



Summer Program Associate (Full-Time) for CU Commons

Location: Upstate, NY (with a special focus on the Mohawk Valley)

[Civics Unplugged](#) is seeking a full-time Summer Program Associate (with the potential to extend work into the Fall and beyond) to help develop and implement new community-building events and projects across Upstate NY (with a special focus on the Mohawk Valley) during the Summer of 2026.

Civics Unplugged (CU) is a nonprofit organization giving Americans the spaces and resources they need to connect deeply with their neighbors and create local change through civic innovation. With CU, participants get to unplug from the traditional view of civics and become a civic innovator – someone who sees any problem affecting their community as a civic issue and uses new tools and approaches to break out of old patterns to build a better future.

CU is launching a project called CU Commons, where we aim to build and connect our community in new ways by cultivating spaces for social connection and intergenerational learning about some of the most pressing issues facing our communities today, including AI, tech safety, and digital literacy and well-being. CU Commons will include community events like social convenings, learning events, and clubs.

The Summer Program Associate role for CU Commons is integral to developing the strategy and implementation of these events in the Mohawk Valley.

The Summer Program Associate will:

- Work directly with high school-aged interns, community partners, and the Upstate NY State Director to co-create and execute in-person programming
- Facilitate in-person programming such as special events, club meet-ups, and community gatherings
- Collaborate directly with the State Director to find and manage a physical community space where events can be held
 - Help coordinate and set-up the events, manage and stock materials, serve as a friendly and helpful face/representative of CU to the public
- Manage data collection, including programming feedback and contact information from CU Commons participants
- Capture content at community events and convenings for social media and newsletters
- Promote CU Commons programs and conduct outreach across Upstate NY

- Initiate new, local partnerships to increase CU's reach and strengthen our community ties

We're looking for someone who is:

- Passionate about strengthening communities, sparking civic innovation, and catalyzing social connection
- A self-starter and creative thinker who sees challenges as opportunities and enjoys problem-solving
- Experienced in, or interested in gaining experience, working with youth (teaching, camp counseling, peer mentoring, etc. a bonus, but not a requirement!)
- A strong communicator who's excited about the opportunity to develop facilitation skills and engage with their neighbors
- Familiar with Google Workspace (Docs, Sheets, Slides, etc.)
- Adaptable and independent - we're experimenting with something new, and we're looking for an Associate with a builder/founder mindset
- Living in, working in, or from the Mohawk Valley
- Desire to learn and grow in this role, and openness to staying on beyond the summer

This role is designed as an early-career opportunity for college students, recent college graduates, or early career professionals based in the Mohawk Valley region. This is a three-month role (June-August 2026) with a strong possibility for extension (into the fall and beyond) and growth opportunity. The Upstate NY Summer Program Associate will be compensated as an independent contractor at the rate of \$3,000 per month.

How To Apply:

Interested applicants should email a **resume** and **cover letter** to CU's Director of Strategy and Partnerships Abby Binder, abby@civicsunplugged.org. The resume and cover letter should highlight the applicant's interest in CU and our mission, community connection(s) in Upstate NY, and an experience solving a problem through an innovative approach, and/or experience setting up/overseeing an event

Questions? Please contact Abby Binder at abby@civicsunplugged.org.