



Position: Volunteer Animal Handling Specialist

Reports To: Volunteer Services Manager, Onsite Education Leads (with additional training and monitoring by the Ambassador Animals Manager).

Position Summary:

The Volunteer Animal Handling Specialist will be responsible for appropriate handling of education animals for presentations during their regular Exhibit Interpreter shifts, events, or special programs.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

In addition to Exhibit Interpreter duties:

- Must successfully complete Volunteer Animal Handling Specialist Training.
- Deliver engaging and scientifically accurate animal presentations.
- Follow proper animal handling techniques.
- Follow proper transport, check out, and record keeping procedures.
- Keep Animal Ambassador Animals Manager notified of any concerns regarding animals.

Requirements:

- Must be at least 14 years of age, currently enrolled in the 9th grade or higher.
- Must be an active LLPA volunteer for a minimum of a year.
- Must have a minimum of 200 Exhibit Interpreter hours.
- Must complete a volunteer specialist application.
- Upon acceptance as a candidate, applicants will have a group interview with an animal handling component.
- After becoming an Volunteer Animal Handling specialist, volunteer will have a one month probationary period.

Critical Skills/Competencies:

- Must be up to date on Animal Handling, policies, and procedures
- Must be enthusiastic and confident handling animals
- Must understand and exhibit proper animal handling techniques for each species handled.
- Must be able to follow proper procedures for checking animals in and out of the EAR; including appropriate transport, monitoring, and record keeping.
- Must be able to follow instructions from the Ambassador Animals Manager.
- Must be friendly, polite, professional, and courteous to the LLPA guests, fellow volunteers, and employees.

Scope of position:

- The Volunteer Animal Handling Specialist must be able to attend all mandatory trainings related to the position.
- The Volunteer Animal Handling Specialist must commit to 2 half day shifts per week for training, and one half day shift per week to stay current.
- This commitment must be maintained for a duration of at least six months.

Physical Demands of the Job:

This job requires periods of standing and walking. It requires the ability to perform proper handling techniques.

Special Working Conditions:

While this volunteer description attempts to describe the essential functions of the position, it does not prescribe or restrict the tasks that may be asked of the volunteer.

Support Provided:

It is the responsibility of the Volunteer Services Department to:

- Maintain records for all active volunteers.
- Issue all volunteers an identification badge and uniform shirt.
- Provide ongoing support and assistance with volunteer/staff relationships.
- Administer and provide information regarding opportunity and benefits available for active volunteers.
- Provide a written reference pertaining to the volunteer's experience (hours contributed, length of commitment, job description) as requested.

Please submit a specialist application to the Volunteer Services Coordinator.

Loveland Living Planet Aquarium is an equal opportunity employer committed to hiring a diverse workforce and sustaining an inclusive culture. LLPA does not discriminate on the basis of disability, veteran status, or on the basis of other protected class under federal, state, or local laws.