



Job Title: Education Intern (volunteer)

Department: Education

Department Supervisor: Director of Education and Exhibits

Purpose: To work with the Education and Exhibits staff to carry out daily educational programming for visitors at the FOS Coastal Center.

Responsibilities: Assist the Education Department with day-to-day educational programming and activities geared towards Coastal Center guests. These will include the following:

- Lead informal educational programs around the Coastal Center
- Supervise guest-animal interactions at the ray and invertebrate touch tanks
- Lead daily public educational programs in front of audiences of up to 50+ guests
- Assist staff with delivery of both on-site and virtual field trip lessons
- Assist with Education Department special events and activities
- Maintain a professional relationship with guests, staff, and volunteers
- Occasionally assist with seining activities in the Indian River Lagoon and other local bodies of water
- Occasionally assist with educational outreach programs throughout the community
- Occasionally assist with marine science summer camps sessions under supervision of Camp Director
- Occasionally assist with educational nighttime sea turtle nesting walks

Qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree in progress (or completed within the last 12 months) in biology, marine biology, ecology, conservation, environmental science, or science education, with an interest in building a career in the natural sciences or science education
- Minimum of 2 months of previous science teaching experience in a formal (classroom) or informal (zoo, aquarium, nature center) setting preferred
- Exceptionally strong and dynamic public speaker
- Comfortable teaching adults and children of all ages, and interacting with the public on a daily basis
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Previous experience working with children
- Able to work outdoors in Florida's unpredictable weather, stand for up to 3 hours, and lift up to 50 pounds
- Strong customer service skills and a professional attitude
- Self-motivated, able to work independently or as part of a team
- Charismatic, enthusiastic, energetic, upbeat, and pleasant personality
- Hard working, dedicated, prompt and timely

- Ability to carefully follow instructions, make decisions, and react effectively under pressure
- Strong desire for personal growth and increased knowledge
- Strong computer skills, including an advanced knowledge of Microsoft Office
- Artistic or graphic design background and a working knowledge of Adobe Photoshop and Microsoft Publisher desirable

Training Consists of:

- Orientation
- Direct hands-on training with Education and Exhibits Staff
- Periodic performance evaluations

Time Commitments:

- Ability to work weekends and occasional evenings
- Commitment of 2 months minimum
- Minimum 18 hours per week, including some weekend shifts

Benefits:

- May be eligible to receive school credit – please check with your internship advisor
- There is no housing or monetary compensation with this position

Florida Oceanographic's Core Values:

- We believe in learning and understanding all we can about Florida's ocean and coastal ecosystems.
- We believe in educating children and adults about Florida's ecosystems in an exciting and interactive way.
- We believe in helping visitors to enjoy and learn from their experiences at the Florida Oceanographic Coastal Center.
- We believe that our approach to work is built on respect for one another and teamwork, including all employees and volunteers, creating a good workplace and allowing work to be exciting and fun.
- We believe in providing the best possible care for all living plants and animals within our exhibits.
- We believe in being good stewards of all the material and financial resources made available to us.
- We believe that our activities and actions should encourage others to be better stewards of Florida's ocean and coastal ecosystems.
- We believe in restoring ecosystems through hands-on conservation and restoration work.
- We believe in providing sound, fact based scientific information on issues affecting our coastal environment.

Mission Statement:

Florida Oceanographic's mission is to inspire environmental stewardship of Florida's coastal ecosystems through education, research and advocacy.

Florida Oceanographic Society's response to COVID-19:

The health and safety of our staff members, interns, volunteers, and guests is our top priority. Florida Oceanographic Society has implemented a number of safety policies, including facility-

wide capacity limitations, capacity limitations at specific exhibits, and physical barriers to create separation between guests and staff/interns. Interns will be required to wear a facial covering at all times. Please contact Director of Education (zjud@floridaocean.org or 772-225-0505 x113) if you have specific questions about COVID-19 as it relates to intern responsibilities.

After filling out the online volunteer application, please send a detailed letter of interest (explaining how your interests and career goals mesh with the mission of Florida Oceanographic Society and how this internship would benefit you from an academic or career development perspective), a resume/CV, and contact information for three professional or academic references to Zack Jud, Ph.D, Director of Education and Exhibits, at zjud@floridaocean.org or 772-225-0505 x113.