

# Aquatic Careers

Aquaculture Worker \* Aquarist \* Aquatics Manager \* Certified Pool Operator \* Commercial Diver Ferry Operator\* Hydrologist \* Lifeguard \* Program Director \* Marine Biologist \* Marine Engineer \* Oceanographer \* Swim Coach \* Swim Instructor

## Aquaculture Worker

**What You Do:** In aquaculture, farmers, breeders, and other marine scientists develop methods to cultivate freshwater or saltwater organisms, such as oysters, clams, fish, plants, and algae, for the purposes of harvesting them.

**What You Need:** GED or High School Diploma

**What You'll Make:** \$45,000-\$85,000

## Aquarist

**What You Do:** An aquarist cares for the marine life in aquariums by maintaining their living environments and having hands-on interactions with sea creatures.

**What You Need:** Scuba Training

**What You'll Make:** \$40,000-\$50,000

## Aquatics Manager

**What You Do:** As an aquatics manager, your duties and responsibilities are to manage the daily operations at an aquatics facility, such as a public swimming pool, a YMCA, a private athletic club, or a college or university aquatics facility. You are also responsible for hiring and training new team members, staffing the facility with the appropriate safety and instructional workers, scheduling lessons for members or the public, and overseeing the development of different aquatics programs at your facility. You are also involved with handling the finances and budget requirements for the facility.

**What You Need:** GED or High School Diploma, Bachelor's may be require for some positions

**What You'll Make:** \$40,000 - \$70,000

## Certified Pool Operator

**What You Do:** A certified pool operator (or CPO) is directly responsible for the operation and maintenance of the chemicals and equipment that directly influence the function of a pool facility.

**What You Need:** CPO Certification

**What You'll Make:** \$51,000-\$66,000

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## Commercial Diver

**What You Do:** Commercial divers engage in underwater work for industrial, construction, engineering, maintenance or other commercial purposes which are similar to work done out of the water. Diving is usually secondary to the work, but swimming is certainly required! There are lots of different kinds of commercial diving jobs: offshore divers, onshore divers, naval divers, scientific divers, media divers, and hazmat divers, to name a few.

**What You Need:** Diving Certification

**What You'll Make:** \$41,000-\$62,000

## Ferry Captain

**What You Do:** A ferry boat captain operates ferries, transporting passengers and cargo on a set path between two or more docks in coastal and inland waters. They maintain a schedule, oversee loading and unloading procedures on the ship and supervise and coordinate the activities of deck crews.

**What You Need:** USCG license and pilotage endorsement

**What You'll Make:** \$88,000

## Hydrologist

**What You Do:** Hydrologists work to keep our oceans and other bodies of water safe for wildlife and humans. They study the movement of water and water quality. They spend a considerable amount of time in the water, taking samples to test for and measure the level of pollutants, but also work in labs testing samples taken, analyzing data, and creating reports.

**What You Need:** Ideally a B.S. in Environmental Science

**What You'll Make:** About \$79,000

## Lifeguard

**What You Do:** A lifeguard is a rescuer who supervises the safety and rescue of swimmers, surfers, and other water sports participants such as in a swimming pool, water park, beach, spa, river and lake. Lifeguards are trained in swimming and CPR/AED first aid, certified in water rescue using a variety of aids and equipment depending on requirements of their particular venue.

**What You Need:** Lifeguard Certification Training

**What You'll Make:** \$31,000/year; \$19.46/hr

## Program Director

**What You Do:** A program director designs, plans, implements and evaluates programs. Its not always the case, but certainly at Friends of + POOL and other aquatic-forward organizations, program directors lead all of swim programs. The ultimate goal of a program director is to ensure all programs are successfully delivered.

**What You Need:** Passion & Organization

**What You'll Make:** \$50,000-\$80,000

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## Marine Biologist

**What You Do:** Marine biologists study marine organisms in the ocean and other saltwater environments. They conduct experiments, provide care to injured marine life, and collect data to better understand the ecosystems.

**What You Need:** B.S. in Environmental Science

**What You'll Make:** \$70,000 - \$80,000

## Marine Engineer

**What You Do:** Marine engineers design and oversee testing, installation, and repair of marine apparatus and equipment. While marine engineers are sometimes in the field performing work and calculations on the water, they typically work in offices, where they have access to computer software and other tools necessary for analyzing projects and designing solutions.

**What You Need:** USCG engineer license

**What You'll Make:** \$50,000-\$150,000

## Oceanographer

**What You Do:** There are several different kinds of oceanographers, covering a wide range of topics, including marine life and ecosystems, ocean circulation, plate tectonics and the geology of the seafloor, and the chemical and physical properties of the ocean.

**What You Need:** B.S. in Oceanography

**What You'll Make:** \$70,000 - \$86,000

## Swim Coach

**What You Do:** Act as a coach and mentor to any of a wide range of swim teams, from youth to Master's (adult) swimmers. Many teachers also do double duty as coaches in our schools!

**What You Need:** Competitive swimming experience, or just a passion for the sport. Some teams may require specific coaching certifications.

**What You'll Make:** Salaries range from hourly pay (expect \$40/practice to start) to full-time positions with the average in New York being \$53,000/year.

## Swim Instructor

**What You Do:** Teach learn-to-swim class for all levels of swimming, from parent-and-me to adult. Work environment can range from teaching private lessons as your own business, to being hired by a company or city recreation department.

**What You Need:** Enthusiasm for swimming, a desire to teach, and patience! Some positions may require specific teaching certifications, or offer paid training prior to hire.

**What You'll Make:** \$24/hour is average in NYC.