

# Oyster Aquaculture Training Program

April – August 2023

**Actively work alongside researchers throughout the 2023 oyster hatchery and field season.**

**Learn the principles of oyster aquaculture in this intensive, hands-on program.**

## *Where*

Virginia Institute of Marine Science  
Gloucester Point, VA

Program description and details available at:

[www.vims.edu/research/units/centerspartners/abc/industry/oat/index.php](http://www.vims.edu/research/units/centerspartners/abc/industry/oat/index.php)



**VIRGINIA INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE**  
AQUACULTURE GENETICS AND BREEDING TECHNOLOGY CENTER

## *How to Apply*

Applicants must complete a Virginia state application online.

<https://jobs.wm.edu/postings/51876>

Application must be accompanied by a coverletter clearly stating interest in aquaculture training.

Application deadline is February 3, 2023.

*For more information please contact:*

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## General Information

The Oyster Aquaculture Training Program will take place at a working oyster research facility.

Participants will rotate through the stages of oyster aquaculture from the hatchery to field grow out operations. Brief classroom lectures on major topics will provide background information. This program will also include field trips to other research facilities and industry sites as well as 2-3 day externships that may be tailored to an individual's interests.

The Oyster Aquaculture Training Program limits the number of participants in order to provide a one-on-one learning environment.

### Curriculum

#### Brood stock

- Learn conditioning process
- Maintain brood stock tanks

#### Algae Culture

- Grow and maintain cultures
- Calculate feeding requirements
- Feed adults and larvae

#### Spawning

- Differentiate male from female adults
- Rate gonad ripeness
- Learn spawning techniques
- Participate in oyster spawns

#### Larval Rearing

- Measure water quality
- Clean larval tanks
- Count larvae
- Determine adequate larval densities
- Monitor larval health

#### Setting

- Track larval development
- Learn setting systems and techniques
- Understand downwelling process

#### Nursery

- Learn upwelling process
- Care and maintenance of nursery
- Count and sieve seed
- Size seed

#### Field Grow Out

- Learn deployment types
- Prepare and stock bags
- Determine stocking densities
- Care and maintenance of field gear

#### Laboratory

- Learn the process of ploidy analysis
- Understand disease testing

