

Position	Aquarium Life Support Technician I
Facility	Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center
Location	Virginia Beach, Virginia
Job Summary	<p>The Aquarium Life Support Technician I will be part of a dynamic team that is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center's 800,000-gallon aquatic life support systems. This position will provide for the needs of all animal and aquarium life support systems in assigned areas by doing regular daily inspections, maintaining water quality through monitoring and operation of individual life support systems and performing preventative maintenance tasks on life support and related equipment as directed by senior staff. Duties will include the operation and maintenance of pumps, filters, fractionators, compressors, ozone generators, valve and piping systems, electronic control systems, and laboratory equipment. This position will be expected to communicate with staff across functional areas regarding maintenance for each system to maintain the highest animal care standards by collaborating with water quality, veterinary, and animal care staff to ensure the highest standards of animal care and welfare for all animal exhibits and holding/quarantine systems.</p>
Essential Functions	<p>https://www.vbgov.com/government/departments/human-resources/employment-VBGOV/Job%20Descriptions/Aquarium_Life_Support_Technician_I_03170.pdf#xd_co_f=OGM2MTY2MmEtYzBhOS00ZGQ2LWjiNzltYzI3MzZIYTAwNDM3~</p>

Other Duties and Responsibilities

Demonstrate commitment to Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center guest experience, mission, vision, and values. Support the guest experience by participating in visitor enhancement development; may lead public programs and tours; serve as a spokesperson on behalf of the Aquarium; and actively seek out guest engagement opportunities. Provide for the needs of all animal and aquarium life support systems in assigned areas by doing regular daily inspections, maintaining water quality through monitoring and operation of individual life support systems and performing preventative maintenance tasks on life support and related equipment as directed by senior staff. Respond to automated control system alerts and alarms. Assist in the troubleshooting and repair of life support systems and mechanical equipment such as automated controls, pumps, electric motors, compressors, ozone generators, filters, foam fractionators, etc. Monitor and analyze trends; recognize issues and respond per established protocols. Assist with conducting and interpreting water quality tests and analyze data, and assist with corrections as needed. Maintain exhibit quality standards through regular maintenance and cleaning activities. Assist with upgrading and/or installing life support systems in exhibits. May assist in exhibit design, construction, assembly, maintenance and repair, including but not limited to, fiberglass and concrete décor; waterproofing materials and treatments; and acrylic. Interpret schematics, equipment drawings and automated control system display drawings and indicators. Assist with the installation of hardware connected to the automated controls system. Communicate with staff across functional areas regarding maintenance for each system to maintain the highest animal care standards. Collaborate with water quality, veterinary, and animal care staff to ensure the highest standards of animal care and welfare for all animal exhibits and holding/quarantine systems. Assist in training staff, volunteers, and interns. Recommend and maintain the stock of required spare parts, tools, equipment and supplies. Keep accurate paper and electronic records on all life support, training and water testing activities including daily system maintenance, equipment maintenance and observations, and materials acquisition and disposition. Compile data and prepare numerical and narrative reports. Keep work area clean and organized and report mechanical failures to supervisors in a timely fashion; and keep service areas and mechanical spaces clean, neat and well organized. Receive work assignments from senior staff and generate work orders, progress reports, and daily logs. Research and suggest upgrades, visitor enhancements, and changes to exhibit and life support systems to senior staff. Cross-train with other staff. Operate forklift to move materials and supplies. May require occasional travel for training and professional development. Perform other job duties requiring skills, knowledge and physical requirements as demanded by those duties described or less. Individual assignments will be determined by the supervisor based on then current workloads and department needs.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

A. Knowledge 1. Knowledge of safety rules and procedures applicable to the position, and of occupational hazards and safety precautions. 2. Knowledge of major filtration components and their application. 3. Knowledge hydraulic systems as they relate to aquariums. 4. Knowledge of water quality testing as it relates to aquariums. 5. Knowledge of basic electrical theory and its application. 6. Knowledge of Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums (AMMPA), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), and other governing agencies' and regulatory/accrediting bodies' standards and guidelines.

B. Skills 1. Skill in the operating, trouble shooting, maintaining and repairing mechanical, electrical and automated control equipment in aquarium life support systems. 2. Skill in the operation and repair of reciprocating compressors, centrifugal compressors, ozone generators and centrifugal pumps. 3. Skill in cleaning, maintaining and replacing motors, bearings, and other frictional wearing surfaces that are trade related. 4. Skill in utilizing plumbing materials, tools, and techniques related to aquarium systems. 5. Skill in operating a computer and City standard software applications, as well as industry standard life support maintenance software. 6. Skill in research methods and organization of subject materials. 7. Skill in working with hazardous chemicals and materials. 8. Skill in operating a forklift. 9. Skill in use of small hand tools as well as basic shop tools. 10. Skill in operating lab equipment, when applicable. 11. Skill in closed aquarium system operation, construction and maintenance.

C. Abilities 1. Ability to give and follow directions and maintain effective working relationships with Aquarium staff and other groups or organizations with which the Aquarium has contact. 2. Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing. 3. Ability to work from technical drawings and schematics. 4. Ability to use electrical test equipment proficiently. 5. Ability to problem solve in assigned areas. 6. Ability to maintain detailed records. 7. Ability to effectively communicate to guests of the Aquarium in both formal and informal settings. 8. Ability to climb and work from tall ladders.

Education & Experienced Required

MINIMUMS: Requires any combination of education (above the high school level) and/or experience equivalent to two (2) years? experience in fields utilizing the required knowledge, skills, and abilities and associated with positions such as aquarium life support operator/technician, water treatment plant operator, aquaculturist, aquarist, exhibits technician, or maintenance worker in a similar facility. Must have, or obtain, a current and valid Virginia or North Carolina driver?s license in accordance with Virginia or North Carolina DMV driver?s license eligibility requirements. **SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:** Must be available to work evenings, weekends, holidays, and overtime when required to meet operational needs. This position may require that incumbents wear and maintain appropriate personal protective equipment such as, but not limited to, steel toed shoes, hard hats, safety glasses, gloves, or other safety attire and equipment in designated areas of risk. Specific requirements will be determined and communicated by the employee?s supervisor based on position assigned. This is a safety sensitive position and is subject to mandatory drug testing and annual exams. Positive drug test results may result in counseling and/or discipline, up to and including, termination. Alpha I Status: Positions within this class have been designated as Alpha I positions requiring employees to work during inclement weather, regardless of the City?s operational status. Successful completion of a pre-employment physical.

Licenses and Certifications Required

DMV transcript.

Physical Requirements

Successful completion of a pre-employment physical.

Working Conditions	Must be available to work evenings, weekends, holidays, and overtime when required to meet operational needs. This position may require that incumbents wear and maintain appropriate personal protective equipment such as, but not limited to, steel toed shoes, hard hats, safety glasses, gloves, or other safety attire and equipment in designated areas of risk. Specific requirements will be determined and communicated by the employee's supervisor based on position assigned. This is a safety sensitive position and is subject to mandatory drug testing and annual exams. Positive drug test results may result in counseling and/or discipline, up to and including, termination. Alpha I Status: Positions within this class have been designated as Alpha I positions requiring employees to work during inclement weather, regardless of the City's operational status.
Salary	G.15, \$32,656.00 - \$47,840.00 Starting salary: \$32,656.00
Respond To	City (online) application is required - resume/C.V. does not substitute. General inquiries may be made to David Moyer, Senior Curator of Life Support: dmoyer@vbgov.com Position is open until filled.

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