

EXPERIENCED ANIMAL KEEPER

POSITION PURPOSE: Under the supervision of the Curator of Life Sciences, ensures and promotes effective and efficient care of the department's animal collection.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

- Responsible for the daily husbandry and ensuring proper care of all animals; including preparation of diets, medical care, and maintenance of animal exhibit space. Establishes and maintains an environment conducive to the health and well-being of the fish, amphibian, bird, mammal, insect and reptile collections.
- Assists Curator in initiating viable breeding, husbandry and conservation programs for select species in the museum's collection.
- Coordinates daily activities through effective communication with staff and volunteers.
- Responsible for daily record keeping and observations
- Participates in educational talks and feeding demonstrations throughout the Museum
- Maintaining ample supplies for animal area
- Assist museum staff & visitors as needed in a pleasant, professional and courteous manner.
- Performs other job related duties as assigned in order to achieve the goals and mission of the museum.

Knowledge – Requires a high school diploma or GED; a Bachelors degree in zoology or a related field is highly preferred; minimum two year experience in a professional animal facility working with captive mammal, birds, fresh/salt water fish, amphibians, reptiles, and invertebrates. General knowledge of wildlife management, conservation, hunting, fishing, education and public speaking are preferred. Working knowledge of operant conditioning, environmental enrichment and Raptor husbandry is preferred. Knowledge of water parameters, life support systems and ability to perform all aspects of water testing. Current scuba certification, or ability to acquire SCUBA license within 6 months.

Mental- Requires relatively high degree of concentration and attention to the needs of the collection. Must have precise record keeping and the ability to follow and convey written and verbal instructions. Must possess the analytical skills necessary to trouble shoot mechanical issues and animal behavioral issues.

Physical - Requires walking/standing approximately 60% of the time, sitting 10% of the time, forward bending and crouching 15% of the time, lifting up to 50 lbs. 15% of the time. Ability to pass all required physicals and swim test to meet AAUS standards and is certified to dive in aquarium exhibits within 1 year. Must present results of a TB test taken in the last 6 months.

Environmental - Requires capability of performing essential job functions in holding areas, exhibit spaces and mechanical rooms where spaces are small and tight, and in office environments with climate control and good lighting. Also spend approximately 10% of time in exhibits.

Manual Dexterity – Requires ability to handle any of the animals, collection and operation of computers and other general office equipment.

Audible - Requires the ability to communicate effectively in person and via telephone with management, public speaking, and staff.

Visual - Requires the ability to operate office equipment including computers and read written instructions, and other documentation.

The above description is intended to describe the general content, identify the essential job functions, and set forth the requirements for the performance of this job. It is not to be construed as an exhaustive statement of job functions or requirements.