

Visitor Programs Exhibit Guide Volunteer Information • Spring 2020 Seymour Marine Discovery Center at Long Marine Lab

100 McAllister Way • Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(831) 459-3800 • seymourcenter.ucsc.edu



*Thank you for your interest in joining the outstanding group of people who volunteer as part of the Seymour Center's Visitor Programs crew! Our team of volunteers brings the excitement and importance of marine science to life for thousands of visitors a year. We hope you'll join us! **Spanish speakers are especially encouraged to apply.***

What would I be doing as a Visitor Programs Exhibit Guide? Teams of volunteers, student employees, and staff work together in our visitor hall to connect with the public using hands-on, marine science interpretation. Exhibit Guides assist visitors at the touch pools and interpret the aquarium and exhibit hall.

What are the requirements? Must be responsible, punctual, and reliable; enjoy working with people of all ages and backgrounds; desire to learn and communicate marine science and conservation to the public through hands-on activities and engaging interpretation; be comfortable working with live marine animals and working with children; enjoy working cooperatively with a team of other volunteers and staff; be at least 15 years old; have the attitude of a life-long learner. Previous knowledge of marine science or conservation preferred, but not required. *No experience is necessary.*

What does the training cover? Training sessions provide orientation to Seymour Center Visitor Programs, basic interpretation and marine science presentation skills, safe handling of live intertidal animals and sharks, and introduction to a variety of marine science concepts.

When and where is the training? All training sessions take place at the Seymour Marine Discovery Center on **Tuesday, May 19 (6:00-8:30 PM), Thursday, May 21 (6:00-8:30 PM), Tuesday, May 26 (6:00-8:30 PM), Thursday, May 28 (6:00-8:30 PM), Sunday, May 31 (10 AM-12:30 PM), and Tuesday, June 2 (6:00-8:30 PM), Thursday, June 4 (6:00-8:30 PM).** Different information is covered each day; therefore, completion of ALL training sessions is mandatory (no exceptions). Reading and homework will be given each day. Ongoing training and support, as well as additional training sessions, will be provided throughout the year.

What is the minimum commitment? New volunteers are required to commit to one 4.25-hour shift every other week for six months, **or** one 4.25-hour shift every week for three months, after completion of training. Shift times are Tuesday - Sunday (Monday - Sunday in July and August) 9:30 AM-1:45 PM (morning shift) and 1-5:15 PM (afternoon shift). Volunteers are responsible for getting their shifts covered when absent. This can be accomplished by contacting other Visitor Programs volunteers and the Volunteer Office to arrange a sub or trade. (Three unexcused absences are cause for dismissal.) Volunteers can change regular shift times to accommodate work or class schedules on a quarterly basis.

How do I apply to become a Visitor Programs Exhibit Guide? The first step is to submit an application that can be downloaded from our website: <http://seymourcenter.ucsc.edu/get-involved/volunteer>. Applications will be reviewed, and selected candidates will be contacted for an interview.

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE ON OR BEFORE SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2020, 5:00 PM.

If you need more information or have any questions,
please contact the Volunteer Office at volunteers@ucsc.edu or (831) 459-3854.