Aquarist

**Job Description:** Attends to and cares for marine animals residing within aquariums. May aid in the collection of marine specimens and design aquarium exhibitions.

**What does an Aquarist do?**

* Maintains the quality of habitats and environments, including cleaning and regulating temperature
* Attends to and interacts with marine life, may facilitate public engagement
* Feed and water animals according to schedules and feeding instructions
* Design exhibits and environments within aquarium
* Educate the public through direct interaction with tours, presentations, and direct interactions with marine life
* Travel nationally or internationally for research or collection of specimens
* Respond to questions from attendants, provide information about animals, such as behavior, habitat, breeding habits, or facility activities

**Outlook:**

Average Salary - $48.26 hourly, $100,370 annually

Projected Job Openings – 56,400 in the next 10 years

**Your Interests:**

* Do you like working with animals?
* Do you like water and aquatic environments?
* Do you have good communication skills?

**Education/Program of Study:**

* Most entry level positions require a bachelor's degree. Higher positions may require a master's degree. Both scuba diving and CPR certifications are required.
* Degree paths include marine biology, biology, zoology, and other related fields