



Life Support Biologist

Job Title:	Life Support Biologist
Reports to:	Director of Living Collections
Part Time/Full Time:	Full Time
FLSA Status:	Exempt

ABOUT THE OCEAN INSTITUTE

Located on the waterfront in Dana Point Harbor, the Ocean Institute is a federally recognized 501c3 nonprofit. Working at the Ocean Institute offers a unique educational environment and ability to show your appreciation for the ocean. Its enviable location creates the opportunity to build meaningful bonds within the community, as well as inspire and influence future stewards of the ocean. The Ocean Institute's mission "Using the ocean as our classroom, we inspire children to learn," allows anyone with a passion for the ocean to utilize their skills in a positive, productive environment.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Working under the Director of Living Collections, the Life Support Biologist coordinates the daily care and all activities related to displaying a diverse living collection of temperate water, Eastern Pacific Ocean animals. The Life Support Biologist will work in conjunction with the Director of Living Collections in operation, maintenance, and repair of all aquatic life support systems, will be involved in the training of interns and volunteers, and work on the implementation and maintenance of exhibits and research projects.

REQUIREMENTS/ QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's Degree in Marine Science, engineering, commercial water treatment or equivalent experience required.
- 3 years experience in aquatic life support systems, a municipal water treatment plant, or a waste water treatment plant and of the safe and proper operation including repair and maintenance of biological, mechanical, and chemical aquatic/animal life support water filtration systems, such as: ozone generation equipment, building/temperature control systems, biological filters, rapid sand filters, plumbing, electrical and the ability to trouble shoot these types of specialized systems.
- Possess a strong knowledge and understanding of the specimens' (fish and invertebrates) natural history, biology, behavior, and dietary requirements.
- Ability to work effectively as a team member, and willingness to learn.
- A demonstrated passion and knowledge for the ocean and the natural environment.
- Ability to respond quickly to changing priorities.
- Up to date with current husbandry methods.
- Demonstrated excellence in communication skills, both written and oral.

- Utilizes creative problem-solving skills.
- A keen sense of observation and a willingness to innovate.
- Must possess mechanical aptitude and be proficient in the use of proper testing equipment, hand tools and shop equipment.
- Ability to anticipate issues and implement preventative measures to avoid larger problems.
- Understand role as a representative of the organization at all times
- Prioritizes spending or spending requests and sources tools and resources to ensure best pricing opportunities.
- Knowledge of and ability to use computers and Microsoft's Office Suite.
- Ability to work under limited supervision, both independently and in a team environment is required.
- Required to work on some holidays, weekends, and evening hours.
- Attention to detail and great overall workplace cleanliness is mandatory.
- Prefer current SCUBA diving certification, AALSO Certification, and Certified Pool Operator Certification.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

The position will be involved with all aspects of the Institute's animal husbandry program. This includes, but not limited to:

- Manage the maintenance of a life support system of approximately 22,000 gallons, consisting of approximately 90 tanks of various sizes housing a collection of southern California invertebrates and vertebrates to create a consistent message and appearance.
- Implement installation, preventive maintenance, and repair tasks on aquatic life support systems and related components; assist with repairs, installation, and maintenance of life support controls and monitoring systems to ensure proper operation and to prevent equipment failure. Manage others who may be involved in maintenance operations.
- Helps train new interns and volunteers to assure compliance with established standards and protocols. Develop and maintain curriculum related to same.
- Maintaining aquarium tanks and exhibits according to set standards directing others as needed.
- Monitoring and maintaining water quality levels including filtration and water chemistry. Managing corrective measures when required.
- Creating and conducting educational feeding presentations.
- Anticipating changes based on equipment needs, animal needs, weather and other unforeseen factors, and effectively communicating and implementing these changes.
- Provide direct support to the Director of Living Collections as needed or requested.
- Functions as a leader in the Living Collections Department at all times.
- Manages supplies and equipment inventories.
- Provide on-call coverage as needed, to ensure the well-being of the collection inclusive of coverage during vacations, holidays, and weekends.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Ocean Institute provides equal employment opportunities (EEO) to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or genetics. In addition to federal law requirements, Ocean Institute complies with applicable state and local laws

governing nondiscrimination in employment in every location in which the company has facilities. This policy applies to all terms and conditions of employment, including recruiting, hiring, placement, promotion, termination, layoff, recall, transfer, leaves of absence, compensation and training.

Ocean Institute expressly prohibits any form of workplace harassment based on race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, age, genetic information, disability, or veteran status. Improper interference with the ability of Ocean Institute's employees to perform their job duties may result in discipline up to and including discharge.

TO APPLY

Send cover letter, resume, and three professional references to recruitment@oceaninstitute.org.