

**Pennington Marine Science Center
2018 Spring & Fall Aquarist Internship
Santa Catalina Island, CA**

Position Title: Aquarist Intern

Company/Organization: Pennington Marine Science Center owned and operated by the Western Los Angeles County Council- Boy Scouts of America

Location: Camp Emerald Bay, Santa Catalina Island, CA

Duration: 3 months

Spring Internship: February 12 – May 11, 2018

Application Deadline: November 17, 2017

Fall Internship: August 20 – November 16, 2018

Application Deadline: April 13, 2018

Position Summary:

Aquarist Interns report to the Director of the Pennington Marine Science Center and work closely with the full time Marine Biologist and Educator. Interns learn about and assist in the husbandry of temperate marine fish and invertebrates, maintain the appearance of exhibits, monitor the life support systems, perform exhibit interpretation, as well as participate in the accessions and deaccessions of specimens for the collection. We conduct multiple dives each week and interns have the opportunity to gain hands on experience operating small boats. Interns will also receive training as PSI-PCI Fill Station Operators, Cylinder Hazmat Handling and Divers Alert Network (DAN) Diving Emergency Management Providers. The skills acquired during the internship prove to be invaluable in a number of careers including public aquariums, life support technician scientific diving and aquaculture. As with other camp staff, interns are expected to assist with other camp duties as assigned such as resetting campsites. Staff t-shirts are provided and required to be worn while on duty.

The Pennington Marine Science Center is owned and operated by the Western Los Angeles County Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The camp at Emerald Bay is located near the West end of Santa Catalina Island. During the week, a marine science and outdoor education company utilizes the facilities for programs. On weekends, the camp is used by groups such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, YMCA or the Sierra Club. In addition to the marine science center, camp may offer environmental education, ceramics, archery, shooting sports, mountain biking, kayaking, canoeing, scuba and snorkeling activities to support our mission to teach leadership, ethics and stewardship to participants. All told we host more than 7,000 visitors annually.

These activities, among others provide unparalleled opportunities for adventure to camp staff on the West end. Far from the bustling tourist destination of Avalon, a 90 minute drive away, the nearest town is Two Harbors, with about 100 year round residents, and is a 30 minute drive on dirt roads. Applicants must take into consideration our isolated location since it's very difficult to

“run into town” for anything, and while there is one general store, the emphasis must be placed on “general”. Creature comforts may not be readily accessible, but the island’s spectacular beauty and atmosphere more than make up for any lack of modern conveniences.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Husbandry of temperate marine fish and invertebrates
- Maintaining the appearance of exhibits
- Animal diet preparation and feeding
- Water quality monitoring and testing
- Assist with the collection of specimens for exhibits using S.C.U.B.A, hook and line or other methods
- Life support system monitoring and maintenance
- Interpretation of exhibits to weekend groups
- Record keeping
- Public engagement and the facilitation of group tours
- Public speaking
- Other duties as assigned such as:
 - General maintenance of campsites
 - Trash sweeps
 - Assist kitchen staff

Qualifications:

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skills, and/or abilities required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

- **Education and/or Experience**
 - BS/BA in Marine Biology, Biology, Zoology, Environmental Science, Education or other related discipline or be working towards the aforementioned degrees at an accredited 4 year university
 - Professional animal husbandry experience in an aquarium or zoo a plus
 - Experience with informal science interpretation
- **Knowledge, Skills and Abilities**
 - Must have a current S.C.U.B.A certification from a nationally recognized agency such as PADI, SSI or NAUI
 - ReefCheck/AAUS scientific diver certification a plus
 - First Aid and CPR preferred but not required
 - Oxygen First Aid and Hazardous Marine Life Response training preferred
 - Familiar with Google Docs and MS Office Suite (Word, Excel, Powerpoint)
 - Strong organizational and writing skills
 - Ability to work effectively with co-workers

- Familiarity with use of plumbing, hand and power tools,
 - Ability to climb up and down stairs
 - Ability to lift 50 lbs
- **Language Skills**
 - Ability to read and interpret documents i.e. safety rules, operating and maintenance instructions, and procedure manuals.
 - Ability to write routine reports
 - Ability to speak effectively before groups or individuals

Physical Demands & Work Environment:

The physical demands and work environment 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. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is frequently required to stand, sit, walk, reach, and talk or hear. Must be able to perform repetitive motions 75% of the time. Must be able to lift 50 lbs.

Pay Rate:

\$325 a week after deductions to cover room and board which, are provided for the duration of the internship in camp style housing and dining facilities. Taxes will also be deducted based on your W4. Travel stipend for transportation to and from the island is available. Pay rate subject to change with minimum wage increases.

Application Instructions:

If interested, please send **cover letter, resume, unofficial transcript**, and a minimum of **three professional references** (saved in PDF format) to the Pennington Marine Science Center. Questions regarding the position should be directed to David Chan or Brynn Fredrickson using the contact information listed below.

Contact Information:

David Chan, Director and/or Brynn Fredrickson, Marine Biologist & Educator
1-310-510-1795 ext. 36
penningtonmsc@gmail.com



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