

VOLUNTEER DIVER POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title: Volunteer Diver

Department: Animal Care

Smithsonian affiliated Aquarium of the Bay (non-profit 501c3) inspires climate resilience and ocean conservation, through environmental stewardship to protect and preserve eco-biodiversity from Sierra to the Sea.

VOLUNTEER POSITION SUMMARY:

Under the direction of the Dive Safety Officer and Animal Care staff, the Volunteer Diver is responsible for assisting with routine aquarium diving operations to include maintenance dives and feeding live vertebrates and/or invertebrates.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Perform 2 dives a day in cold water (~56°F)
- Prepare food for the animals; handle raw seafood including shellfish
- Clean acrylic, gravel vacuum and other general maintenance as required in exhibit
- Maintain a high level of cleanliness and care of locker rooms and dive equipment
- Follow equipment disinfection procedures
- Feed variety of animals according to husbandry protocols
- Maintain situational awareness in exhibits
- Adhere to the policies, procedures, and regulations in the Aquarium of the Bay Dive Safety Manual
- Attend all annual recurrent training programs
- Arrive on time for all scheduled dive shifts
- Adhere to the volunteer dive program attendance policy
- Notify DSO of changes in physical or mental condition affecting fitness to dive
- Promote Aquarium of the Bay's mission and represent the Dive Program in a professional manner

QUALIFICATIONS:

To perform this position successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

EDUCATION and/or EXPERIENCE:

A qualified candidate will possess a combination of the following education and/or equivalent experience:

- Open Water level dive certification from a recognized certification agency such as NAUI, PADI or SSI
- Must have a minimum of 10 logged dives; cold water diving experience preferred
- Be 18 years of age or older
- Be able to commit to at least one shift a week for 2 months on a standing schedule and then at least twice a month for the following 4 months (6-month commitment)
- Possess current healthcare provider-level CPR/AED, First Aid

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:

- Be able to pass a scuba skills evaluation
- Be able to pass and maintain currency on dive medical examination
- Ability to work as part of a team and effectively collaborate with staff and other volunteers
- Comfortably dive in cold water temperatures (~55°F)
- Be able to rescue a diver in an emergency situation
- Ability to effectively and properly communicate with volunteers, staff, and DSO
- Must have excellent verbal and written communication skills

LANGUAGE SKILLS:

Ability to read and interpret documents to include safety regulations, operating and maintenance instructions, and procedure manuals. Ability to write routine reports and correspondence.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS & WORK ENVIRONMENT:

The physical demands and work environment described here are representative of those that must be met by a volunteer to successfully perform the essential functions of this position. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. While performing the duties of this position, the volunteer is frequently required to stand, sit, walk, and reach with hands and arms, and talk or hear. Must be able to lift 75 lbs. Must be able to perform repetitive motions 50 percent of the time. Must be able to pass a diving medical evaluation in accordance with AAUS standards as outlined in Aquarium of the Bay's Dive Safety Manual.