



EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT

Applications are invited for a permanent position of

Aquarist 1 (x3 positions)

The South African Association for Marine Biological Research (SAAMBR), based at uShaka Marine World in Durban, is seeking a suitably qualified Aquarist 1 to join the uShaka Sea World Curatorial department, a division of SAAMBR. The successful candidate will be required to support the delivery of daily animal husbandry and exhibit maintenance, while developing foundational skills in aquarium operations and animal care. The role supports the daily operation of the aquarium through consistent animal care, monitoring, record-keeping, and maintenance activities under the supervision of the Senior and Lead Aquarists.

The responsibilities will include:

- Assist in ensuring that all animals in assigned areas are provided with appropriate and optimal husbandry care, including feed preparation and feeding of animals.
- Maintain exhibits, life support areas and behind-the-scenes facilities in a clean, organised and professional condition.
- Assist in animal / plant collections, transfers, and basic procedures as required.
- Participate in training and skills development programmes.
- Maintain accurate and timely record-keeping using the Species360 Zoological Information Management System (ZIMS) database and other operational records.
- Participate in conservation, animal welfare and environmental initiatives undertaken by SAAMBR and uShaka Sea World.
- Ensure compliance with all safety, animal welfare, biosecurity and operational standards.
- Work flexible hours, including weekends and public holidays, and participate in standby or after-hours duties where required.

The following will be required of the successful applicant:

- Matric certificate or equivalent.
- Relevant tertiary qualification (Marine Biology, Zoology, Aquaculture, or related field) will be advantageous.
- Experience in an aquarium or similar animal care environment will be advantageous.
- Competent swimmer.
- Class IV, V or VI Commercial Dive qualification will be advantageous.
- Computer literacy.
- Valid driver's licence (An EB licence will be advantageous).
- A motivated individual with strong communication skills.
- Physically fit and able to perform manual and operational duties associated with the role.
- Willingness to receive required vaccinations due to occupational exposure risks.

SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR MARINE BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH (RF) NPC

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Registration No. 1951/000002/08 | Public Benefit Organisation No. 930025295 | Non-Profit Organisation No. 000-347 NPO

SAAMBR is a Non-Profit Company and a member of: IUCN (World Conservation Union) and WAZA (World Association of Zoos and Aquariums)

Accredited member of AAWHC (African Association for Wildlife in Human Care)

ORI is academically affiliated with the University of KwaZulu-Natal

Submit your Curriculum Vitae and letter of motivation by either:

- E-mail: recruitment@saambr.org.za
- Hand Delivery: The South African Association for Marine Biological Research 1 King Shaka Avenue, Durban

THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 12 OCTOBER 2026

Appointments will be made in line with SAAMBR's employment equity requirements. In line with the Protection of Personal Information Act, all personal information submitted as part of your application will be used solely for recruitment purposes and handled in a lawful, responsible, and confidential manner. SAAMBR reserves the right not to make an appointment.

Only potential short-list candidates will be contacted. Should you not have heard from us by **12 November 2026**, please consider your application unsuccessful.