

Science Instructor

Reports to: Program Directors/Coordinators
Status: Part-time (variable hours, generally 15-28 hours/week), Non-exempt
Supervises: Students as assigned

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

- Under the direction of Science Department Program Directors and Coordinators, the Science Instructor utilizes appropriate teaching skills and strategies to promote each student's knowledge, awareness, and appreciation of science content. Science Instructors teach students grades pre-school through college in our laboratory, on our research vessel, and in the Dana Point Marine Protected Area.

REQUIREMENTS

- Must be able to fulfill the Essential Functions of the Instructor position.
- Four-year degree in science or education. Equivalent relevant work experience may be acceptable.
- Demonstrated experience working with children in an organized educational or recreational setting.
- Ability to work overnight programs and occasional weekends.
- Ability to work independently.
- Committed to excellence and furthering the educational and environmental mission of the organization.
- Maintains certifications in First Aid and CPR.
- Upon job offer, completes a fingerprint and background check.
- Upon hire, participates in United States Department of Transportation and Coast Guard required drug-testing program.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- Demonstrates the ability to positively maintain a focused learning environment in a variety of situations and settings.
- Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of various scientific disciplines. Uses teaching techniques to dynamically present the facts and underlying principles of these disciplines to students of a wide range of ages and abilities.
- Keeps up to date on current information in the fields of science and education.
- Attains and retains knowledge of Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards.
- Explains safety procedures to participants in educational activities and strictly enforces safety guidelines.
- Works with supervisors to resolve participant behavioral problems.
- Understands and maintains safety and conduct expectations outlined in the Ocean Institute Employee Handbook and other Ocean Institute documents.
- Assists in the maintenance of equipment and supplies.
- Assists the program director/coordinator in the overall administration of the program.
- Assists the program director/coordinator in implementing new curricula.
- Participates in Ocean Institute staff meetings, training and enhancement activities.
- Interacts professionally with colleagues and public.
- Works as part of a team with other Ocean Institute staff members and uses interpersonal communication techniques to ensure the success of the programs and positive work environment.
- Maintains a positive attitude in a vigorous working environment.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

This position requires working in a variety of physically demanding and potentially hazardous environments, both on land and at sea. For example, an employee working onboard the vessel will lift and handle nets and other objects of up to 50 pounds while at sea. Employee must be able to walk across rocky and rough terrain. The employee must be able to lift or move items weighing up to 25 pounds unassisted.

- While performing the duties of this job, the employee is frequently required to stand for extended periods. The employee may also be required to bend, crouch and sit.
- This job requires the use of hands to handle, control, or feel objects or tools.
- Specific vision abilities required by this position are perception and the ability to adjust focus.
- This position requires the employee to work outdoors, exposed to all weather conditions, as well as dust, pollen, plant life, insects and wildlife.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

- The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate. Requires occasional work where the sounds and noise levels are distracting or uncomfortable.
- Requires face-to-face discussions with individuals.
- Requires occasionally dealing with unpleasant, angry, or discourteous people.
- Requires making decisions that affect other people, the financial resources and the image of the Ocean Institute.
- Requires making decisions that impact the results of co-workers, clients or the company.
- Requires work with others on a group or team.
- Includes responsibility for work outcomes and results.
- Includes responsibility for the health and safety of others.

The statements herein are intended to describe the general nature and level of work performed by employees, but are not a complete list of responsibilities, duties and skills required of personnel so classified. Furthermore, they do not establish a contract for employment and are subject to change at the discretion of the Ocean Institute.