



WORK-STUDY OPPORTUNITY

Position Title: Earth Sciences Work Study
Reports To: Earth Sciences Coordinator

Department: Museum Education
Location of Workspace: Earth Labs

SUMMARY OF POSITION:

Museum Education Work Study Students are in the halls and labs of OMSI where they facilitate hands-on science experiences and inspire museum guests to make amazing connections with science through activities, demonstrations, and informal interactions. Work Study Students assist Museum Education staff in the regular maintenance, upkeep, and development of the museum halls and labs.

This Earth Sciences Work Study will assist the Coordinator with teaching classes, interacting with visitors in an informal education environment, and project work involving climate change research and developing climate change demonstrations. Earth Science focuses on how earth systems and humans affect each other. Visitors explore topics that include climate change, renewable energy, watersheds, plate tectonics, and paleontology. The hall includes the Earth and Paleontology Labs, and a Science on a Sphere (SOS) exhibit. SOS is a six-foot diameter globe with data visualizations projected on it.

EXPERIENCES THIS POSITION WILL PROVIDE:

- Facilitating hands-on earth science activities and interactions with museum guests of all ages
- Working in a collaborative environment with paid and unpaid staff of a variety of ages, experiences, and backgrounds
- Assisting with teaching reserved, hands-on classes on paleontology and other earth science topics
- Research and developing demonstrations and curriculum
- Assist with maintaining and resetting lab exhibits and displays

KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS/ABILITIES:

What we are looking for:

- Strong communication, customer service, and problem-solving skills.
- Self-directed and willing to take initiative.
- Desire and/or ability to present science process and content in an engaging way to a broad age range.
- Present a professional personal appearance.
- Must be dependable, punctual, and willing to commit to a schedule.
- Must have an earth or environmental science background

TRAINING YOU WILL RECEIVE:

- Lab specific maintenance and procedures
- General informal science education philosophies and pedagogy
- Culturally responsive facilitation strategies
- Facilitation best practices, including how to facilitate intergenerational communication, frame questions, gauge and respond to guests' social and educational goals, and cultivate learner-driven investigations
- Museum safety and emergency response

For more information, contact Volunteer Engagement at 503-797-4615 or Volunteer@omsi.edu. Visit our website at www.omsi.edu. OMSI is located at 1945 SE Water Ave, Portland, OR 97214



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SCHEDULE:

- Minimum of 8 hours a week for at least 1 academic term/semester.
- Must have Wednesday 2 pm – 5:30 pm availability.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Recognizing and promoting of science process skills
- Fostering learner-driven investigations
- Negotiating facilitator and visitor goals for optimal museum experience
- Supporting culturally responsive facilitation techniques
- Identifying benefits and disadvantages of using different types of objects and models in learning experiences
- Gaining knowledge of museum culture and practices
- Develop and improve science communication skills

HOW TO APPLY:

This position is only available to students who have been awarded Federal Work-Study funding as part of their financial aid award package. To apply and submit your [online application](#), along with a resume and cover letter. As part of the hiring process you may be invited to interview. If hired you will need to complete a background check.