

1 ToR Aquarist

1.1 Job duties

Overall job duty is preserving the good condition and functionality of the Aquarium Boka. Primary duties for an aquarist include:

- monitoring water quality and temperature,
- cleaning tanks,
- repairing equipment,
- designing exhibits,
- giving educational presentations to visitors,
- observing animal behavior,
- providing behavioral enrichment activities,
- preparing and distributing food each day
- restraining animals for veterinary treatments,
- capturing, and quarantining sick animals, and
- breeding replacement stock for the aquarium
- assist other Aquarium Boka staff when / if needed.

Based on the need, an aquarist may be required to travel to various locations (often both domestic and international destinations) to collect specimens from oceans, rivers, or lakes. These captured specimens must then be safely contained and transported back to the aquarium. Open water diving skills and certifications are necessary for this sort of work. A passport is also required for international travel.

Aquarist careers often require strenuous physical activity, significant periods of time spent in the water while outfitted in scuba gear, and the use of tools and equipment to complete the required tank maintenance tasks.

1.2 Key skills for aquarists

- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Initiative
- Ability to prioritise and plan effectively
- Creativity
- Willingness to learn

1.3 Education & Training

Aquarists must have (at minimum) a Bachelor of Science degree in marine biology, zoology, aquaculture, or a closely related area. Scuba diving certification is an advantage, as is a certification course in first aid, to ensure that the aquarist can safely carry out their duties (which may involve a significant amount of time spent underwater).