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Research Collections Volunteer Position Summaries

Do you have great attention to detail and an interest in helping the Academy maintain our scientific collections? Get up close and personal with valuable specimens from around the world as you help Academy curators to prepare, label, photograph and do other tasks aimed at preserving our specimens and digitizing our collections. Our goal is to have our scientific collections digitally available for scientists around the world to access, but we need your help!

*Please note that which roles are available may vary, so check the volunteer application for a listing of the positions that are currently recruiting. **All volunteers must be 18 years or older to apply.***

To see which roles are currently available and apply now, check the [Volunteer Application](#).

BOTANY COLLECTIONS VOLUNTEER

Reporting to the Botany Curatorial Staff, Botany Collections Volunteers support the California Academy of Sciences through expanding the science delivery of the CAS herbarium to the scientific community. An herbarium (a library of dried plant specimens) has many important functions in research and conservation. Here at CAS, there are literally thousands of collections in the pipeline waiting to be processed. A herbarium never stops growing because the goal is to have more and more specimens collected from around the world available for study. Botany collections volunteers serve one shift per week, on the same weekday each week in the morning or afternoon (see application for specific shift availability) with a minimum 6 month commitment required.

ENTOMOLOGY COLLECTIONS VOLUNTEER

Reporting to the Entomology Curatorial Staff, the Entomology Collections Volunteer assists staff in accessioning, preparing/mounting specimens, photography, data entry, and other assignments as directed. Volunteers will receive job specific training in all tasks and no collections training or previous entomology knowledge is required.

GEOLOGY COLLECTIONS VOLUNTEER

Reporting to the Geology Collections Manager and Curatorial staff, the Geology Collections Volunteer assists with a number of tasks related to processing and caring for fossil and mineral specimens. Volunteers will receive job specific training in specific tasks. No collections training or previous geology knowledge is required.

INVERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY COLLECTIONS VOLUNTEER

Reporting to the Invertebrate Zoology (IZ) curatorial staff, Invertebrate Zoology Volunteers are integral to our success curating our extremely large and diverse biodiversity collection. The care, conservation and curation of the natural history specimens in the Invertebrate Zoology collections are activities vital to the Academy's



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mission and contribute directly towards biodiversity knowledge and conservation/ regeneration of the natural world. A variety of tasks within the department of Invertebrate Zoology and Geology (IZ&G) are performed weekly by volunteer workers including specimen sorting, secure housing, curation, and shelving of preserved museum invertebrate specimens, data and digital image capture, preparation and maintenance of collection supplies, labeling of collections, and assisting staff with special projects. Volunteers will receive job specific training in all tasks and no collections training or previous invertebrate zoology knowledge is required.

ICHTHYOLOGY - Coming Soon!

ORNITHOLOGY AND MAMMALOLOGY- Coming Soon!

We are committed to ensuring diversity, equity, accessibility, and inclusion are intrinsic to Academy culture and operations, from recruitment and retention to science and advocacy. Explore [Our Commitment to Racial Equity](#) to learn about our intentional engagement of traditionally excluded groups in an effort to spark interest in or foster pathways to scientific careers.

The California Academy of Sciences will give full consideration for employment to all qualified applicants with criminal histories in a manner consistent with the requirements of the [San Francisco Fair Chance Ordinance](#) (SF Police Code, Article 49).

The California Academy of Sciences is an Equal Opportunity Employer and is committed to ensure that all employees and applicants receive equal consideration and treatment, regardless of race, color, creed, gender (including gender identity or gender expression), religion, marital or domestic partner status, age, place of birth, national origin or ancestry, physical, mental or medical disability, height or weight, sex, sexual orientation, citizenship, military service status, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by state or federal law or local ordinance.