



PORT TOWNSEND
MARINE SCIENCE CENTER

Position Description

Position Title: **Aquarium Specialist**
Classification:
Reports to: Aquarium Curator

Organizational Summary: PTMSC is a non-profit marine conservation, science and education organization located in Fort Worden State Park and downtown Port Townsend, Washington. Our two Fort Worden State Park facilities house a small, vibrant aquarium featuring over 150 species from the nearshore habitats of the Salish Sea, a museum with a fully-articulated orca skeleton and natural history collections, and classrooms. The new downtown facility is currently home to a visitor center, store, and gallery space. Our exhibits explore how human impacts such as climate change stress the fragile ecosystems in the Salish Sea, and what people can do, through their collective actions, to affect positive change. Visit www.ptmsc.org or find us on Facebook and Instagram to learn more.

POSITION PURPOSE: The Aquarium Specialist supports aquarium operations, guest education and exhibit interpretation, and animal care.

Essential Functions of the Position

- Performs routine animal care, monitoring and maintenance to assure the physical and behavioral health and well-being of animals and the presentation of the species in an engaging environment.
- Completes required maintenance of aquarium life support systems and related equipment.
- Provides interpretation and education to guests in the aquarium and exhibit spaces, during routine operations, events and tours, both in-person and virtually.
- Performs opening and closing procedures, staffing of exhibits (as cashier or docent), till reconciliation, cash handling, and reporting.
- Participates in the support, supervision, and training of personnel (volunteers, interns, Americorps members, and staff) in aquarium operations, visitor operations, and interpretation.
- Creates learning resources and interpretation content including updates, reference lists, written materials, social media content, signage, and audiovisual resources as directed.
- Provides community-based outreach including classroom learning, community events, citizen science research projects, and more.
- Ensures a clean and safe environment for visitors and personnel.
- Maintains records and reports for animal care, aquarium systems, and visitor operations.
- Serves as a responder to the 24hr on-call LSS alert system in rotating shifts with other personnel.

- Other duties as assigned.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Previous education in Aquarium Science and/or a life science related field (i.e. Biology, Marine Biology, Zoology) is strongly preferred.
- Experience with animal care in a public, research, or wildlife facility.
- Experience in species identification, behavioral observations and data collection.
- Experience in natural science interpretation or public education.
- Excellence in customer service practices, interpersonal skills, and the ability to work well with diverse groups of all ages.
- Should be comfortable with using or learning, Google workspace, Square payment system, social media, and more.
- A demonstrated passion for conservation is a huge plus!

Working Conditions and Technical/Physical Requirements

- Weekend and holiday work will be required for this position. Coverage of the 24hr LSS alert system will also be required on a rotating basis .
- Must have the ability to input data, read computer screens and printed material, communicate effectively in-person, via phone, and email.
- This role requires standing, walking, stooping or crouching, kneeling, reaching, pushing, grasping, lifting, feeling, hearing and talking. You must be able to lift objects over 40 lbs.
- Physical presence in the aquarium will be required for this position.
- Work in a marine environment, including during inclement weather (occasional cold, wet, salty, in and above water) is required.

Compensation: This is an hourly position, at a rate of \$18.03/hr. This position will average approximately 40 hours/week. Occasional overtime may be needed.

Acknowledgement

I acknowledge that I have read the job description and requirements for the Aquarium Specialist position and confirm that I can perform these core job functions.

Signature

Date