

## Position Description

### Seasonal Field Science Assistant



**Reports to:** Division Head

**Hours/Week:** 30-35    **FLSA:** Non-Exempt

**Uniformed:** Semi (uniformed shirts)

**Start Date & Term:** Seasonal, 5 month position and 10 week position with optional September extension

**\* Position and start date are subject to change and cancellation due to the uncertainty of our current public health concerns with Covid-19.**

Hudson River Park seeks to hire Seasonal Field Science Assistants (FSA) for our 2020 season. The FSAs will work to further the Park's mission of protecting the Hudson River Estuarine Sanctuary and improving awareness and stewardship of the Hudson River through science and education. This position is an excellent opportunity for those interested in urban environmental science and learning applied biology skills. Selected staff will gain a great understanding for local estuarine research, wildlife and habitat enhancement projects.

#### ***Background:***

The Trust is a public benefit corporation created by act of the New York State Legislature and a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. The mission of the Trust is to construct, maintain and operate a prominent, and very heavily used, four mile long waterfront park on the west side of Manhattan. The Park features landscaped public piers and display gardens, lawn areas, ecological planting zones, athletic fields, esplanades, docks, public sculptures and other special features. There are, in addition, commercial use and Park maintenance structures including concessions, rental buildings and the 15.4 acre, Pier 40 which houses a large parking garage and the administrative and operating headquarters of the Trust. The Trust covers its \$28+ million annual operating budget through parking revenue, rents from commercial facilities, permits, fees, grants, donations generated by a "Friends" organization and other private sources. Currently, the Trust is in design and/or construction and is on its way towards completing all the public space in the park. This has been accomplished with a mix of State, City, Federal and private funding.

The Seasonal FSA's time will be spent on a combination of estuary research, habitat enhancement, animal husbandry, and stewardship responsibilities. Hudson River Park implements a number of water quality, oyster restoration, marine debris, environmental DNA, and habitat health initiatives that demand strong organization skills, robust science interest, and enthusiasm for field research. The FSA will largely support field sampling, flow through tank and science instrument maintenance, and analysis of the Park's environmental monitoring work. Time will

also be sent supporting the implementation of community science programs and working with river stewards of all ages.

***Responsibilities/Duties:***

- Implement the Park's estuary research and science projects on such topics as oysters, marine debris, environmental DNA, fishes, water quality, bacteria, habitat enhancement and Park sustainability
- Maintain the Park's scientific instruments, fish traps, flow through tank system, oyster cages, and ensure that research related resources are in good working order
- Facilitate the Park's community science and monitoring programs at outdoor locations throughout the Park, including Shell-ebrate Oysters, Community Ecopaddle, Science Saturdays, Wet Lab Look-ins and Open Field Lab
- Help mentor community and high school stewards
- Learn catch and release fishing and how to handle live fish and bait
- Develop STEM programmatic and research resources
- Otherwise assist the Park with tasks as needed

***Required Education and Experience:***

- Completion of at least two years towards a Bachelor's or an Associate's Degree
- Coursework focused in marine, environmental, or biological sciences
- Strong interest in conducting field research in an urban estuary
- Comfort interacting with members of the public in a professional manner
- Ability to work as a part of a team, multitask and problem solve
- Strong organization and communication skills
- Willingness to get muddy, interact daily with the River, practice catch and release fishing and handle live animals
- Ability to lift around 50 pounds, work outside in all weather conditions and on weekends
- A valid driver's license

***Compensation/Benefits:***

- \$17.00 per hour, there are no benefits associated with this position
- There are two seasonal position terms. Please specify your preferred term length in you cover letter
  - o Seasonal term one: approximately 5 months (from 6/2 -10/30)
  - o Seasonal term two: approximately 10 weeks (6/22 - 8/30), with optional September extension
- FSAs are expected to work approximately 30-35 hours per week, including weekends and some evenings

***Application Process:***

Interested applicants are to submit a cover letter, resume and the names and contact information of three references to the Human Resources Office at [resumes@hrpt.ny.gov](mailto:resumes@hrpt.ny.gov). **Indicate Job Code: SEASONAL FSA 2020 in the subject line of the email.**

No phone calls please.

**More information on the Hudson River Park is available at:**  
[www.hudsonriverpark.org](http://www.hudsonriverpark.org)

**The Hudson River Park Trust is an Equal Opportunity Employer**

*Pursuant to Executive Order 161, no State entity, as defined by the Executive Order, is permitted to ask, or mandate, in any form, that an applicant for employment provide his or her current compensation, or any prior compensation history, until such time as the applicant is extended a conditional offer of employment with compensation. If such information has been requested from you before such time, please contact the Governor's Office of Employee Relations at (518) 474-6988 or via email at [info@goer.ny.gov](mailto:info@goer.ny.gov).*