

**AQUARIST APPRENTICE  
BIOLOGY APPRENTICE  
(Hourly)**

**JOB SUMMARY:** Under the leadership of the department lead, the Biology Apprentice performs tasks involved with the overall health, appearance, maintenance and cleanliness of assigned exhibits and animal collection. This is a full-time, hourly position generally expected to work at least one weekend day with some nights and holidays required.

**MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES/ACTIVITIES:**

- Maintain animal health by completing daily system checks, feedings and exhibit and filtration maintenance.
- The ability to handle live animals
- Complete water changes or make chemical adjustments to maintain water quality as needed.
- Complete quarantine and treatment procedures as directed by Leads and Supervisors.
- Communicate with management to maintain timely ordering of animals, food, and supplies.
- Communicate with department members and supervisors the needs and issues relating to animals and systems and work with them to resolve any problems.
- Keep work area clean and organized
- Fill out appropriate logs for animal health, movements, acquisitions/dispositions, mortalities and water usage.
- Interacts with the public during educational shows and through general questions.
- Works with other relevant departments to ensure that service areas are always clean, and well maintained.
- Maintains familiarity with MSDS system and hazardous communications
- Maintains a valid driver's license.

**ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES/ACTIVITIES:**

- Ability to learn about the animals placed in their care.
- High degree of concentration and attention to detail
- Good record keeping skills
- Ability to contribute positively to a diverse and equitable work environment.
- Develop collaborative, productive, and respectful relationships with employees.
- Recommend improvements in area of responsibility.
- Ability to travel on a limited, as-needed, basis – including occasional overnight travel.
- Demonstrate professionalism at all times.
- Demonstrated ability to accurately follow instructions, both verbally and written
- Perform other related duties as requested.

**MINIMUM AND PREFERRED REQUIREMENTS:**

- Bachelor's degree in biology, chemistry, environmental science, or related field; or 2-4 years of experience working with captive aquatic life.
- Familiarity with Microsoft Office software
- Exceptional organizational, communication and interpersonal skills.
- Current SCUBA certification or the ability to acquire certification within six months of hire.

**WORKING ENVIRONMENT**

The duties of the Biology Apprentice will be performed inside and outside of the Oklahoma Aquarium. The Biology Apprentice must possess the ability to stand/work for long periods of time in adverse conditions (cramped spaces, cold water, and wet environment). Work environment is team oriented, having variable tasks, pace, and pressure.

**Physical:** Primary functions require sufficient physical ability to work in an aquatic setting. Continuous standing, with upward and downward flexion of neck; fine finger dexterity; light to moderate finger pressure to manipulate keyboard,

equipment controls, and equipment; pinch grasp to manipulate writing utensils. Frequent side-to-side turning of neck, walking, standing, bending, stooping, pushing/pulling, and twisting at waist. Frequent squatting, kneeling, and reaching above and at shoulder height; moderate grasp to manipulate reference books and manuals. Frequent lifting of 50 pounds while working in adverse conditions (cramped spaces, cold water and wet environment).

**Vision:** See in the normal visual range with or without correction; vision sufficient to read computer screens and printed documents and to operate equipment.

**Hearing:** Hear in the normal audio range with or without correction.