



CHI WORK AND TRAVEL

255 West End Avenue
San Rafael, CA 94901 USA

1-800-432-4643 x2
1-415-459-5397 x2

chiwt@chinet.org

wt.chinet.org

Job Description

EMPLOYER INFORMATION

Employer Name: Downtown Aquarium, Houston
Type of Business: Amusement Park
Job location: 410 BAGBY ST
Location type: Metropolitan area
City: HOUSTON
State: TX
Zip: 77002
Website: www.downtownaquarium.com

Why choose us?

Downtown Houston is close to the theater district, the metro rail for easy access and bus lines. Downtown Aquarium is part of Landry's, which has many great employee benefits including discounts on meals and retail.

Cultural exchange activities

Houston is America's fourth-largest city. It is a cosmopolitan destination, filled with world-class dining, arts, shopping and nightlife. Take a stroll through the historic Heights, spend the day exploring the Museum District or head down to Space Center Houston. We give City Pass booklets to all students, arrange an outing to the Kemah Boardwalk or the Pleasure Pier. Offer time to explore surrounding cities.

Position

Job title: Ride Attendant

Job prerequisites: Advanced English. Drug test required. Must attend Orientation held on Wednesdays at 3pm before you can start work.

Job description: You will be working with guests and operating rides at the various amusement park rides. You will be handling American currency. Must handle guest services and satisfaction with a positive attitude, understanding and compassion in a friendly and helpful way. Must like dealing with people and be friendly and have an outgoing personality. Requires attention to detail, punctuality, and a great service attitude & team spirit. Follow all safety policies, interact positively with the guests and other crew members. You will be standing the entire shift and requires moderate lifting and mobility. Duties include, but are not limited to, assisting guests during the loading and unloading process and ensuring guest safety by checking their seat belts or lap bars, etc. You will be working outside in the hot summer sun and be exposed to various weather conditions. Must have a great team attitude, and be a dependable, hard working, friendly and very trustworthy and honest individual. Could be cross-trained in another areas. Students will be escorted to a facility for their drug test. They cannot start work until this is completed. ** Orientations are held on Wednesdays only, so please arrive in time to attend one of these orientation. **

English level required: Advanced

Hourly wage (before taxes): 9.00

Wage comments:

Meals: Yes

Meals details: 50% off meals if student enrolls in employee discount program

Position ID: 5000



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Position Information

Tips: no

Bonus: No

Bonus comments:

Estimated hours per day: 6-8

Number of days per week: 4-6

Overtime: No

Overtime details: not guaranteed

Earliest start date: 5/16/2018

Latest start date: 6/6/2018

Earliest end date: 8/27/2018

Latest end date: 9/9/2018

Is the employer willing to hire couples? Yes

Is the employer willing to hire group of friends? Yes

Are meals included? Yes

Is a drug test required? Yes

Drug test comments: Students will be escorted to a facility for their drug test. They cannot start work until this is completed. Contact employer upon arrival in Houston.

Is Skype interview required? No

Do students complete an additional application upon arrival? Yes

Possibility to find a second job in the area Yes

Second jobs require you to contact CHI at chiwt@chinet.org or 1-800-432-4643 to receive the required form. The new potential employer will need to complete it. Both you and the employer will need to sign and return it to CHI for approval. You can work with a new secondary employer ONLY AFTER you have received written authorization from CHI.

Additional comments regarding second job: This job must be your first priority. A second job cannot interfere with your scheduled hours. Please contact your CHI Program Coordinator, Molly, about the process to get a 2nd job.

When will work begin? Few days after attending the Wednesday afternoon orientations.

Arrival Instructions: Please see Welcome Letter. Please contact your CHI Program Coordinator about what day you should fly to Houston and about securing your own housing.

Is training required? Yes

Conditions of training: Training will be provided.

Is there possibility to change positions? No

Uniform required? Yes

Does employer provide uniform? Yes

Cost of uniform: \$30-50

Is uniform refundable? No

Uniform provided details: Employer provides polo shirt and name tag.

Do students need to purchase specific clothes or footwear? Yes

If so, details for clothing: Students must purchase and bring the following:



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- White t-shirt (short-sleeved, with no logo), to be worn under the Aquarium provided shirt.
- Shirts should always be tucked in the pants.
- Khaki pants or shorts with belt loops. The pants/shorts cannot have frayed edges or touch the ground. Short hems must fall within 2 inches from the top of the knee and may not be cut off or have rolled cuffs.
- The following fabrics/styles are not acceptable: denim, corduroy, linen, textured, fleece (sweat pant material), balloon or patch pockets, cargo, baggies, bell bottoms, stretch, or hip-huggers.
- Black belt (Large buckles or ornamentation are not allowed).
- Black tennis shoes with plain black socks.

You must arrive 15 minutes early to your shift in your full uniform attire.

Grooming: Hair must be pulled back at all times and clean. No visible tattoos. Ear piercing only & no more than two piercings per ear. Good hygiene must be maintained, including daily showering, use of deodorant and laundered clothes. Clothes must be clean and wrinkle free.

Important points of job: Must love working with the public (young and older). Must be friendly, approachable, outgoing, helpful and always be smiling! You will be outside in the hot sun for entire shift.

Additional position information:



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Job Description

Housing Information

Housing name: Houston International Hostel

Housing address: 501 LOVETT BLVD

City: Houston

Phone: (713) 636-9776

Fax:

Contact: Front Desk

Email: houston@hiosa.org

Website:

Housing assisted by: Must Arrange Own

Is student required to sign a separate housing contract? Yes

If so, contract details: Must sign contract provided by hostel.

Type of housing: Motel

Number of people to a room: 2-4

Bedrooms: 1

Bath: 1

Cost Type: Day

Cost Amount: \$30.00

Cost Details: Cost is per night

Is housing cost deducted from paycheck? No

Is housing deposit required? No

Deposit amount:

Housing deposit due date:

Instructions for deposit payment:

Is housing deposit refundable? No

Conditions for deposit refund:

Utilities included: Yes

If so, utilities details: Electricity, water, sewer, garbage, internet

Utilities estimated cost per month: 0

Is the housing mandatory? No

Can students find alternative housing during their stay? Yes

Method of transportation from housing to work site: Public

Transportation details: 12 minute bus ride

Additional housing features:

Comments: This is only a temporary housing option. Please see attached housing document for additional housing options. You are responsible to arrange your own housing, either at Hostelling International Houston, or with one of the options you are provided. YOU MUST arrange housing before you arrive. Do not delay.



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Job Description

Location Area Information

Location type: Metropolitan area

Location of work site best described as: Amusement Theme Park

Location details: Known around the world for NASA Space Center in the Clear Lake area and Texas Medical Center, Houston is also the proud home of a dizzying array of performing arts groups, professional sports teams, shopping destinations and great restaurants. Relaxing is easy, with great golf courses, beautiful parks, sumptuous spas, inspiring museums and spectacular shopping. Population: 2.1 million

Average daily temperature: Summer: High 94F (34C); Low 78F (26C)

Community or regional website: www.visithoustontexas.com

Nearest cities: N/A

Distance to nearest cities: N/A

What to wear: Summer: Light clothing, shorts, t-shirts, sunscreen

Available public transportation: Metro bus and rail

Public transportation access: Throughout the city

Accessible amenities (by walking or public transportation)

Food market: Yes

Shopping mall: Yes

Post office: Yes

Movie theater: Yes

Restaurants: Yes

Fitness center: Yes

Laundry: Yes

Internet café: Yes

Public library: Yes



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Suggested Travel Information

- Nearest international airport:** Houston International (IAH)
- Nearest airport:** William P Hobby Airport (HOU)
- Transportation from airport to employer and / or housing:** take a taxi or Uber to your pre-arranged housing
- Nearest bus station (to the airport):** At the airport
- Bus information (web site):** N/A
- Nearest train information (to the airport):** N/A
- Train information (web site):** N/A
- If participant arrives after hours suggested, overnight accomodation:** Please see Welcome Letter.
- Cost per night:** Varies
- Transportation to overnight accomodation:** Varies
- Transportations cost:** Varies
- Travel Instructions:** Please see Welcome Letter. New hire orientation is held each Wednesday of the week at 3pm local time. You must attend this orientation. If you arrive on a Thursday or Friday or the weekend you must wait until the following Wednesday to attend the new hire orientation - NO EXCEPTIONS.

Social Security Information

- Does the company require students to have Social Security number before arriving to the work place?** No
- Does the company provide Social Security application assistance?** No
- If so, details:**
- Where is the closest Social Security office?** Houston
- How far is the Social Security office from the work place?** 16.5 miles (26K)
- Specific instructions:** You must first validate yourself in SEVIS within 3 days of arrival. Then after 10 business days, check your SEVIS status and confirm that you can go to Social Security. The office is located at: 8989 Lakes at 610 Drive, Houston TX 77054; Phone: 1-800-772-1213; hours: Mon & Tue 9am - 4pm, Wed 9am - 12pm, Thu & Fri 9am - 4pm, except Federal holidays. Be sure to get a receipt, this is the only proof that you have applied!



WELCOME LETTER
Cultural Homestay International

Downtown Aquarium

401 Bagby Street.
Houston, TX 77002
www.aquariumrestaurants.com

Employer Contact Information:

Wade Broussard
Email: wbroussard@ldry.com
Phone: 713-223-3474

Hello Participants,

My name is Mary Wolfe and I am the Regional Manager here at CHI. You will also have a Program Coordinator to assist you during your Work & Travel program. Her name will be announced soon. We are here to help you prepare for your exciting season in Houston, Texas working for **Downtown Aquarium!** This packet contains very important information regarding your travels, so please be sure to **READ IT IN FULL**, and print a copy to bring with you to the United States.

*If you already have your visa and have not yet purchased a plane ticket, you should do so as soon as possible. Log into www.Sevis.Org and enter your Flight information as soon as you purchase your ticket.

***IF YOU WERE DENIED YOUR VISA AND ARE RECEIVING THIS EMAIL PLEASE LET US KNOW YOU ARE NOT COMING!**

New hire orientation is only held on Wednesdays only at 3:00 PM. You must attend orientation. If you arrive Thursday, Friday or the weekend you must wait until the following Wednesday.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at chimaryw@chinet.org or my Regional Manager Assistant **Lindsey Buckle** (chilindsey@chinet.org) or your Program Coordinator.

For emergencies, you may always contact CHI's Main Office at **1(800) 432-4643**. Have a safe trip!

Sincerely,

Mary Wolfe, Western Regional Manager
Cultural Homestay International
Facebook: [LIKE us on CHI Western Region](#)

1. BEFORE DEPARTURE

Read your CHI Student Handbook. You should have received this from your agency.

Bring:

- Documents: Passport, J-1 Visa, DS 2019, sponsorship letter, job offer
- \$1000 US available (transportation from airport, housing deposits, food, etc.)
- Carry On (a change of clothes, medicines, copy of this letter) Always keep your important paperwork with you while traveling. Do NOT pack it!
- Contact your employer by email to notify him/her of your specific arrival time.
- Plan your flight accordingly: if your final destination is 5 hours away, make sure your flight arrives early in the day OR you have made a reservation at a hostel to stay overnight.
- **Log into www.sevis.org as soon as you know your flights so you can enter your flight information!**

2. CONTACT YOUR EMPLOYER

The contact person at **Downtown Aquarium Houston** is **Wade Broussard**; you must contact **Wade** and let him know your flight information and when EXACTLY you will be arriving!

Please email **Wade** at wbroussard@ldry.com. **Please also email your CHI Program Coordinator (listed on first page)** with your exact arrival information and to confirm receipt of this letter!

Downtown Aquarium provides t-shirts. Students must bring black slip-resistant shoes and khaki shorts or pants. Students are responsible for purchasing their clothing at a local store, like Walmart (\$30-50), or use a coupon they give you to buy shoes at Payless Shoes. Hair must be pulled back at all times and clean. No visible tattoos. Ear piercing only & no more than two piercings per ear. Good hygiene must be maintained, including daily showering, use of deodorant and laundered clothes.

3. HOUSING:

Arrange own.

See attachment

4. DIRECTIONS FROM THE AIRPORT TO YOUR HOUSING

Easiest ** Share a Taxi from the airport to your Housing.

Arrival at Houston International Airport (IAH): You can get a taxi to your housing. The cost will be about \$30.00. If you arrive late at night, you can go to The Howard Johnson Hotel located at 2221 Greens Road, Houston, TX 77032. Their telephone number is 1-855-873-6566.

Arrival at William P. Hobby Airport (HOU): You can get a taxi to your housing. The cost will be about \$30.00. If you arrive late, you can go to The Travelodge Hotel located at 8800 Airport Boulevard, Houston, TX 77061. Their telephone number is 1-866-966-3042.

[http://www.transitunlimited.org/LAX City Bus Center](http://www.transitunlimited.org/LAX_City_Bus_Center)

Google Maps will give you step by step directions. www.maps.google.com

5. SEVIS

Before you arrive in USA- Log in to www.sevis.org and enter your flight information as soon as you purchase your flight ticket.

After you arrive in USA - Log into the SEVIS system within THREE days of your arrival to the United States!

Any delay can affect your Social Security Card application, which then affects WHEN YOU CAN START WORKING! VALIDATE YOUR SEVIS STATUS IMMEDIATELY!

- a. Log in to www.sevis.org upon arrival in the USA. If you can't log in then you need to call us.
- b. Call CHI at 1(800) 432-4643 if you can't log on to complete the SEVIS validation process.
- c. Refer to your Student Handbook if you need specific instructions about how to log in. (Most public libraries have internet access – speak with library staff about your temporary stay in the US.)
- d. **Log back in after 3 days to make sure your visa status has been validated – this is a requirement BEFORE applying for a social security number!**

6. APPLYING FOR A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

- **Validate your Visas in SEVIS.**
- **Then wait approximately 10 days and visit the closest social security office at:**

Address: 8989 Lakes at 610 Drive, Houston TX 77054

Phone: 1-800-772-1213

Hours: MON: 09:00 AM - 04:00 PM; TUES: 09:00 AM - 04:00 PM; WED: 09:00 AM - 12:00 PM; THUR: 09:00 AM - 04:00 PM; FRI: 09:00 AM - 04:00 PM; SAT & SUN & Federal Holidays: CLOSED

PLEASE REMEMBER TO GET A RECEIPT AT THE SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE. IT'S YOUR ONLY PROOF THAT YOU APPLIED!

We look forward to meeting you!!

For general questions and emergencies, you may always contact CHI Main Office at 1-800-432-4643.

**Housing Options in Houston, Texas
Summer 2018
Downtown Aquarium Houston**

Houston International Hostel
The Morty Rich Hostel Houston
<http://www.hiusa.org/texas/houston/the-morty-rich-hostel>
501 Lovett Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77006
Phone: 1-713-636-9776
Cost: \$22.00-\$26.00 dollars per night.

Directions to Downtown Aquarium by Metro Bus:
501 Lovett Blvd
Houston, TX 77006

🚶 Walk to Westheimer Rd @ Whitney St
About 2 min , 0.1 m
iWestheimer Rd @ Whitney St
🚌 082 towards Downtown
11 min (14 stops)
Louisiana St @ MC Kinney St
🚶 Walk to Downtown Aquarium
About 12 min , 0.5 mi

Bayou Park Apartments
4400 Memorial Dr.
Houston, TX 77007
Phone: [866-455-7599](tel:866-455-7599) (Toll Free)
Houston phone: [713-861-9005](tel:713-861-9005) (ask for Lea) or [713-861-9221](tel:713-861-9221) 9:00 am - 4:00 pm CDT.
Fax: [713-868-3320](tel:713-868-3320)

<https://www.bluemoon.com/rentalapp/index.php>
<http://www.bayouparkhouston.com/#houston>

1 bedroom/1 bathroom
Rent: \$1021.00 dollars per month
Deposit: \$200.-\$300
Utilities: \$50-\$60

<https://www.google.com/maps/dir/Downtown+Aquarium,+Theater+District,+410+Bagby+St,+Houston,+TX+77002/4400+Memorial+Dr,+Houston,+TX+77007/@29.7637352,-95.3948647,15z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m14!4m13!1m5!1m1!1s0x8640bf36d72feeab:0x1a2ba975fd4700de!2m2!1d-95.367354!2d29.764396!1m5!1m1!1s0x8640c0b1d0230e97:0x783cb01725584436!2m2!1d-95.4052401!2d29.7626309!3e3?hl=en>

Parque View Apartments
1800 El Paseo Street
Houston, TX 77054
Phone: 713-997-8583

Fax: 713-799-8786

<http://www.parqueviewapartments.com/map/>

1 Bedroom/1 Bathroom

Deposit: \$100.-\$200.

Rent: \$769.-\$949.

Athens Hotel Suites

1308 Clay Street Rates: \$420 week + tax

Houston, TX 77002 \$1,500 month + tax

Phone: 1-888-759-4466 up to 4 students to a room

<http://athenshotelsuites.com/deluxe-double-suite>

Email: reservations@athenshotelsuites.com

Transit directions to Downtown Aquarium (15 minutes commute by bus)

From San Jacinto Street (about .1 miles from housing) take bus #40 towards Pecone – Ella/Acres Home TC (5 to 8 minutes) then walk the .2 miles to the Downtown Aquarium (about 5 minutes)

Extended Stay - Greenway Plaza

2330 Southwest Fwy., Rates: \$55 to \$75 / night

Houston, TX 77098

Phone: 800-804-3724 or 713-528-6161

Manager: Steve

<http://www.extendedstayamerica.com/hotels/tx/houston/greenway-plaza>

Transit directions to Downtown Aquarium (37 minute commute via bus)

From Extended Stay, walk to Kirby Dr. @ Algerian Way (about 6 minutes)
Take Bus #18 towards Kirby/Downtown (23 minutes, 27 stops) Get off at Bagby St @ Lamar St; walk to Bagby St @ McKinney St. to Downtown Aquarium

Greenway Inn & Suites

Southwest Freeway Rates: \$62.00 / night

Houston, TX 77098

Phone: 1-866-539-0036

<http://www.hotels.com/ho200714/greenway-inn-suites-houston-unitedstates/>

Transit directions to Downtown Aquarium (35 minutes commute by bus)

From Greenway Inn: walk to Buffalo Speedway @ Richmond Ave (7 min)
Buffalo Speedway @ Richmond Ave take Bus #53 towards Downtown/ Galleria (15 minutes / 11 stops) Get off at McKinney St. @ Milam Street; Walk to Downtown Aquarium (10 minutes)

Hotels Near Downtown Houston

<http://www.expedia.com/Hotel->

[Search?storedCheckoutField=&storedCheckinField=&lang=1033#endDate=11/07/2013&startDate=11/06/2013&destination=Downtown+Houston,+Texas,+United+States+of+America&adults=1®ionId=800037&adLandingPage=0&star=20,10&sort=price](http://www.expedia.com/Hotel-Search?storedCheckoutField=&storedCheckinField=&lang=1033#endDate=11/07/2013&startDate=11/06/2013&destination=Downtown+Houston,+Texas,+United+States+of+America&adults=1®ionId=800037&adLandingPage=0&star=20,10&sort=price)

NB Elite Realty

www.nbeliterealty.com

Email: Sandra@nbeliterealty.com

Phone: 1-713-213-0000

<http://nbeliterealty.com/application.html>

<http://www.nbeliterealty.com/properties.php>

1644 W. Alabama-Houston Rates: \$600 - \$800

(includes utilities)

9 Rooms for rent: *Tenants share 3 bathrooms, 1 kitchen & 1 dining room.*

Transit directions to Work via bus (approx. 35 min via bus)

From 1644 W Alabama - walk to Westheimer Rd @ Donlavy St. (7 minutes)

Take Bus 81 - Bus towards Downtown – (15 minutes)

Louisiana St @ McKinney St

Bus 131 – To Memorial Limited/Gessner

Stops at Louisiana Street @ Texas Ave

Louisiana St @ Preston – Walk to Downtown Aquarium

4321 Mt. Vernon-Houston Rates: \$750 (includes internet)

Water rates approx. \$20 month

Transit directions to Downtown Aquarium (approx. 33 min via bus)

From 4321 Mt. Vernon - walk to Alabama St. @ Vernon St (7 minutes)

Alabama Street @ Vernon Street - Bus 78 – Towards Irvington/Berry (18 minutes)

Travis St @ Preston St

Walk to Downtown Aquarium (8 minutes)

1419 Hawthorne-Houston Rates: \$595 to \$1,000

Efficiencies and One Bedrooms (furnished & unfurnished)

Transit directions to Downtown Aquarium (approx. 30 min. via bus)

From 1419 Hawthorne St - walk to Westheimer Rd @ Mulberry St (2 minutes)

Bus 81 to Downtown

Get off at Louisiana ST @ McKinney St – walk 2 minutes for transfer

Lamar St @ Smith St

Bus 50 to Heights/Hollister (2 minutes)

Get off at Bagby St @ Capitol St.

Walk to Downtown Aquarium (5 minutes)

Craigslist

Houston Apartments Downtown or Museum District Area

<http://houston.craigslist.org/apa/>

http://houston.craigslist.org/search/apa?query=downtown+houston&zoomToPosting=&minAsk=&maxAsk=&bedrooms=&housing_type=

Hotpads

www.hotpads.com

http://hotpads.com/TX/Houston/East_End#lat=29.761901601188768&lon=-

95.3&zoom=18&dupeGrouping=building&listingTypes=rental,sublet,room,corporate&loan=30,0.04,0&resultsPerQuad=24

Transportation

Metro Bus, Houston, Texas

<http://www.ridemetro.org/>

<http://www.gometrorail.org/go/doc/2491/1508071/>

At all locations rates are subject to change and availability is on a first come, first serve basis, so please book your reservations in advance.

****Please note CHI is not recommending any businesses and can't be responsible for any choices made by the students.***

This document is for reference only.