

# Seymour Center School Programs Volunteer and Intern Information 2021-2022



*Thank you for your interest in joining the outstanding group of people who volunteer as part of the Seymour Center's School Programs teaching crew. Our team of school programs instructors brings the wonder and importance of marine science to life for thousands of students every year. We hope you'll join us!*

**What would I be doing as a school programs instructor?** Teams of volunteers, interns, and staff work together at the Seymour Center leading hands-on, marine science activity stations as part of thematic Discovery Labs to small groups of students (8 children maximum per small group). Volunteer instructors also lead interpretive tours for students (up to 20 children/adults) to visit areas at the marine lab (including marine mammal research overlook, blue whale and gray whale skeletons, invertebrate touch tank, and more.) Instructors engage with all grade levels (K-12 and community college) however, the majority of groups are K-5 classes.

**Benefits:** Meet fun and dedicated people who share your enthusiasm for kids, science, and ocean conservation. Learn about local marine life and scientific research. Gain experience in public speaking, teaching, and interpreting marine science and research. Develop excellent group management skills for working with K-12 students. Regular enrichment lectures and field trips are offered to active volunteers throughout the year.

**Requirements:** Responsible, punctual, and reliable. Enjoy working with K-12 and college students. Desire to learn and communicate marine science and research to youth through hands-on activities and engaging interpretation. This position requires preparation at home the night before each teaching shift. Ability to manage a group of schoolchildren. Ability to walk 1/4 mile, lift buckets of seawater for holding live marine animals. Enjoy working cooperatively with a team of other volunteers and staff. **Minimum 18 years of age.** Attitude of a life-long learner. Experience working with K-12 youth preferred, but not required.

**What does the training cover?** Training sessions provide orientation to Seymour Center school programs, touring and teaching demonstrations and practice, group management tips, introduction to marine science concepts, and the most current information on Long Marine Lab marine mammal research.

**When and where is the training?** The school programs volunteer training series will take place at the Seymour Center during January and February 2022. **See the list of specific dates and times below. The training requires attending all seven 3-hour training sessions in person.** Different information is covered each day along with additional assignments to complete outside of class. Ongoing training and support will be provided throughout the school year.

**Minimum commitment: One morning shift (9:20 AM-12:20 PM) every week from February through May 2022.** Vacations can be covered by swapping shifts with other school volunteers or by arranging subs. College students are able to switch shifts on a quarterly/semester basis to accommodate class schedules. Volunteer intern positions may be available and require additional hours and responsibilities.

**How do I apply to become a school programs instructor?** Submit a [volunteer application](#). Applications will be reviewed and selected candidates will be contacted for an interview.

### **School Programs Volunteer Training Series Dates • Winter 2022**

**Time: 9:30 AM- 12:30 PM for all seven in-person training classes**

1. Wednesday, January 12
2. Friday, January 14
3. Wednesday, January 19
4. Friday, January 21
5. Wednesday, January 26
6. Friday, January 28
7. Choose one session to attend: Thursday, February 3, OR Friday, February 4.

**Trainees must attend all seven training sessions listed above.** Each training session covers different material. Some additional assignments will need to be completed outside of class.

**Need more information or have questions?** Contact the Seymour Center Volunteer Office at [volunteers@ucsc.edu](mailto:volunteers@ucsc.edu) or call (831) 459-3854.