**Shark Ecology Program Research Assistant II or III**
**Job Type**: Full-time for 2-year position; longer if funding is secured.

**Salary**:  $55-62.5k per year; commensurate with experience

**Program Description**: The Center for Coastal Studies’ (CCS) Shark Ecology Program collaborates with several other organizations and has been at the forefront of the study of spatial ecology of sharks since 2019. The interdisciplinary nature of the shark ecology program examines behavior and habitat use at high resolution creating data sets that advance our understanding of sharks and are available for managers and the public. The foundation of the program sits on our investigations of white sharks in shallow water on Cape Cod and spatial-temporal investigations of elasmobranchs in both the United States and British Virgin Islands.

**Job Description**: The Research Assistant under the guidance of Shark Ecology Program Manager will assist in day-to-day operations and field work to collect data. The responsibilities of the Research Assistant will be to prepare, deploy, and maintain equipment and to aid in grant writing, data analysis, and program development under the guidance of the program manager.

**Essential Duties**:

* Maintain field equipment, supplies, and organize biological samples;
* Prepare and schedule field expeditions;
* Maintain and QA/QC various types of data including but not limited to video, pictures, acoustic telemetry, spatial, and environmental data sets;
* Deploy various pieces of scientific data;
* Assist in producing technical reports, manuscripts, and presentations for multiple audiences;
* Assist in the production and submission of proposals from various funding sources;
* Assist with the production and participation of outreach and educational materials and events;
* Be able to assist in handling and tagging of various marine species of sharks and fishes.

QUALIFICATIONS:

**Minimum Training & Experience**: This position requires an individual to have a bachelor’s degree in biology, chemistry, environmental science or a related field and two years of experience conducting unsupervised field work in occasionally remote, difficult, or international settings. Applicants must be meticulous, have good written and oral communication skills, and above average problem-solving abilities.

Previous elasmobranch research experience is preferred but not required. Must be meticulous and attentive to detail, with an ability to interact effectively with staff and work both independently and collaboratively in a small nonprofit environment. Candidates with experience managing and analyzing large datasets and a history of field sampling, particularly for tagging studies, are encouraged to apply.

**Required Experience/Qualifications**:

* At least 2 years of directly related field experience;
	+ small boat handling;
	+ tagging and handling of sharks or other marine fauna;
	+ Data analysis and scientific writing;
* Bachelor’s degree or higher in chemistry, biology, environmental science, or a related field;
* Proven experience in project completion from scientific study design to report/manuscript preparation;
* Ability to work both independently and in a team environment;
* Ability to travel internationally for extended periods of time (up to 4 weeks);
* Strong written and oral communication skills, as evidenced through peer-reviewed publications, technical reports, and presentations to a variety of audiences;
* Experience collecting, managing, and interpreting telemetry data (i.e. popup satellite archival transmitting tags, acoustic telemetry, accelerometer data loggers);
* A valid driver’s license and personal vehicle are required;
* Demonstrated proficiency with R, Python, or other statistical software;
* Advanced open water scuba certification preferred but not required.

Application process: Please submit your cover letter, CV, a first or co-authored publication, and the contact information for three professional references via email in PDF format to employment@coastalstudies.org. Please use “**Shark Ecology Assistant**” in the subject line of your email. No phone calls, please.

**The Center for Coastal Studies is an Equal Opportunity Employer**

**and encourages candidates of all backgrounds to apply.**

**Diversity of opinions, experience, and backgrounds is a key asset.**