



# DOLPHIN RESEARCH CENTER TRAINING INSTITUTE

58901 Overseas Highway Grassy Key, FL 33050  
(305)289-1121 x215 [drcti@dolphins.org](mailto:drcti@dolphins.org)



## Program Application

*This is an application only and does not insure acceptance into the program.*

Students wishing to be considered for admission to the **2022-2023 Marine Mammal Behavior, Care and Training Program** must complete the following:

1. Students must be 18 years or older and be fluent in English. The following documents should be submitted **in one envelope** to the Dolphin Research Center Training Institute 58901 Overseas Highway Grassy Key, FL 33050. **All documents must be received between September 1, 2021 and February 28, 2022 to be considered:**

A. This completed application form

B. Official, sealed high school and college transcripts College transcripts must show successful completion of the following required college prerequisites: Biological Science - Introduction to Zoology – minimum 3 credit hours and Zoology Lab – minimum 1 credit hour **OR** Introduction to Biology – minimum 3 credit hours and Biology Lab – minimum 1 credit hour Communication - Public Speaking or Acting classes – minimum 3 credit hours Behavioral Science - General Psychology – minimum 3 credit hours Language - English Composition – minimum 3 credit hours Mathematics - Statistics or College Algebra – minimum 3 credit hours

*\*Prerequisites courses must be completed with a grade of C or better.*

*\*\*\* A previously attained Associate or Bachelor degree may be considered by the school for equivalency of the above stated general education credit requirements. Contact the DRCTI Administration for equivalency determination.*

C. In addition to the 16 general education quarter credit hours, students must also complete a First Aid and/or CPR course. Certification should be submitted with a student's application.

D. Two sealed letters of recommendation from a person unrelated to you and whom you have known for 2 years or more, one of which should be a professional recommendation.

*\* Recommendation letters should be sent directly to DRCTI/Dolphin Research Center by the person's writing the endorsements. If they are mailed to the student, they may be submitted with the application **only if** they are in sealed envelopes signed on the back by the persons writing the endorsements.*

E. A DRCTI doctor's release stating that the specific program requirements, as listed in the Institutional Catalog, do not pose a risk to any current medical conditions the applicant may have. The form is available for download on our website.

*Applications will not be considered complete until all documents required are received. Incomplete applications will not be considered. It is the applicant's responsibility to insure all documentation has been received by DRCTI administration.*

*By submitting this form you are indicating that you are capable of fulfilling all program performance standards and performance requirements as listed below and in the course catalog.*



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**Program Specific Requirements:** The MMBCT program prepares students for employment in the field of marine mammal care and training. It is important to note that students will be working directly with marine mammals during the course of this program and that marine mammals are large animals that can be dangerous. Therefore, students enrolled in the MMBCT program are expected to rigorously adhere to the rules and regulations of the program in order to ensure the safety of the students, animals, staff, and the general public at Dolphin Research Center. All students must satisfy the Program Specific Performance Standards and Performance Requirements, as outlined below and in the Course Catalog, and are expected to maintain the highest personal and ethical standards of conduct consistent with the professional effort expected by DRCTI faculty and all personnel at Dolphin Research Center. These standards are outlined below. Any information indicating that such standards are not being maintained will be reviewed by faculty and may result in student dismissal by the school administration. A minimum grade of C is necessary in all required courses in order to continue in and successfully complete the MMBCT program.

**Program Specific Performance Standards:** In addition to DRCTI's 'General Student Performance Standards', the following program specific performance standards apply:

**Mobility:** Without assistance, sufficient to rapidly walk the span of Dolphin Research Center without interruption, run and swim distances of 50 yards, easily maneuver on and off floating/moving platforms without assistance, maneuver in tight spaces while manipulating overhead objects, work outdoors in both intense sun and heat as well as under rainy and cold conditions. Students are required to participate in facility cleaning and maintenance including the repair and maintenance of habitats, fences, equipment, and training props. Students will be required to prepare the diets of all animals in the facility under the supervision of DRCTI/DRC staff members and are also required to conduct extensive cleaning of the husbandry areas and materials daily.

**Motor Skills:** Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective animal care, including: without assistance, the ability to routinely lift 50 lb. boxes of frozen fish and maneuver non- motorized rolling carts carrying up to 60 lbs. over the entire span of the facility (approximately 230 yards) without interruption.

**Hearing:** Ability sufficient to monitor human communication, auditory training bridges and animal vocalizations and behavior across large distances (half the length of the facility animal habitats combined).

**Visual:** Ability sufficient for observation and visual assessment of animals, humans and habitats in extreme high light (intense sun) and low light situations, both indoors and outdoors. Students must see well at a distance of 90 feet or more. This is in accordance with human and animal safety issues and observational needs

2. Selected candidates must attend an individually scheduled prospective student interview held at the school, at their own expense, prior to acceptance into the program. The purpose of the interview is to provide an opportunity for program applicants to gain a better understanding of the requirements of the program in order to make a more informed decision concerning entering the program if selected. Additionally, program applicants will be asked to demonstrate their suitability for participation in the program. Attendance at this interview is mandatory, but does not guarantee acceptance into the program. Consult the program academic calendar for more information about the interview period.

3. All applicants who have met the above conditions will be considered for acceptance into the program. If more applicants apply than there are spaces available, qualified applicants will be accepted via lottery.



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## Directions for completing application form:

- Read application thoroughly before answering questions.
- Print or type all information requested. Attach additional pages if necessary.
- Sign and date the form.

*Applications are only accepted if postmarked September 1st through February 28th*

*Program dates are Monday, August 22, 2022 - April 28, 2023*

Full Name:

Current Mailing Address:

City/State/Postal Code:

Telephone No.:

Business/Other:

Cell:

Email Address:

Birthdate:

Age:

Gender:

How did you hear about us?



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**Work Experience:** (list most recent first)

Employer (City/State) Position From / To Reason for Leaving

**Volunteer Experience:**

Organization (City, State) Position From / To Hours/week Reason for Leaving





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3. Describe a difficult challenge that you faced in your life and how you overcame it.

4. Describe in detail what type of people you enjoy working with/being around and why.



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## Certification Statement

I certify that I have read and understood all material pertinent to the application both in this packet, in the DRCTI Course Catalog and on the DRCTI website. I further certify that I am able to satisfy the Program Specific Performance Standards and Performance Requirements as outlined above. I testify that all the information I have provided in this application is true and factual to the best of my knowledge. I understand that falsification or withholding any information requested above may result in dismissal of my application from consideration or termination from the program should I be accepted.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send the Following (in the same envelope) to:** DRCTI, c/o Dolphin Research Center 58901 Overseas Highway,  
Grassy Key, FL 33050

Completed application Official sealed copies of all college transcripts (Can be electronically submitted by your college to [drcti@dolphins.org](mailto:drcti@dolphins.org))

A copy of your CPR/First Aid Card

Official sealed copies of high school transcripts *\*If you have already completed a college or university level degree, it is not necessary to submit high school transcripts*

Two sealed letters of recommendation from a person unrelated to you and whom you have known for 2 years or more, one of which should be a professional recommendation. \* Recommendation letters should be sent directly to DRCTI/Dolphin Research Center by the person's writing the endorsements. If they are mailed to the student, they may be submitted with the application only if they are in sealed envelopes signed on the back by the persons writing the endorsements.

Un-official copies of all college transcripts with prerequisite courses highlighted.

A DRCTI doctor's release stating that the specific program requirements, as listed in the Institutional Catalog, do not pose a risk to any current medical conditions the applicant may have. Form available for download on our website.