



Volunteer Position Description

Title: Marine Aquarium Husbandry Volunteer

Who we are:

The Charleston Marine Life Center is the public outreach and education facility of the University of Oregon's Oregon Institute of Marine Biology. Here visitors and students explore and learn about the marine life found off the coast of Oregon through living and interpretive exhibits.

Summary of the role:

Our marine aquarium husbandry volunteers are fundamental to keeping our living exhibits healthy and looking good. With your help our guests have the opportunity to watch wolf eels feed, to touch sea urchins, and to enjoy exploring the living diversity off of our coast. Your role is multifaceted and tasks are likely to vary from one day to next, but one thing is for sure.....these animals are always hungry and feeding them is a large part of the position.

Tasks and responsibilities:

- Prepare food for and feed marine animals (50%)
- Clean and maintain aquarium exhibits (40%)
- Collect food for animals (5%)
- Record keeping (5%)
- Follow safety and animal welfare guidelines (100%)

Required skills:

- An eagerness to learn and a positive attitude
- Works well both within a team environment and independently
- Excellent at communicating
- Attention to detail

Physical demands*:

- Able to tolerate working around cold water
- Able to lift 30 pounds
- Comfortable bending, lifting, standing, and climbing and working on ladders

* If physical demands are prohibitive please talk with us. We want to help you be involved.

Time commitment:

We require our aquarium husbandry volunteers to commit to at least one 3 hour shift a week. Our animals depend on you for regular and routine attention to ensure they are being taken care of properly. We take this commitment seriously.

Charleston Marine Life Center
P.O. Box 5389
Charleston, OR 97420
Questions: 541-346-7305
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Supervision and environment:

During the beginning of your volunteer experience you will work directly with a supervisor to ensure that you are trained properly, acclimated to the facility, and confident with your new skills. You will work alongside and shadow other experienced volunteers and ultimately perform your duties independently with little supervision. Over time, exceptional volunteers have the opportunity to develop leadership skills by training new members of our team.

Benefits to the volunteer:

- Be an active member in the community
- Learn more about marine biology and aquarium husbandry
- Professional development while working within a team oriented environment
- Additional trainings and volunteer events

How to apply:

Please visit our website cmlc.uoregon.edu or contact cmlc@uoregon.edu to apply.