



Youth Volunteer Application

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Youth volunteer applications are accepted September 1st – 3:00 p.m. February 28th. Applications received after the deadline will be held until the next open application period. **Three letters of recommendation are required when application is submitted.** Recommendations from friends and family members are not accepted. Letters from teachers, other organizations applicant has volunteered with, coaches, supervisors, clients (lawn care, babysitting, dog walking, etc.) are permitted. Please note that the current application period is for summer, 2018 candidates.

Date: _____

Personal Information

Answer the following questions. For those that do not apply, enter n/a.

Last Name _____ First _____ Middle _____

Nickname _____ Birth Date ____/____/____ Shirt Size _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

School Name _____ Grade _____

Expected High School Graduation Date (Year) _____

Area of Interest

Which volunteer position interest you? **Select only one.**

_____ **Admissions Assistant** - Volunteers greet and direct guests, answer visitor questions and share details about special programs and experiences. Candidates must be at least 13 years old at the time his or her application is submitted. Applicant should be friendly and patient with the ability to stand for an extended period of time and comfortable interacting with large crowds. This position requires a minimum of one four hour shift a week. Volunteer must be available at least nine weeks between June and August. This is a summer position with the option to volunteer during the school year.

_____ **Birthday Party Helper** - Volunteer assists education staff with children's birthday parties. This includes helping with set-up and cleanup, greeting guests as they arrive and leading activities to engage birthday party guests. Candidates must be at least 14 years old with good communication skills. Must be comfortable working with children of varying ages and have a high energy level. An interest in marine science and experience working with children preferred. This position requires a minimum of two 3½ hour shifts per month. This is a summer position with the option to volunteer during the school year.

Area of Interest Continued

Remember, select only one.

- _____ **Changing Exhibits Gallery Host** - Volunteer is stationed in the Aquarium's Changing Exhibits Gallery. He or she greets guests, answer questions and engage visitors in conversations and hands-on activities about the traveling exhibit. Candidates must be at least 13 years old at the time his or her application is submitted, have good communication skills. Applications should have a pleasant disposition, be reliable and punctual and able to direction. This position requires a minimum of one 4½ hour shift a week. Volunteer must be available at least nine weeks between June and August. This is a summer position with the option to volunteer during the school year.

- _____ **Junior Docent** - Volunteer shares information about the Aquarium's exhibits and Virginia's marine environment with guests. Candidates must be at least 14 years old, able to take direction, work within a team and independently. Must also have good communication skills, comfortable speaking before groups of people and able to stand for an extended period of time. Applicant must also be reliable and punctual. This position requires a minimum of one 4½ hour shift a week for one year. Volunteer must be available to volunteer during the school year.

- _____ **Marsh Monday Guide** - Volunteers greet and lead aquarium guests in educational activities and tours along the marsh overlook and nature trail. Candidates must be at least 13 years old, personable, outgoing, comfortable interacting with large groups and able to take direction. Applicants with an interest in marine science is a plus. This position requires a minimum of one 3¾ hour shift a week. Volunteer must be available at least nine weeks between June and August. This is a summer only position.

- _____ **Nature Play Place Docent** - Volunteers provide guests with information about marsh habitat and encourage visitors to participate in activities and nature explorations in the Aquarium's outdoor Nature Play Place. Candidates must be at least 11 years old at the time his or her application is submitted and enjoy working with children. Applicants must be able to take direction, have the ability to stand for an extended period of time and able to maintain a high energy level in hot and humid weather conditions. This position requires a minimum of one 4¾ hour shift a week. Volunteer must be available at least nine weeks between June and August. 11 and 12 year old nature place docents must be paired with a parent or guardian. Parent's application must be attached when youth application is submitted. This is a summer position with the option to volunteer during the school year.

- _____ **Summer Camp Assistant** - Volunteers aid Sea Camp instructors in providing a safe, educational and memorable experiences to youth attending summer camps at the Aquarium. Candidates must be at least 16 years old with experience working with children between 6 and 9 years old. Applicants must be able to participate in high-energy activities that often occur outdoors during the heat of summer. Must also have a pleasant demeanor and able to take direction. Ideal candidates will have an interest in science and experience working in a camp. This position requires a minimum of 2 two-day camps between the end of June and the end of July. This is a summer only position.

- _____ **Toddler Program Assistant** - Volunteer assists Toddler Program Coordinator with planning and presenting toddler events. Candidates must be at least 14 years old, out-going with have high energy and comfortable working with toddlers. Must also have a pleasant demeanor and able to take direction. Applicants with artistic and/or musical abilities a plus. An interest in marine science and experience working with children preferred. This position requires a minimum of one 4½ hour shift a week. Volunteer must be available at least nine weeks between June and August. This is a summer position with the option to volunteer during the school year. This is also a great volunteer opportunity for homeschooled teens.

General Information

Answer the following questions. For those that do not apply, enter n/a.

How did you hear about the Aquarium’s volunteer program? _____

Why do you want to volunteer at the Aquarium? _____

Describe any previous volunteer experience: _____

List community and school activities you are involved with. Give a description of your duties _____

Emergency Contact

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ (Home Cell Work) Relation _____

Parental Consent

I support my son’s/ daughter’s (please select one) volunteer commitment to the Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center. I am aware that if selected, he/she will assume the responsibility of volunteering for the required time and I will ensure that he/she is present for the assignment or make sure his/her supervisor is notified of absences. I also agree to make certain my son/daughter attends all required training.

I understand that while serving as a Virginia Aquarium volunteer my son/daughter may be photographed and/or video recorded. Such photography and videography may be used for educational, promotional, and/or commercial purposes. By signing I agree to hold harmless the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center and the City of Virginia Beach from any claim arising out of, or pertaining to, the use of his/her image or likeness for the above stated purposes.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Printed Name

The Next Step Return your completed application to Attn: Volunteer Resources Office – Youth Volunteer Applicant – don’t forget your three letters of recommendation. All applications are reviewed and if selected for further consideration, you will be contacted for an interview.