



# **Summer 2012 Application**

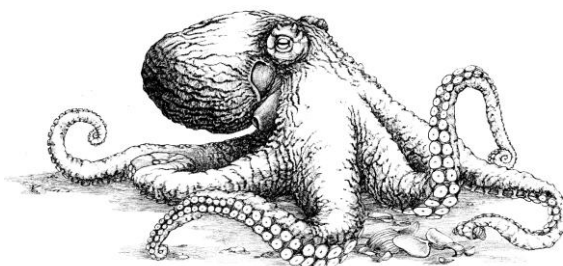


How does a sea star eat? What does a bat ray's jaw look like? How do you tell a seal and a sea lion apart? These are only a few of the questions the Oregon Coast Aquarium youth volunteers are able to answer. Using natural history objects such as shark jaws and sea otter fur, young adults entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade – 12<sup>th</sup> grade help dispel some of the common misconceptions about sharks and teach Aquarium visitors about marine mammals, seabirds, and marine invertebrates. Students also get the chance to participate in other activities at the Aquarium, including volunteering at special events, interacting with Aquarium staff and adult volunteers, field trips, social programs, basic animal care responsibilities, and knowledge enrichment programs.

During spring training youth volunteers spend 36 hours in training with education and animal husbandry staff learning about the natural history of Oregon coast marine animals. Trainees also get to take behind-the-scenes tours to learn what it takes to care for the animals. During fall training youth attend a one day orientation training and are invited to participate in the extensive spring training if they wish to continue in the program. Once training is completed, youth volunteers commit to serving two 4.5 hour shifts a week during the summer (June - August) interacting with Aquarium visitors. If they choose to volunteer during the school year (October – April) they commit to volunteering 8 hours per month working on a Team Project. A one day refresher training is required each year that volunteers choose to return to the program.

Students participating in the program enjoy many benefits. The experience is fun, educational, and enables them to gain valuable work experience and references. Youth volunteers receive discounts in the Aquarium gift shop and café, complimentary passes after every 100 hours of volunteering, the option of earning three transferable college credits from the Oregon Coast Community College (with the completion of spring training), and are eligible for an Aquarium membership after volunteering 50 hours.

Please contact the Youth Programs Coordinator for more information.  
Email: [volunteer@aquarium.org](mailto:volunteer@aquarium.org) / phone: 541-867-3474 ext. 5312



**Keep This for Your Records**



## Youth Volunteer Requirements

To become a youth volunteer you must:

- Be in grades 9-12  
(Entering into 9<sup>th</sup> grade through the summer after high school graduation)
- Submit a completed application packet by **March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012**
- Ask two adults who are not related to you to complete a recommendation form on your behalf and send it to the youth program coordinator by **March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012.**
- Attend every day of training: **April 7, 14, 21, 28 and May 5, 12 and June 16** (refresher training with current youth volunteers)
- Have a parent or guardian attend a meeting on **May 12** (time TBA). If this is not possible, please contact the youth program coordinator to make other arrangements.
- Commit to volunteering two, 4.5 hour shifts a week (this can be done on two separate days or one full day a week) from **June 20, 2012 – August 31, 2012.** Days available to volunteer are Wednesdays- Saturdays.

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## Youth Volunteer Program Summer 2012 Timeline

### January – March 9<sup>th</sup>

Applications accepted

### March 13 – 23<sup>rd</sup>

Interviews

### March 27<sup>th</sup>

Letters of acceptance & final forms mailed out

### April 7<sup>th</sup>

Tuition due

### April 7, 14, 21, 28, and May 5, 12

#### 9am – 5pm

New youth volunteer training joined with new adult volunteer training

### May 12 – Time TBA

New youth volunteer parent meeting

### June 16 – Time TBA

Refresher training with current youth volunteers

### June 20<sup>th</sup>

First day of program

### August 17<sup>th</sup>

Youth volunteer sleepover

### August 18<sup>th</sup>

No volunteering due to sleepover the night before

### August 25<sup>th</sup>

All volunteer recognition party

### August 31<sup>st</sup>

Last Day of Summer program

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## OREGON COAST AQUARIUM YOUTH VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Mail to: Youth Program Coordinator, Oregon Coast Aquarium,  
2820 S.E. Ferry Slip Road, Newport, OR 97365  
Phone: (541) 867-3474, ext. 5312

*PLEASE CLEARLY PRINT ALL INFORMATION*

### Contact Information

**Applicant name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell number: \_(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone: \_(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address you CHECK REGULARLY: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: M F Birthday & age: \_\_\_\_\_

High School name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Father/ Guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

(If different from above)

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address you CHECK REGULARLY: \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Mother/ Guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

(If different from above)

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell number: \_(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address you CHECK REGULARLY: \_\_\_\_\_



There is an opportunity to receive college credit from the Oregon Coast Community College if spring training and volunteer hours are successfully completed and requirements are met. It is not a requirement to sign up to receive college credit, however it is an option. Please note that if you do wish to receive college credit the program fee becomes \$75 (\$35 program fee + \$40 college fee).

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to receive college credit from Oregon Coast Community College. Please send me more information.

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I am sending in my application complete with:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Contact information
- \_\_\_\_\_ Signatures
- \_\_\_\_\_ Application questions

\_\_\_\_\_ I have asked **two** adults to fill out the reference worksheet. They have agreed to mail it to the youth program coordinator by the application deadline.

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By applying to the program and signing below, I understand that I am . . .

1. Agreeing to be interviewed by a representative of the Aquarium. After which if accepted into the program, I can decide to continue or drop from the program.
2. Required to pay a nonrefundable \$35 fee if I continue with the program;
3. Expected to complete all required training if I choose to continue; and
4. Expected to volunteer the required number of hours.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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By signing below I acknowledge that I have read over the application with my son or daughter and agree with their participation if they are accepted into the program. I understand that communication is primarily between the coordinator and my son/daughter and I will be notified when necessary or as I have requested. I will contact the Youth Programs Coordinator if I cannot attend the parent meeting and if I have any questions or concerns.

The Oregon Coast Aquarium is proud of our diverse and inclusive programs. Consistent with our corporate non-discrimination policy and applicable laws, OCAq programs are open to everyone regardless of race, color, gender, national origin, age, religion, creed, disability, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression.

As it is our goal to provide successful programs for all, what accommodations can we make to meet any medical or physical conditions that your participant might have? Attach additional paper if necessary.

Parent /Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Application Questions

Please answer these questions yourself as they will help us learn more about you.  
Attach additional sheets with your responses. Typed responses are preferred, but not required.

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- (1) Why do you want to be a youth volunteer at the Aquarium?
  
- (2) What do you expect or want from your Aquarium experience?
  
- (3) What should the Aquarium expect from you?
  
- (4) What extra- curricular activities (hobbies, sports, groups etc.) do you participate in? (School and non-school related).
  
- (5) Describe any experience you have working in a group, with children, teaching others and public speaking.
  
- (6) Have you been involved in other volunteer activities before? If so, please describe.
  
- (7) Can you commit to volunteering the required number of hours?
  
- (8) Describe how you see yourself as a leader and what leadership skills you want to gain.
  
- (9) What is your favorite marine animal and why?
  
- (10) Who will be providing you transportation to and from the Aquarium?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_



## Adult Reference

Please complete and return by **March 9<sup>th</sup> 2012** to:

Youth Program Coordinator - Oregon Coast Aquarium  
2820 SE Ferry Slip Road Newport, OR 97365

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### **Applicant:**

Put your name on this form and give it to an adult (not related to you) who you feel knows you best at least 2 weeks before the application deadline along with a stamped envelope addressed to the Aquarium. Ask them to mail it as soon as possible since their recommendation is needed to complete your application packet. Please remember to thank them for their help.

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### **To Adult Giving the Reference:**

The applicant below is applying to the youth volunteer program at the Oregon Coast Aquarium. The program is for young adults entering the 9<sup>th</sup> grade – 12<sup>th</sup> grade, who have an interest in the marine environment and animals. The applicants we select should show a desire and ability to teach others and willingness to commit to the program and fulfill its requirements. The focus of their work will be public education and team projects.

We would appreciate your candid responses, which will be kept confidential. Your comments will aid us in selecting a committed group of teens. Thank you for your valuable time and assistance.

If you have any questions about the program, please call the youth program coordinator at 541.867.3474 ext. 5312

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**Applicant's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Adult's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

In what capacity have you known the applicant?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I recommend this applicant to the Youth Volunteer Program (check one that represents your opinion)

With great enthusiasm  With confidence  With some confidence  With reservation

**Please fill out BOTH the reference & evaluation form**



## Evaluation

Based on your interactions, please rate the applicant on the following:

SCALE:

U= Unknown 1= Below average 2= Fair 3= Average 4=Good 5= Excellent 6= Outstanding

Oral communication skills	U	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ability to analyze a problem	U	1	2	3	4	5	6
Common sense	U	1	2	3	4	5	6
Takes initiative	U	1	2	3	4	5	6
Creativity	U	1	2	3	4	5	6
Dependability	U	1	2	3	4	5	6
Sense of responsibility	U	1	2	3	4	5	6
Self motivation	U	1	2	3	4	5	6
Perseverance	U	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ability to work independently	U	1	2	3	4	5	6
Reaction to feedback	U	1	2	3	4	5	6
Regard to authority	U	1	2	3	4	5	6
Regard for the rules	U	1	2	3	4	5	6
Cooperation	U	1	2	3	4	5	6
Adaptability	U	1	2	3	4	5	6
Teamwork	U	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ability to follow directions	U	1	2	3	4	5	6

Do you know of any special interests, qualities, abilities or experience this applicant has which would be helpful for us to be aware of? *Attach a separate sheet if necessary*

Adult's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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