

December 2015

RE: New Year WEX Placement

The Vancouver Aquarium is currently recruiting **10 students** for our **Wet Lab Marine Educator**

As a Work Experience Student, you will be working within a team of staff, volunteers, and other students to facilitate and provide the ultimate educational experience for our visitors as they handle and observe a wide variety of live tidal pool animals from local BC waters.

Title: Wet Lab Marine Educator

Department: Education

Point Persons: Dana Turner, Laura Van Doormaal, and Celine Modschiedler

Key Dates: **Mandatory Group Interview:** Sunday December 20th
Time to be confirmed, and by invitation only.

The Vancouver Aquarium will let students know if they have been selected for an interview by Friday December 18th.

Mandatory Training: all students must attend both days

1. **Core Training:** Sunday January 10th from 10-4
2. **Specialist Training:** Sunday January 17th

Placement Dates: Students will volunteer 1 day out of the week, Monday to Friday.

Monday* 9:00AM-3:00PM (2 students)
***French speaking**

Tuesday 9:00AM-3:00PM (2 students)

Wednesday 9:00AM-3:00PM (2 students)

Thursday 9:00AM-3:00PM (2 students)

Friday 9:00AM-3:00PM (2 students)

Shifts: Monday January 25th 2016 to Friday April 1st 2016 (Excluding statutory holidays of February 8th 2016, and March 25th-28th 2016).

**Description
of Volunteer
Opportunity:**

This placement will provide an excellent opportunity for students to build their knowledge and stewardship skills with regard to caring for marine life and the marine environment while gaining teaching experience, communication skills, developing a sense of teamwork and exploring career options through:

- teaching visitors about marine shoreline life local to BC and the major conservation issues affecting it
- participating in and facilitating safe handling of marine invertebrate animals
- participating in daily animal care routines and operations in our Wet Lab facilities

**Skills
Preferred:**

- **Outgoing, enthusiastic and self-motivated**
- Students currently in Grades 10, 11 or 12.
- High level of professionalism and commitment;
- Interest in marine biology
- Experience and/or genuine interest in educating or interacting with visitors
- Strong English oral communications skills
- Second language an asset
- **** Monday placement is French speaking preferred****

Please Note:

Previous experience is an asset, but not necessary. Training will be provided.

Those interested in the Monday shift should have some French speaking skills.

**Volunteer
Benefits:**

- Build knowledge of marine life and marine environment
- Gain teaching experience in an informal setting
- Gain work experience hours
- Priority placement in our volunteer training program

Interested Students:

If you have interested students, we ask that you advise them to apply by clicking on the link below. They will then be directed to our online application form through our volunteer management database.

By clicking the "Fill in an Application" button on the right side of the website, they can complete their application by entering in all of the required fields. Please advise them **to complete this application in one sitting** as they may have difficulty editing their profile afterwards.



Please note students will be given the option to upload their resume & cover letter during this application, so I suggest having these on hand before beginning this process.

If you could also please remind your students to ensure that they have selected "Wex Student" when asked what type of volunteer placement they are applying for, and Marine Educator Wetlab Work Experience Placement as the name of the specific position applying for.

Students must also select Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday under the shift dates & times option.

[Click here to see our volunteer opportunities](#)

Please refer to the attached PDF "How To" guide if you have any questions regarding this process.

Students' applications will then be reviewed and applicants will be contacted for an in-person or telephone interview approximately 4 days before the interview.

Please submit all online applications by December 14th

If you require more information about the Aquarium's Work Experience Program, our new application forms, or the specific responsibilities of the students, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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