

Position Title: Aquarium & Animal Care Specialist

Department: Museum Education

Reports To: Natural Sciences Coordinator Location: OMSI Museum - Water Ave

Position Summary: The Aquarium and Animal Care Specialist volunteer assists with caring for the animals in the Life Lab. They clean and maintain the aquariums and other animal enclosures in the lab. They interact with visitors while they care for the animals.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Maintain fish and axolotl aquariums in the Life Lab. Includes weekly water changes and cleaning filters and pumps.
- Clean and maintain reptile and insect enclosures.
- Observe and document animal health and care. Communicate with the Natural Sciences Coordinator about the health of the animals and supply needs.
- Research best practices for animal care.
- Model science process skills (observing, making hypotheses, testing, collecting data, analyzing) while discussing animal care, ecology, and biology with Life Lab guests.
- Answer visitor questions and provide other information about the museum.
- Assume other duties as assigned by the Natural Sciences Coordinator.
- Assist in maintaining a safe and secure environment for visitors and staff.

Knowledge and Skills:

- Committed to sharing accurate science information.
- Experience with aquarium maintenance and animal care preferred.
- Comfortable working with and handling live animals.
- Able to maintain a calm, pleasant, and cheerful demeanor in a noisy and crowded environment.
- Able to communicate effectively with people of all ages and diverse backgrounds.



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- Able to provide excellent customer service.
- Able to follow and instruct on COVID-19 safety protocols.
- Must present a professional appearance.
- Dependable and punctual.
- Self-directed and willing to take initiative.
- Willing to follow OMSI rules and procedures.

Schedule and Support:

- Minimum number of hours: 4 hours per week
- Attend the following trainings or classes:
 - Volunteer Orientation
 - o COVID-19 safety training
 - Hazardous communication
 - Animal care

Volunteer Benefits:

- Training opportunities and a lifelong learning experience.
- Admission for the volunteer to the museum exhibits and attractions based on availability.
- An OMSI Family Membership upon completion of 50 hours of volunteer service.
- Discounts in the OMSI Science Store and on-site restaurants.
- The opportunity to meet many new people and learn more about OMSI.