



Dear Friend of the Aquarium,

Thank you for your interest in our volunteer services program. After completing the enclosed application, please mail it to the Education department at the Aquarium. You will be contacted for an interview when a volunteer position becomes available.

As a non-profit educational facility, the Aquarium depends on interested, hard working volunteers to help us care for our animals and perform other needed tasks. We use volunteers in a variety of departments, from Marine Mammal Care to Community Relations. Volunteers routinely work in the Exhibits and Marine Mammal Care departments and are frequently asked to assist in other departments.

Quite often we get volunteer applications from people who simply want to swim with the marine mammals. These people claim to like pinnipeds but they have no concept of the care needed to keep these animals healthy. These applicants are not interested in cutting fish, cleaning tanks or doing the normal routine that is necessary to keep our animals healthy and happy. We are not looking for this kind of volunteer. We are interested in volunteers who are willing to assist our facility in maintaining and caring for the diverse collection of aquatic creatures that call our facility home. Productive volunteers are often rewarded with increased animal contact and other incentives.

If you are willing to perform the routine functions, which are a vital part of caring for living animals, and are 16 years of age or older, we welcome your interest. Our volunteers feel the satisfaction of knowing that they play an important role in the workings of our facility.

If you have any questions, or would like more information, please call the Education department Monday – Friday, 9:00 – 5:00 p.m. at 1-800-500-4609 ext. 209 or 210. Once again, thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Brunner
Coordinator of Education

VOLUNTEER-INTERN DUTIES

Marine Mammal Care Department

Some volunteer-intern duties include but are not limited to the following:

- Thaw and prepare fish for bins
- Prepare animal food buckets
- Disinfect the food room (includes: animal buckets, sinks, refrigerator and floor)
- Prepare vitamin tray
- Disinfect animal areas (outdoor pool, training room, back up area)
- Assist with feedings
- Assist trainer with demonstration set up
- Patrol 1st and 2nd floors public areas. Pick up debris and sweep in needed.
- Laundry
- Empty recycling bin
- Disinfect animal toys

Exhibits Department

Some volunteer-intern duties include but are not limited to the following:

- Assist with thawing of frozen food items
- Distribute dehydrated brine shrimp eggs
- Feed frozen brine shrimp
- Soap the windows of refrigerated exhibits as needed
- Assist with preparation of penguin food bucket
- Assist with preparation of penguin vitamins
- Prepare food tray
- Feed any reserve animals as directed by staff
- Clean food prep area
- Assist with small and large feeds
- Water Quality
- Disinfect tank maintenance equipment
- Consult "Things to do List"

Volunteers and interns may also be asked to perform some additional tasks in other departments which may include following:

- Making copies
- Stuffing envelopes
- Collating and stapling various items
- Changing light bulbs
- Helping to build or repair things
- Break down boxes for recycling
- Help clean any and everything
- Move objects

VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

NAME: _____ AGE: _____ SEX: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle initial)

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE & ZIP: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

REFERRED BY: _____

If you are related to anyone working at the Aquarium, please list name and department:



EDUCATION:

ELEMENTARY: _____

SECONDARY: _____ GRAD. DATE: _____

COLLEGE: _____ GRAD. DATE: _____

TRADE, BUSINESS OR OTHER: _____ GRAD. DATE: _____



PLEASE LIST TWO REFERENCES:

1. _____
Name Address Occupation Years Known

2. _____
Name Address Occupation Years Known



PHYSICAL RECORD:

List any physical limitations: _____

Have you ever been seriously injured: _____ Details of injury: _____

Do you have defects in hearing? _____ in vision? _____ in speech? _____

In case of emergency notify: _____ Phone: _____

I realize that I am working without compensation. Furthermore, I understand that I will not receive financial remuneration for my services, and that my volunteer position may be terminated at anytime without prior notice.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent or guardian's signature if applicant is under 18 years old:

Please return completed application to the:

VOLUNTEER RELEASE FORM

By signing this application you (and your parents and/or legal guardians) are indicating your understanding that the Aquarium of Niagara assumes no responsibility for any injury suffered by you as a result of your volunteer work either on or off the Aquarium's premises, and if you are appointed to the Aquarium's volunteer program, neither you, nor your parents or legal guardians, nor heirs, administrators, executors or assigns of either shall ever institute, nor in the institution of any action at law or otherwise against the Aquarium of Niagara, on account of any injury to you or your property resulting from your volunteer services; and you and your parents or legal guardians, or their heirs, administrators, executors and assigns: **HEREBY RELEASE THE AQUARIUM OF NIAGARA**, its Board of Directors, Niagara Aquarium Foundation, owners, officers, employees and agents from and against any and all claims for personal injuries to you or loss or damage of your personal property arising out of your activities undertaken as an volunteer.

Executed as a sealed instrument this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

Name: _____ Signature: _____

Parents or guardian signature if applicant is under 18 years of age: _____ Date: _____



VOLUNTEER PURPOSE:

- _____ Practical experience
- _____ Academic experience
- _____ To supplement current or upcoming school course
- _____ Hobby or special interest
- _____ Career interest
- _____ Other

Have you had any experience working with fishes or aquatic animals?

If yes, please explain (Example: Had a 20 gallon tropical home aquarium)

Please write a short essay explaining how you believe we at the Aquarium of Niagara may assist you with meeting your goals with our volunteer program.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Volunteer positions are arranged by shifts. Each volunteer is assigned a specific day and time. Please indicate below which days and times will fit into your schedule. This will help us expedite your placement into our program.

	A.M. (7 – 11:00)	P.M. (11 – 3:30)
SUNDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MONDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TUESDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
WEDNESDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
THURSDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FRIDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SATURDAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Be sure to return this form with your completed application.

Thank You.