

Position: Live Animal Technician, Education Department

Employment Status: Full Time, Hourly, Non-Exempt

Job Summary:

Whether showcased in an exhibition or featured in an educational program, live animals are an important component of museum education.

A member of the Education team, the Live Animal Technician is responsible for maintaining, acquiring and caring for the animals under HMNS care. This position requires the handling of a number of animals, including exotics and invertebrates including reptiles, amphibians, birds, mammals, fish, marine invertebrates, insects and arachnids.

Additionally, this position will also assist in teaching dissection, biology or wildlife classes, presenting live animal programs, occasionally creating curriculum, and potentially contributing to the creation and maintenance of any live-animal related exhibits as needed.

This individual will develop working relationships with staff in other museum departments and reports to the Live Animal Program Manager

Essential Job Duties and Responsibilities:

- Daily care of a wide range of small native and exotic animals including feeding and handling animals and cleaning habitats at main campus and satellite facilities
- Maintain a sanitary and organized animal facility
- Maintain accurate records of animal care and observations
- Maintain classroom and exhibit hall aquaria and terraria
- Deliver minor medical care to injured or affected animals, including applying ointments or salves, administering oral medications and injections, changing dressings, and other treatment as directed by veterinarian
- Purchase and maintain supplies for the animal room and animal-related programming
- Acquiring and caring for new animals
- Present HMNS education programs, including Wildlife on Wheels Outreach, weekday labs, scout classes and summer camp, both in person and virtually
- Write curriculum for labs, classes, summer camps and other programs
- Train facilitators on Wildlife on Wheels (WOW) Outreach procedures, programs, live-animal management and preserved specimen maintenance.
- Serve as social media contact for animal-related content and questions, including Facebook Live presentations and interviews, Instagram posts, and blog posts
- Interact with museum patrons, camp parents, campers and staff with a professional and accommodating demeanor
- Participate in provided onsite training
- Other duties as assigned
- Comply with the museum's health and safety protocols

Skills and Experience:

- Familiar with educational programs at the Museum
- Background in animal care or a degree in an animal-related field
- Coursework in education, science and/or history
- Experience in public presentations is an advantage

- Knowledge and experience caring for a wide variety of animals, not just mammals
- Comfortable handling all animals in the museum collection
- Flexible, personable and able to multi-task
- Able to meet required deadlines
- Takes initiative when necessary
- Proficient in Microsoft Office applications
- Excellent problem-solving skills
- Ability to remain calm in crisis/emergency situations
- Organized, detail-oriented, reliable and a self-starter
- Impeccable record keeping of confidential information to maintain legal compliance with state organizations

Qualifications:

- At least 18 years of age
- Valid driver's license
- High school diploma, GED certificate, or 5+ years of relevant experience

Working Conditions and Physical Demands:

- Must be comfortable handling live animals including snakes, lizards, frogs, mice, cockroaches
- Familiar with Universal Precautions and not squeamish around bodily fluids
- Able to work weekends and evening hours as needed
- Able to lift up to 40 pounds
- Able to be in both stationary and circulating positions for long periods of time
- Frequently move about museum to meet with museum staff and visitors in various areas of the building
- Able to arrive to work on time
- Access to a reliable vehicle

Perks of Working at HMNS Include:

- Medical, dental, vision, and life/disability insurance offered to full-time employees following 60-day waiting period
- 401K plan enrollment available to eligible employees who complete one year of service
- Free individual-level HMNS membership
- Free admission to museum exhibit halls, Butterfly Center, Planetarium, Giant Screen Theater and satellite facilities
- Discounted programming including museum summer camp
- Free staff parking

Application Instructions:

Resumes will be accepted through **November 24, 2025 and can be submitted in the following ways:**

- By email to jobs@hmns.org
- By mail to HR Department, HMNS, 5555 Hermann Park Drive, Houston, Texas 77030
- In-person by dropping off your application materials c/o HR at the Museum Service desk at HMNS in Hermann Park

No phone calls, please.

HMNS does not respond to inquiries regarding application status.

The Houston Museum of Natural Science is an EEO Employer.

Houston Museum of Natural Science, 5555 Hermann Park Drive, Houston, Texas 77030

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