

Summer Education Intern – MaST Center Aquarium

GENERAL SUMMARY

Assist in implementing the MaST Center Aquarium's summer education programs for Sound Science Summer Camp and public participants. Help participants through hands-on educational experiences. Activities include beach exploration, animal identification, skeleton articulation, specimen dissection, and more. Work with a team of 2-4 educators and volunteers. Currently, there are 4 weeks of summer camps for K-7th graders. The Summer Education Internship starts with a week of training June 22nd – June 26th. Education programming will run June 29th – August 28th.

Pay Rate: This position pays \$18 per hour, 40 hours per week, for 10 weeks.

About the MaST:

The MaST Center Aquarium fosters a culture of marine stewardship by engaging our community through interactive learning, personal relations and exploration.

The MaST Center Aquarium is the marine laboratory for Highline College and is used for Highline and community classes, research, and other activities. The facility has approximately 3,500 gallons of flow-through aquariums and houses over 250 species of marine life from the Salish Sea. The MaST Center Aquarium is open every Saturday to the public during its Discovery Days and hosts over 15,000 visitors annually. During the rest of the week, the MaST Center Aquarium is used for Highline classes, school groups, and other activities that support its mission.

Located in the Redondo neighborhood of Des Moines, WA, the MaST Center Aquarium is about 10 minutes south of the main campus and is halfway between Seattle and Tacoma. It is located on a 270 ft. pier that extends out into Poverty Bay. Redondo is one of the top dive sites in the entire Puget Sound and features one of seven Octopus Protection Areas in the state.

Work will be performed on-site at the MaST Center Aquarium.

ESSENTIAL TASKS

Reporting directly to and in collaboration with the Community Engagement Coordinator of the MaST Center Aquarium, this position will:

PRIMARY:

- Assistant counselor for the MaST Center Aquarium's Sound Science Summer Camp; including prepping the facility, handling daily logistics, and following all established policies;
- Set up, deliver, and break down public educational programs through inquiry-based or hands-on learning techniques to participants and that meet the needs of our diverse and multicultural participants with varying abilities;
- Work with a team of summer education interns and volunteers to implement curriculum, prepping the facility, supervising participants, and maintaining a safe learning environment.

Ability to:

- Communicate effectively (verbal and written);

- Possess public speaking skills and knowledge necessary to deliver educational content in areas of marine biology, natural history and conservation issues effectively with the public in both formal and informal settings that meet the needs of our diverse and multicultural community members with varying abilities;
- Communicate and work respectfully and effectively with people from diverse racial, ethnic, religious, linguistic, gender, age, sexual orientation, and socio- economic backgrounds, and with diverse physical and learning abilities;
- Work collaboratively with the MaST Center Aquarium Community Engagement Coordinator and other staff to enhance the success and mission of the MaST Center Aquarium;
- Work with minimal supervision, possess organizational skills, program coordination skills and be self-motivated;
- Exercise strong interpersonal, collaboration, team-building skills, share responsibilities and perform assignments in concert with the team's efforts;
- Continuously update and increase their knowledge of Marine Ecology, Plankton, Marine Plants and Animals, Oceanography, and current events of the Salish Sea and the Pacific Ocean.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:

- Ability to lift up to 50 pounds and to work outdoors, on wet and slippery surfaces;
- A valid driver's license with no pending risk of loss and regular access to dependable transportation.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- High school graduation or equivalent; **AND**
- 1-year experience of increasing responsibility providing formal or informal education programs and/or working with volunteers;
- Computer proficiency with knowledge of MS Office applications;
- Ability to work in a physically challenging environment including long periods exposed in extreme temperatures and field conditions while keeping an upbeat personality;
- Must have reliable transportation.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- 2+ years' experience of increasing responsibility providing and leading formal or informal education programs with preference given to experience at a zoo or aquarium;
- Degree or equivalent experience in marine sciences, environment, or education;
- First Aid and CPR certified or must be willing to become certified.

APPLICATION:

Submit a cover letter and resume to the Community Engagement Coordinator at awauhob@highline.edu.