



GEORGIA AQUARIUM

Volunteer Diving Program Requirements

To apply for a volunteer diver position, you first must meet these requirements:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Complete Trainings: 230 Ocean Voyager and 141 Zoonotic Awareness
- Complete 32 hours of volunteering at Georgia Aquarium as approved by Volunteer Programs
- Be able to commit to twenty-four dives and 12 non-diving shifts per year (this equals 48 hrs of non-dive shifts)
- Be able to pass a swim test, dive test and professional dive physical exam (paid by the volunteer* administered by a physician chosen by Georgia Aquarium)
- Possess a current Open Water Diver certification or higher from an internationally recognized certifying agency
- Have current certifications for Oxygen Administration, First Aid, AED, and CPR. (we do not offer these initial classes to enter the program)
- Have 20 or more logged dives (you must be able to provide a log of dives)
- Review and agree to the Volunteer Position Description for Volunteer Diver position

After you complete the above requirements, you would complete a Request to Volunteer Behind the Scenes form. When a dive position comes available, interested volunteers are contacted based on their availability and seniority. These volunteers must then satisfactorily complete the following:

- Interview with GAI Dive Operations personnel
- Swim & dive test administered by Georgia Aquarium
- *Medical examination (fee is \$370, which will only be refunded after the completion of 24 dives plus the additional 12 non-dive shifts per year)

****Please see reverse side for the swim and dive evaluation criteria.**

GEORGIA AQUARIUM INC.

DIVE VOLUNTEER SWIM CHECKOUT AND EVALUATION

Applicants for Diver status shall demonstrate proficiency in the following skills during checkout dives and training evaluation dives with the Dive Safety Officer or designee:

Swim and Skin-Diving Skill Tests

- _____ Swim underwater 25 yards (23 m) without surfacing and without swimming aids.
- _____ Swim 400 yards in less than 12 min. without swimming aids.
- _____ Without swimming aids, transport another person of equal size a distance of 25 yards in the water.
- _____ Tread water for 10 minutes, the last two without the use of hands, without swimming aids.

Snorkel Skills

- _____ Snorkel out from the side of pool, surface dive to a depth of about 10 feet (3 m), retrieve an object from the bottom, ascend properly, and return with object.
- _____ Demonstrate the ability to enter the pool, swim to the bottom (10-ft or 3 m), remove mask, fins and snorkel, surface, and tread water for one minute. Return to the bottom; replace all gear, surface with a cleared mask and snorkel.

Diving Skills

- _____ Enter the water with full equipment properly demonstrating a controlled seated entry.
- _____ Demonstrate the ability to remove, replace, and clear one's mask while submerged.
- _____ Demonstrate the ability to remove, replace, and clear one's regulator while submerged.
- _____ Demonstrate the ability to breath from a buddy's back-up regulator (alternate air source) while swimming near the bottom and ascending from a simulated depth of at least 20 feet (6 m).
- _____ Demonstrate the ability to buddy breath while swimming near the bottom and ascending from a simulated depth of at least 20 feet (6 m).
- _____ Demonstrate the ability to achieve and maintain neutral buoyancy at the surface and below the surface, demonstrating proper use of personal flotation equipment.
- _____ Demonstrate an aquatic ability acceptable to the instructor.