



SANTA BARBARA BOTANIC GARDEN POSITION DESCRIPTION

Rare Plant Technician Level 2

About the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden:

The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden's mission is to conserve California native plants and habitats for the health and well-being of people and the planet. Since the 1930s, staff members of the Garden have developed and maintained an intimate knowledge of the California flora, with an emphasis on the plants and vegetation communities of California's Central Coast and the offshore islands. Today, we take a comprehensive approach to its conservation from genes to ecosystems, with plant systematics, rare plant conservation, community ecology and habitat restoration functions. This allows us to more thoroughly tackle the conservation challenges of our day, such as habitat loss and fragmentation, invasive species, and climate change.

Overview:

The Rare Plant Technician Level 2 assists with a wide range of field, lab, and office work supporting the conservation of California's rare flora. Roles and responsibilities for this position will emphasize field work, greenhouse work, data analysis, writing and seed bank curation. Level 2 Technicians have multiple years of experience in the field, giving them the ability to work independently as well as to help train and mentor interns and volunteers. This full-time (40 hours per week), non-exempt position reports to the Rare Plant Biologist and works primarily with the Rare Plant Conservation Team.

Essential Duties:

- Plan and conduct fieldwork excursions, including rare plant surveys, seed collection, seeding and outplanting on single and multi-day field trips
- Collect data using a handheld GPS and Collector for ArcGIS
- Collect, clean and curate seeds for conservation, research and restoration
- Collect and curate herbarium specimens
- Conduct greenhouse work, including germination studies, hand pollinations and seed bulking
- Take a leading role in scheduling and conducting viability tests and managing associated data for conservation seed collections
- Contribute to data analysis and writing for project reports and peer-reviewed publications
- Contribute to education/outreach/communications by creating social media posts and newsletter articles, working with interns, and presenting research to public and scientific audiences

Knowledge and Abilities:

- Experience with and knowledge of taxonomic principles, botany, and ecology
- Knowledge of and experience with the California flora, including ability to use taxonomic keys to identify plants
- Ability to follow instructions, work successfully with others, and work independently with minimal supervision
- Ability to conduct field work in a remote setting with rugged terrain under a variety of environmental conditions, sometimes independently
- Ability and willingness to travel for multi-day, overnight fieldwork to remote locations with camping accommodations (some basic camping equipment can be provided, if necessary)
- Experience with technical 4-wheel driving preferred

- Experience using both paper and digital maps; experience with, ArcGIS, Collector, or Field Maps preferred
- Visual acuity, manual dexterity and attention to detail sufficient to clean seeds proficiently
- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines
- Computer proficiency including ability to use Microsoft Outlook, Excel, Word, and PowerPoint, and ability to learn new computer programs as necessary
- Excellent attention to detail and strong organizational skills
- Ability to communicate well both verbally and in writing
- Experience with data analysis (e.g., ANOVA, multivariate analyses, etc.) and the use of statistical software (e.g., R, JMP, etc.)
- Willingness and ability to work cooperatively with peers at the Garden and other institutions
- Support for the Garden’s mission and goals

Minimum Qualifications and Experience:

- Master’s degree from an accredited four-year college or university in biology, ecology, botany, environmental science, conservation biology, or closely related area **OR**
- Bachelor’s degree from an accredited four-year college or university in biology, ecology, botany, environmental science, conservation biology, or closely related area and five or more full-time years of relevant experience

Certificates and Licenses:

- Must have valid California Driver License and maintain an acceptable driving record

Physical Requirements:

Must be capable of occasional strenuous physical work including:

- Working long field days in excess of 10-12 hours per day, including multi-day overnight camping trips
- Sitting for up to 2 hours at a time and using computer or microscope for lengthy periods
- Standing/walking for extended periods of time
- Bending, squatting, walking stairs, and hiking rugged trails with uneven footing
- Safely lifting and carrying 40 lbs.
- Tolerance of an outdoor work environment. Exposure to indoor and outdoor environmental conditions, including temperature fluctuations, rain, dust, allergens, poison oak, insects, wild animals, and sun exposure

Compensation

\$20 - \$24/hour, commensurate with experience

Expected Timeline

An ideal candidate for this position will be available to begin work in January 2022.

Interested applicants should apply via our website:

<https://recruiting.paylocity.com/recruiting/jobs/Details/790153/SANTA-BARBARA-BOTANIC-GARDEN-INC/Rare-Plant-Technician---Level-2>