How to Become a Hatchery Worker

If you like working outside, are fascinated with life cycles, and want to be a part of the management process you might be interested in a job at a hatchery.

More demanding positions, like a manager, usually require a bachelor’s degree in aquaculture science or other related fields.

Entry level positions usually only require some college combined with a few years of experience in the field.

Take as many science and math classes as possible. Also look for summer camps and volunteer opportunities to get experience in the field.

Attend science camps and other outdoor opportunities.

* Each hatchery has different job needs and requirements. This is a generalized example to get you started on the right path.
Hatchery Worker Description:
Hatcheries hire for a variety of different jobs. Alaska hosts a number of fish hatcheries and one shellfish hatchery. Hatchery workers assist in the process of raising organisms through all levels of their life cycle and also releasing organisms when necessary. A hatchery worker will do a lot of work outdoors and near water. Hatchery managers direct and coordinate the activities of the hatchery. They also consult with biologists and other experts while making sure the hatchery meets all requirements.

Pay Range:
$25,000 - $75,000

Location:
Throughout Alaska

A few hatcheries around Alaska:
- Fort Richardson Hatchery
- Sheldon Jackson Hatchery
- Alutiiq Pride Shellfish Hatchery - Seward
- Ruth Burnett Sport Fish Hatchery - Fairbanks
- Prince William Sound Hatcheries

Schools in Alaska that offer degrees for hatchery workers careers:
- University of Alaska Fairbanks
- Prince William Sound Community College
- University of Alaska Southeast
- Kenai Peninsula College
- University of Alaska Anchorage

Places to find more information:
- Organizations websites
- Future Alaskans Website - summer opportunities, internships, camps, jobs, etc. (http://www.sfos.uaf.edu/future)
- Job boards (some examples):
  - http://www.jobs.state.ak.us
  - http://www.sfos.uaf.edu/jobs
  - http://www.alaskajobfinder.com