



# STEM Careers

## 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

### Your Interests:

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

### Outlook:

Average Salary - \$48.26 hourly, \$100,370 annually  
Projected Job Openings - 56,400 in the next 10 years

### 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

Sources:

<https://www.environmentalscience.org/career/aquarist>

<https://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/39-2021.00>

<https://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/29-1131.00>