



Applications are invited for the permanent position of

ANIMAL CARE ASSISTANT (x2 Positions)

The successful candidate will be required to perform tasks related to animal care in the Marine Mammals and Bird department, under the supervision of senior animal care staff.

The responsibilities will include:

- Carry out support duties including diet preparation, hygiene maintenance and checklists.
- Support staff in quality animal demonstrations, photograph sessions, shows and guest experiences.
- Where required, participate in activities related to animal well-being and husbandry such as observations and record keeping.
- Assist the Mammals and Bird team to achieve SAAMBR's conservation objectives.
- Assist with the rehabilitation and release of various Mammals and Bird species including South African Fur seals.

The following will be required of the successful applicant:

- Must have a Grade 12 certificate or equivalent.
- Proven dedication and experience in the field of animal care.
- Able to work well in a team environment.
- Able to work under pressure.
- Able to learn quickly.
- An interest in marine mammals and birds.
- A motivated individual with good communication skills.
- Strong communication skills and a good command of the English language.
- Competent swimmer, be of sound mind, physically fit and healthy.
- Ability to lift objects up to 25kg.
- Computer literate (Word, Excel and Outlook).
- Ability to professionally present shows and demonstrations to guests.
- Applicant will be required to pass a swim test, physical assessment and stage presence test.
- Ability to work flexible hours and days, which include weekends and public holidays.
- Be vaccinated against rabies or be willing and healthy enough to be vaccinated against Rabies

Advantageous to have:

- Any relevant experience with public presentations.
- Ability to speak a second language.
- Animal behaviour management.

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

- A relevant tertiary qualification would be an advantage.

If you feel that you meet the requirements and would like to apply for this position, please submit your Curriculum Vitae and a covering letter to SAAMBR 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 7 MAY 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 **29 May 2026**, please consider your application unsuccessful.