

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT THE NEW JERSEY ACADEMY FOR AQUATIC SCIENCES

The New Jersey Academy for Aquatic Sciences promotes the understanding, appreciation and protection of aquatic life and habitats through research, education and youth development programs.

Join the team! Become a volunteer! We are looking for fun people to help run every aspect of the Aquarium. You don't need to be an oceanographer or fish scientist, you just need to have enthusiasm, dedication, and a willingness to get involved!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- DIVER** - Dive into the Ocean Realm and Shark Realm exhibits. Perform shows using underwater microphone technologies. Assist in exhibit maintenance; help with food preparation and feeding in both realms.. The applicant must meet the following requirements: Must be 18 years of age or older. Possess a certification from a nationally recognized scuba certification agency. Have at least 25 logged dives (5 in the last 2 years and 2 in the last 12 months). Ability to volunteer 16 hours a month by committing to a set schedule of two full days (9:00am – 4:00pm) per month on permanent days. (i.e.: 1st and 3rd Tuesday, 2nd and 4th Saturday. Successfully complete an interview and pool test. If chosen, CPR and First Aid certification is required as well as physician approval..
- SEAL TEAM** -Volunteers will assist trainers with seal exhibit maintenance. They will prepare diets according to strict guidelines and assist with recording animal observations. Some experienced volunteers may have the opportunity to participate in daily presentations and answer questions from visitors. The applicant must meet the following requirements: Must be 18 years of age or older. Ability to volunteer 16 hours a month by committing to a set schedule of two full days (7:30am – 4:30pm) per month on permanent days. (i.e.: 1st and 3rd Sunday, 2nd and 4th Thursday, etc.). Once accepted to the program be able to commit at least two years to the program. Must be reliable, patient, and willing to learn. Be in good health and capable of performing strenuous and/or heavy physical labor, including lifting 50 pounds. You should be able to remain on your feet for long periods of time, climb stairs, bend, and stoop, and enjoy being wet and dirty. Have no history of allergies related to animals or plants, which might interfere with ability to work. Able to work in all weather conditions year round as the exhibit is completely outdoors.
- PENGUIN ISLAND** - Volunteers will assist trainers with penguin exhibit maintenance. They will prepare diets according to guidelines and assist with recording animal observations. Some experienced volunteers may have the opportunity to participate in daily presentations and answer questions from visitors. The applicant must meet the following requirements: Must be 18 years of age or older. Ability to volunteer 18 hours per month by committing to a set schedule of two days (7:30am - 4:30pm) per month on permanent days. (i.e.: 1st and 3rd Sundays, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, etc.). Must be reliable, patient, and willing to learn. Be willing to handle raw fish, feeder mice, and bugs to feed birds. Be in good health and capable of performing strenuous and/or heavy physical labor, including lifting 50 pounds. Must be able to stand for long periods of time and enjoy being wet, smelly and dirty. Have no history of allergies related to animals or plants, which might interfere with ability to work. Be able to work in all weather conditions year round, as the Penguin Island exhibit is outdoors.

- FEATHER RIDGE** - Volunteers will assist visitors at Feather Ridge in the West African River Exhibit by explaining feeding techniques, answering questions, identifying birds, and engaging visitors as they participate in the public bird feedings. Volunteers will educate guests to ensure that the public feedings are safe for both the guests and the animals. The applicant must meet the following requirements: Must be 18 years of age or older. Ability to volunteer 18 hours per month by committing to a set schedule of two days (7:30am - 4:30pm) per month on permanent days. (i.e.: 1st and 3rd Sundays, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, etc.). Must enjoy talking about birds, be reliable, and able to stand for long periods of time. Must have a strong interest in sharing their dedication to birds and conservation and be willing to work around free flying birds.
- WEST AFRICAN RIVER EXHIBIT** - Volunteers will assist trainers with our hippo exhibit maintenance. They will prepare diets according to guidelines and assist with recording animal observations. Some experienced volunteers may have the opportunity to participate in daily presentations and answer questions from visitors. The applicant must meet the following requirements: Must be 18 years of age or older. Ability to volunteer 18 hours per month by committing to a set schedule of two days (7:30am - 4:30pm) per month on permanent days. (i.e.: 1st and 3rd Sundays, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, etc.). Be willing to work around free flying birds. Work around potentially dangerous animals with supervision. Be willing to handle raw meat, feeder mice, and bugs to feed birds. Must be reliable, patient, willing to learn, and personable. Must be able to stand for long periods of time, be in good health, and capable of performing strenuous and/or heavy physical labor, including lifting 50 pounds.. Must enjoy being wet and dirty. Be able to climb and have good balance. Have the physical ability to rake, sweep, squeegee, shovel, and clean windows. This is a physically demanding position. Have no history of allergies related to animals or plants, which might interfere with ability to work. Will be exposed to hay.
- FISH AND INVERTEBRATE** - Work alongside aquarium biologists with the fish and invertebrate collection. Volunteers assist with: food preparation, feeding, exhibit maintenance, record keeping, and special projects. The applicant must meet the following requirements: Must be 18 years of age or older. Ability to volunteer 16 hours a month by committing to a set schedule of four half days a month (7:30am – 11:30am) (i.e.: every Tuesday etc.) Must be able to stand for long periods of time, be in good health and capable of performing strenuous and/or heavy physical labor, including lifting 50 pounds. Must have home aquarium experience. Must show initiative and enjoy being wet and dirty.
- WATER QUALITY LAB** - Volunteers assist the lab staff with chemical analysis of water systems, measuring chemicals, maintenance of the record systems and problem solving with water quality issues. The applicant must meet the following requirements: Must be 18 years of age or older. Ability to volunteer 16 hours a month by committing to a set schedule of four half days a month (7:30am – 11:30am) (i.e.: every Tuesday etc.) Must be able to stand for long periods of time, be in good health and capable of performing strenuous and/or heavy physical labor, including lifting 50 pounds. Must be attentive, meticulous and methodical. Will train but some lab experience preferred. Preferred availability is one morning a week..
- ZOOLOGICAL RECORDS** - Volunteers will work with the aquarium's Zoological Operations Manager to maintain records, permits and zoological records. This is an administrative position. The applicant must meet the following requirements: Ability to volunteer a minimum of 4 hours every other week. Scheduling is flexible. Once accepted to the program, be able to commit at least one year of service. Must be organized, detail oriented, self starters, mature and reliable. Working knowledge of Microsoft Office is helpful, but not required.

- GUEST EXPERIENCE** - Volunteers will work in conjunction with our Guest Experience staff to enhance the educational experience for the visitors at Adventure Aquarium. These volunteers oversee the touch exhibits, share artifacts, and provide interpretation at the Shark and Ocean Realm windows. With experience, some animal handling is possible. The applicant must meet the following requirements: Must be 16 years of age or older. Volunteers must be over the age of 16, be comfortable approaching and initiating conversation with guests, have a willingness to learn and share what they know, be reliable, work independently, show initiative, and recognize the value of a team effort. Ability to volunteer 12 hours a month by committing to a set schedule of two half days (9:00am – 2pm or 12:00am – 5pm) per month on permanent days (i.e.: 1st and 3rd Saturday, and the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, etc.) After acceptance into the volunteer program, you must successfully complete the NJAAS volunteer training course.

- CLASSROOM** -Classroom volunteers assist instructors in the development and delivery of on-site marine science lessons for school groups, camps and educators. You will also assist in the set-up and break-down of the classroom, handle various species of invertebrates and reptiles and participate in distance learning. The applicant must meet the following requirements: Must have college degree or be enrolled at an accredited college or university. - Be able to lift 50 lbs. - Ability to volunteer 12 hours a month by committing to a set schedule of two half days (8:00am – 2:00pm) per month. Days may vary. - After acceptance into the volunteer program, you must successfully complete the NJAAS volunteer training course.

- OUTREACH** - Outreach volunteers assist with the TrOutreach programs which travel to area schools to provide fun marine science lessons. Volunteers assist with props, activities and handling animals at the program sites. They also assist in teaching classroom programs, eventually acting as lead teacher when experience and knowledge warrants. The applicant must meet the following requirements: Desire to work with children from preschool to 6th grade. Work flexible hours and travel long distances by car. Early start time may be required and days may vary. Able to lift 40 pounds. Comfortable speaking in front of a group and comfortable handling invertebrates and reptiles. After acceptance into the volunteer program, you must successfully complete the NJAAS volunteer training course.

VOLUNTEER BENEFITS

An environment of lifelong learning, professional training, flexible scheduling, helpful colleagues, letters of recommendation, free parking, new and lasting friendships, free admission to Adventure Aquarium, discounts at the Aquarium cafeteria and gift shop, special invitations to social events and exclusive opportunities, wonderful life experiences and the respect and appreciation of visitors from all over the world.

The first three pages are intended for you to keep for reference

NEW JERSEY ACADEMY FOR AQUATIC SCIENCES VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

PERSONAL INFORMATION			
LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	HOME PHONE () -
STREET ADDRESS			WORK PHONE () -
CITY	STATE	ZIPCODE	HOME E-MAIL
ARE YOU AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			WORK E-MAIL
HAVE YOU EVER BEEN CONVICTED OF A FELONY (A CONVICTION WILL NOT NECESSARILY BAR ACCEPTANCE TO THE PROGRAM) IF YES, EXPLAIN: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			
IF ACCEPTED INTO THE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM< DO YOU HAVE RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE AQUARIUM? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO			

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

Please select up to three volunteer positions and indicate your first, second, and/or third preference by writing a 1, 2 and/or 3 next to the positions in which you interested.

Position	Order of Preference	Do you Meet the Qualifications?
DIVER		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
SEAL TEAM		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
PENGUIN ISLAND		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
FEATHER RIDGE		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
WEST AFRICAN RIVER EXHIBIT		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
FISH AND INVERTEBRATES		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
WATER QUALITY LAB		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
ZOOLOGICAL RECORDS		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
GUEST EXPERIENCE		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
CLASSROOM		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
OUTREACH		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

EDUCATION				
NAME OF SCHOOL	PRESENT GRADE		DEGREE	COURSE OF STUDY
HIGH SCHOOL	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/> DIPLOMA <input type="checkbox"/> G.E.D.	
COLLEGE	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/> AA <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> BA <input type="checkbox"/> MA <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	
GRADUATE SCHOOL	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/> AA <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> BA <input type="checkbox"/> MA <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	
OTHER	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 <input type="checkbox"/> 11	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 <input type="checkbox"/> 12	<input type="checkbox"/> AA <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> PhD <input type="checkbox"/> BA <input type="checkbox"/> MA <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYED <input type="checkbox"/> UNEMPLOYED <input type="checkbox"/> RETIRED <input type="checkbox"/> STUDENT <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER	
EMPLOYER	
YOUR TITLE	
WORK ADDRESS	
CITY, STATE, ZIP	
MY EMPLOYER OFFERS A DONATION MATCHING PROGRAM <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
SEND EMPLOYER A LETTER OF THANKS FOR YOUR VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTION <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
SEND TO THE ATTENTION OF:	

PLEASE INDICATE EACH TIME AND DAY YOU ARE ABLE TO VOLUNTEER							
	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
AM							
PM							
All Day							

QUESTIONS

Why do you want to volunteer with the New Jersey Academy for Aquatic Sciences at the Adventure Aquarium?

What do you hope to gain my becoming a volunteer?

What qualities do you have that would make you a good choice for the volunteer program?

Do you have any other volunteer experience at another facility? YES NO
If you answered "Yes", where have you volunteered previously?

REFERENCES

Please list three references who we may contact regarding your volunteer application. Please supply information for three adult references that are not related to you in any way.

Reference 1 Name

Relationship

Phone Number

Years Known:

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Reference 2 Name

Relationship

Phone Number

Years Known:

() -

Reference 3 Name

Relationship

Phone Number

Years Known:

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I certify that the information given in the volunteer application is true and correct, and has been given voluntarily. I understand that this information may be disclosed to any party with legal and proper interest, and I release the organization from any liability whatsoever for supplying such information. I understand that I will not be paid for my services as a volunteer at the New Jersey Academy for Aquatic Sciences.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____