

## **Job Opening for an Aquarist at The Seattle Aquarium**

Posting Expires: December 31, 2014.

**How to Apply: Please send resume, including salary expectations, along with a letter of interest to [jobs@seattleaquarium.org](mailto:jobs@seattleaquarium.org). For detailed information on Seattle Aquarium staff diving skills requirements and evaluation criteria, please see Jeff Christiansen (Dive Safety Officer).**

Posted: Open to internal and external candidates

Reports to: Associate Curators of Fish and Invertebrates

Status: Regular, full-time, Non-Exempt (hourly)

Hours of Work: Standard work hours are 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Work week assigned as needed

Dated Needed: January 1, 2015

Posting Expires: December 31, 2014

About the Seattle Aquarium: The Seattle Aquarium is nonprofit, 501(c)(3), owned by the City of Seattle. The Aquarium currently serves over 825,000 visitors and 50,000 school children and their teachers annually. Guided by the mission of Inspiring Conservation of Our Marine Environment, the Seattle Aquarium has a plan for phased growth based on record-setting attendance, membership and fundraising growth, an energized Board of Directors and professional management. The current annual budget is \$13 million.

Position Purpose: The Aquarist is responsible for assigned husbandry duties for the Seattle Aquarium's (SA) animal collection. This position will be working in the SA's Fish and Invertebrate Department.

Primary Responsibilities: Responsible for all aspects of the care and management of the SA's fish and invertebrate collection including but not limited to:

- Prepare, store and distribute food according to established amounts, types and diets; monitor feeding habits and report any changes or abnormalities.
- Clean and perform routine maintenance and minor repair of animal exhibits and holding areas to assure the health of animals and the presentation of the species in an attractive environment. Maintain water quality to keep aquatic animals in a healthy condition.
- Assist with administration of medications and treatments according to established procedures and veterinary instructions. Provide assistance in handling or restraining animals in accordance with established safety procedures as necessary to ensure animal welfare.
- Maintain records and reports regarding assigned species including daily veterinary reports, exhibit maintenance, food consumption records and other reports specific to the assigned area.
- Supervise the work of animal care volunteers, interns and temporary animal care personnel by identifying, assigning, and monitoring tasks.
- Observe animals and evaluate behavior to determine physical and behavioral health and well-being.
- Assist with animal acquisition, acclimation, and quarantine.
- Use SCUBA and surface-supplied air systems for in-tank animal care and exhibit maintenance.

Additional Responsibilities:

- Act as role model for compliance with all SA safety protocols.
- Assure the safety of animals, employees and the visiting public from injury or mishap.
- Perform emergency first aid and CPR as needed and according to established guidelines.
- Establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with others.

- Serve as a customer service liaison through daily contacts with visitors providing information and answering questions.

- Perform other duties as assigned

Skills, Abilities and Other Requirements:

- Must have a clear understanding of fish and invertebrate biology and technical knowledge of marine biology, water quality analysis, aquatic life support systems, and marine animal health.

- Must maintain a current and clear understanding of life support and mechanical systems for open and closed aquariums.

- Must have or be able to obtain a Washington State Driver's License.

- Must have ability to use fall restraint equipment, respirators and other appropriate safety gear; may be required to work in confined spaces.

- Add, subtract, multiply and divide quickly and accurately.

- Strong interpersonal, collaboration and team-building skills.

- Must possess organizational skills, be self-motivated, and communicate effectively orally and writing.

- Ability to use various computer software products: MS Word, Excel, and Internet browsers.

Diving Requirements: To qualify as a Seattle Aquarium Aquarist applicant you must:

- Possess a SCUBA certification to the level of rescue diver or higher (or equivalent) from a nationally recognized certification agency.

- Successfully pass the following evaluations:

- o A Seattle Aquarium diving physical exam.

- o An AAUS watermanship requirements swim test.

- o A Seattle Aquarium scuba skills evaluation dive.

For detailed information on Seattle Aquarium staff diving skills requirements and evaluation criteria, call the Seattle Aquarium receptionist at [\(206\) 386-4304](tel:2063864304).

Working Conditions:

- Requires handling, working with or exposure to large, dangerous animals, animal diseases, feces, and toxic chemicals.

- While performing the duties of this job, the employee is required to stand; walk; sit; use hands to finger, handle, or feel objects, tools or controls; reach with hands and arms; climb stairs; balance; stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl; talk or hear; taste or smell.

- Specific vision abilities required by the job include close vision, distance vision, color and peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.

- Occasionally required to lift more than 50 pounds.

- Must be able to be on their feet 6 or more hours a day, be physically active through physical motions.

- Required to work outdoors year round, near water, on wet and slippery surfaces and at heights.

- Must be willing to work evenings, nights, weekends and holidays and an occasional 24-hour emergency call.

Education and Experience:

- BA/BS Degree in biology, marine biology, or related field required. We may consider an equivalent combination of education and experience in lieu of degree.

- Minimum of one years' experience involving the care and husbandry of animals in a zoo, aquarium, or related environment (AZA facility preferred).

Salary and Benefits: Salary DOE. This is a full time Hourly/Non Exempt position. Comprehensive benefits package includes: medical, dental, vision with family coverage available, Short and Long term

disability, Life Insurance, 403b retirement and generous paid time off.

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Note: Must pass a Background check, upon job offer, to be eligible for this position.

Application review will begin immediately