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Public Programs and Guest Experiences Position Summaries

Are you interested in engaging the Academy's guests? Do you have a passion for education, customer service and working with diverse audiences? A volunteer role with Public Programs or Guest Experience might be the right fit for you. Take a look at the options below to find the role for you and then click the link for the full position description.

*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](#).

[DOCENT VOLUNTEER](#)

Reporting to the Volunteer Programs Staff, Docents support the California Academy of Sciences through informal and interactive engagement with guests that inspire curiosity, learning, and action based on scientific knowledge. These engagements, including conversations and hands-on experiences, inspire and excite guests by using authentic scientific information that is consistent with the Academy's mission to regenerate the natural world through science, learning, and collaboration. Docent Volunteers serve 3 shifts per month with a minimum 6 month commitment and flexible scheduling allows for shifts any day of the week.

[NATURALIST CENTER ENGAGEMENT VOLUNTEER](#)

Reporting to Public Programs Staff, the Naturalist Center Engagement Volunteer will support the California Academy of Sciences through informal and interactive educational engagements with guests of all ages in the Naturalist Center. They will spend the majority of their shift engaging with guests and facilitating inquiry-based activities. The volunteer will utilize prepared activity boxes that include education props, tools, and/or natural history specimens. Naturalist Center Engagement Volunteers serve at least one shift per month on weekend afternoons only, with a minimum 6 month commitment required.

[ORIENTEER](#)

Reporting to the Guest Experience Staff, Orienteers are responsible for helping Academy guests by answering questions, providing information and helping guests to navigate the museum. Orienteers act as a roving concierge to create a memorable and personal visitor experience for California Academy of Science guests. Orienteers service one to two shifts per month, on weekends and holidays only, with weekday shifts available during summer months and around holidays only, with a minimum 6 month commitment required.

[SPECIAL EVENTS VOLUNTEER](#)

Reporting to Academy Volunteers staff, Special Events Volunteers (SEVs) support the Academy through informal and interactive conversations with guests that inspire curiosity, learning, and action. These hands-on experiences educate and excite guests by introducing them to information that is consistent with



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the Academy's mission to regenerate the natural world. These volunteers gain new skills as they discover and practice our "platinum engagement" techniques, while learning to engage guests around the live specimens in our coral reef, penguin, and swamp exhibits. Special Events Volunteers serve at least one shift per month during scheduled special events, typically 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, Friday or Saturday nights, with a minimum 6 month commitment required.

STEAM VOLUNTEER

Reporting to the Public Programs Staff, the STEAM Volunteer will support the California Academy of Sciences through informal and interactive educational engagements with guests of all ages, most specifically young children. These volunteers will spend the majority of their shift engaging with children and facilitating explorative, open-ended activities. These activities include Big Blue Blocks, a loose parts building activity, Rigamajig, a wooden engineering activity, Flight Lab, experimentation with a small wind tunnel, and Nature Play, using the outdoor engagement area of Wander Woods. STEAM Volunteers serve 1-2 shifts per month on weekend mornings or afternoons only, with a minimum 6 month commitment required.

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.