

# Seymour Center School Programs Volunteer and Intern Information 2024-2025



Thank you for your interest in joining the outstanding people who volunteer to inspire the next generation of K-12 students. Be part of the team that brings the wonder and importance of ocean science to life for thousands of students every year as one of our School Programs Instructors. Join us!

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**What would I be doing as a volunteer school programs instructor?** You would be part of our team that leads hands-on, marine science [Discovery Lab](#) activities to small groups of students (8 children maximum per small group). Volunteer instructors also lead interpretive tours (up to 20 children/adults) to visit special areas at the marine lab including the marine mammal research overlook, whale skeletons, and the invertebrate touch tank. Instructors engage with all grade levels (K-12 and community college); however, most 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. Enrichment lectures, field trip opportunities, and more are offered to active volunteers throughout the year.

**Requirements:** Responsible, punctual, and reliable. Enjoy working with K-12 youth and college students. Desire to learn and communicate marine science and research to youth through hands-on activities and engaging interpretation. This position requires approximately 30 minutes of reading preparation at home the night before each teaching shift. Ability to manage a group of schoolchildren. Ability to walk 1/4 mile, lift 10 lbs. tubs containing seawater with 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 in person at the Seymour Center from September 17 through October 11, 2024. **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 (Tuesday-Friday; 8:15-11:00 AM or 10:15-1:00 PM) every week from October through May.** Volunteers are responsible for covering any planned absences by swapping shifts or arranging subs in advance. College students may 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?** Complete a volunteer application online at [seymourcenter.ucsc.edu/volunteer](https://seymourcenter.ucsc.edu/volunteer). Applications will be reviewed and selected candidates will be contacted for an interview.

## School Programs Volunteer Training Series Dates • Fall 2024

### Seven in-person training classes

Attend all 7 dates in either **GROUP A** or **GROUP B**

Time: 9:30 AM- 12:30 PM

#### TRAINING GROUP A

1. Tuesday, September 17
2. Thursday, September 19
3. Tuesday, September 24
4. Thursday, September 26
5. Tuesday, October 1
6. Thursday, October 3
7. Thursday, October 10

OR

#### TRAINING GROUP B

1. Wednesday, September 18
2. Friday, September 20
3. Wednesday, September 25
4. Friday, September 27
5. Wednesday, October 2
6. Friday, October 4
7. Friday, October 11

**Each training class session covers different material.** Some additional assignments will need to be completed outside of class. **Trainees must attend all seven training classes listed under either GROUP A or GROUP B.**

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