property Group LLC prior to arrival. Participants will be required to complete the housing lease process and acknowledge all housing policies and procedures before moving into Associate Housing.

The timing of housing communications may vary. If friends or other participants receive housing information before you, there is no need for concern. As long as you have accepted your employment offer with Valleyfair, housing has been reserved for you.

Housing documents, lease agreements, and move-in instructions may be distributed at different times throughout the recruitment and onboarding process. Additional information regarding housing, fees, move-in procedures, and community expectations will be provided before your arrival.

Onboarding: All onboarding will be completed on your first day of work. If you receive any emails requesting documents or paperwork to be completed, please ignore.

Social Security Number:

Require participants to apply for SSN before arrival at worksite: No

Details about how to apply for Social Security Number:

Valleyfair will schedule a group appointment for participants to visit the Social Security Administration (SSA) office and apply for a Social Security Number (SSN). Transportation will be provided to and from the appointment. We make every effort to schedule these appointments as soon as possible after your arrival. It is important that you attend your assigned appointment. If you miss your scheduled appointment, rescheduling may be difficult, as appointment times are coordinated for multiple participants. Participants are strongly encouraged to complete the online SSN application prior to their appointment to help reduce processing time: Select "Apply Now" at this website: https://secure.ssa.gov/ossnap/public/landingOSsnap Please note that you may experience delays accessing your wages until you have completed the Social Security application. Additional information regarding appointment dates, required documents, and transportation will be provided when you arrive at housing.

Nearest SSA Office: Minneapolis , Minnesota , Less than 25 miles

Other:

Wage Payment Schedule:

Associates are paid bi-weekly (every two weeks). Valleyfair offers direct deposit for payroll and strongly encourages associates to establish a bank account upon arrival. Local banking institutions may be available on-site during the season.

Meal Plan: Not available

Provide Certificates/Performance Evaluations: Yes

Hire in Groups: Yes

Maximum Group Size:

Grooming Requirements:

The personal appearance of our associates is an important part of Valleyfair's family-friendly atmosphere. Associates are expected to be professional, well-groomed, and welcoming. Tattoos are permitted if they do not contain offensive or inappropriate images or language. Facial piercings are not permitted while working. Hair must be a natural-looking color; bright, neon, or extreme fashion colors are not allowed.

Second Job Availability: Yes, likely

Applicable Company Policies:

Valleyfair has several policies that associates must follow. A complete list will be provided during orientation. Valleyfair associates are expected to maintain a productive work environment, which is free from harassing or disruptive activity. No form of harassment will be tolerated, sexual or non-sexual. Here are a few common policies:

- **Please do your part to look your best at all times!** Whether going to work or after you have completed your shift, TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR APPEARANCE! This includes having your pants pulled up, uniform shirts buttoned, and shirts tucked-in as appropriate. A coordinating belt is to be worn with the uniform. If you do not meet Valleyfair's appearance standards, a member of management will instruct you to leave and return only when you are in compliance with policy.
- **You are required to clock in and clock out every day you work, including clocking in and out for meal breaks**. Consistent failure to do so may result in disciplinary action. Remaining clocked in for an extensive period of time when: your shift ends, your shift is cut, or you are being sent home due to weather or other business reasons constitutes as time left and will result in termination.
- **Cell phones** are not allowed to be used while working. In a safety sensitive position (Aquatics and Rides) this can result in loss of work position.
- **Housing rules** are put into practice for your safety and residents are expected to follow them at all times. Failure to due so will impact employment.
- **Valleyfair is a cash free park** and regular undercover audits are completed to detect dishonest behavior. Do not be persuaded to accept cash no matter how innocent or convincing the guest sounds. **DO NOT EVER ACCEPT CASH - EVER**. If caught by regular undercover auditors, you will be immediately terminated.
- **There are a variety of things that can lead to final warnings, up to and including, but not limited to immediate termination:**
    - Handling cash or accepting cash in the park at any location provided by a customer. If you are presented with cash, you must immediately refuse and direct the guest to a cash to card kiosk in the park. **Never ever accept cash for payment!** Undercover auditors who act as park guests routinely audit locations.
    - Misuse of working hours and remaining clocked-in after the end of a shift or remaining clocked-in while not working. This constitutes as time theft. Don't risk shortening your program or being sent home for a simple mistake!

- Cohabitation during non-visiting hours or during visiting hours if disruptive and reported to housing staff by a roommate.
- **Possession or consumption of alcohol if under 21 years of age! If you are under the age of 21 it is ILLEGAL to consume alcohol.**
- Reporting to work under the influence of alcohol or consuming alcohol while on duty.
- Taking or holding possession of unpaid product (Food, Merchandise, other residents property which is not your own, etc.)
- Using a cell phone while working, especially while in a safety sensitive position (Aquatics and Rides)
- Verbal, physical or visual harassment or abuse such as degrading comments, unwelcome propositions, and offensive jokes, materials and tricks.
- Fighting, harassing, intimidating, threatening, or assaulting a guest, associate, manager/supervisor or vendor, or any action in violation of the Company's Workplace Security policy.

COMMUNITY AMENITIES

In Town, Requires Transportation:

Food Market, Shopping Mall, Post Office, Bank, Restaurants, Fitness Center, Internet Cafe, Public Library