

**PROJECT OCEANOLOGY  
MARINE SCIENCE EDUCATION INSTITUTION  
DECKHAND (SEASONAL)**

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

**NATURE OF WORK:** This is responsible, entry-level work which includes providing necessary skiff and vessel support for instructional programs including, but not limited to, Envirolab programs. Duties also include performing maintenance tasks for Envirolab2, Envirolab3, and a fleet of outboard-rigged skiffs. Considerable physical strength and stamina is required.

**SUPERVISION RECEIVED:** The Deckhand receives direction from the vessel Captain and the Chief Instructor.

**SUPERVISION EXERCISED:** None.

**EXAMPLES OF ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:**

Works with instructors and captain to maintain safety by managing passenger behavior on the dock, during the embarking and disembarking process, and while underway.

Assists captain and instructors to maintain operations, appearance, and safety of EL2, EL3, and a fleet of skiffs. This requires communication to arrange a schedule based on staff and vessel availability.

Greets program groups at least 15 minutes prior to the assigned program time, and remains at least 15 minutes after to help with cleanup and debriefing.

Handles lines to moor vessels to wharf and to rig towing lines.

Hauls and sets anchor.

Assists with normal cleaning and maintenance of ship, i.e., cleaning the ship, painting, varnishing, chipping paint, polishing brass and other metal parts.

Provides on-going evaluation of programs and facilities, and communicates this information to all appropriate staff members.

Assists instructors and captain in preparing vessels and equipment for programs, in particular Lighthouse programs.

Participates in fire and life raft drills, e.g., launches and man life rafts.

Loads, unloads and stows cargo and gear, such as science equipment, gloves, etc.

Implements standard and emergency procedures, including, but is not limited to, handling mooring lines and the anchor.

Performs a variety of activities related to the maintenance of the vessels.

Ability to work a flexible schedule including early mornings, daytime, evenings, and weekends.

Ability to establish and maintain effective and courteous working relationships with school officials, public officials, members of the general public, students, co-workers, and superiors.

Regular attendance is a requirement of this position.

**\*\*\*\*\*The duties listed above are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.\*\*\*\*\***

#### **OTHER JOB FUNCTIONS:**

Performs related duties and responsibilities as required.

#### **QUALIFICATIONS PROFILE:**

##### Knowledge, Skills and Ability

Ability to work with people of all ages and backgrounds and the energy and enthusiasm to do so.

Ability to work as a team member and maintain positive interactions with other staff and passengers.

Ability to implement standard and emergency procedures, including, but not limited to, handling mooring lines and the anchor.

Ability to work independently on a flexible schedule and to be self-motivated.

Ability to follow instructions in written, oral or diagrammatic form without consistent direct supervision.

Ability to arrange things or actions in a certain order or pattern according to a specific rule or set of rules (e.g., patterns of numbers, letters, words, pictures, mathematical operations).

Ability to 1) perform multiple tasks with interruptions; 2) meet deadlines; 3) perform duties promptly with attention to detail and accuracy; 4) prioritize and organize work; and 5) organize and express thoughts and ideas through written and oral communication.

Ability to tell when something is wrong or is likely to go wrong. It does not involve solving the problem, only recognizing there is a problem. Communicates the problem and notifies appropriate personnel.

Ability to maintain a calm manner in stressful and/or emergency situations.

Ability to adjust quickly to changing priorities in a sometimes stressful environment.

Ability to establish and maintain effective and courteous working relationships with school officials, public officials, members of the general public, students, co-workers, and superiors.

### Education, Experience and Training

Experience handling small boats (outboard-rigged skiffs) and experience as crew member on larger vessels, is preferred.

Must complete initial deckhand training requirements.

### License or Certificate

First Aid, CPR, and CT Safe Boating License (or Coast Guard license) are required. Lifeguard certification is preferred.

State of Connecticut Health form is required.

Subject to a mandatory random drug testing program.

Project Oceanology provides initial deckhand training, as necessary. Successful completion of this training is required to continue minimum employment as a deckhand.

### **PHYSICAL DEMANDS:**

The physical demands here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of the position. Considerable physical strength and the stamina to work outdoors all day regardless of weather is required.

While performing the duties of this job the employee is frequently required to: hear; speak; stand; sit; walk; bend; twist; stoop; kneel; crouch or crawl; climb stairs to various levels; use hands to finger, handle, feel or operate objects, tools or controls; use wrists for repetitive

motion; reach with hands and arms; drive; tolerate exposure to weather and environmental allergens.

The employee must have the ability to 1) carry equipment; 2) lift equipment; 3) lift, move and otherwise manipulate up to 100 pounds; 4) quickly move hand, hand together with arm, or two hands to grasp, manipulate or assemble objects; 5) hold 35 pounds with arms extended; 6) walk steep or uneven terrain carrying heavy weight loads; 7) coordinate two or more limbs, while sitting, standing or lying down; and 8) to exert maximum muscle force to lift, push, pull, or carry objects.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee works in outside weather conditions. The employee works near moving mechanical parts and in precarious places and is exposed to wet and/or humid conditions, fumes or airborne particles, toxic or caustic chemicals, extreme cold, extreme heat, risk of electrical shock and vibration. The noise level in the work environment ranges from quiet to extremely loud dependent upon the task or equipment being used.

Specific vision abilities required by the job include the ability to see details at a distance and to see objects in the presence of glare or bright lighting or under low light conditions. In addition, the employee must possess close vision, distant vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus. Hand-eye coordination is necessary to operate equipment.

Employee must be free from mental and physical disorders that would interfere with performance of duties as described, and have the mental capacity to handle stressful situations, physical danger and risk of serious injury to person and others. Employee may have to function in situations where subjected to aggressive verbal and/or physical behavior.

**\*\*\*\*\*This job description does not constitute an employment agreement or contract between the employer and the employee and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.\*\*\*\*\***