



We are Recruiting!

Food Service Assistant – Hospitality Department: Operations

Join Our Dynamic Team at the Southern African Wildlife College

Are you passionate about food service and eager to grow your skills in a busy, conservation-focused hospitality environment? We are seeking capable, enthusiastic, and hardworking Food Service Assistants to join our Hospitality Department and help us provide nutritious meals and excellent service to students, staff, visitors, and other guests.

About the Role

As a Food Service Assistant, you will support the day-to-day preparation, cooking, and serving of meals within required timelines and quality standards. Under the direction of the Kitchen Supervisor or designee, you will assist with portion and stock control, maintain hygiene and kitchen cleaning schedules, wash dishes and utensils, use and clean kitchen equipment, and keep food preparation and service areas clean and sanitary. Flexibility, strong customer service, and a cheerful, professional manner are essential.

Key Responsibilities

- Prepare and serve food and drinks for breakfasts, lunches, dinners, functions, and events in line with menus, portion control, stock control, and food hygiene requirements
- Measure, mix, wash, chop, cut, and prepare ingredients, sauces, seasonings, fruit, meat, and vegetables
- Set up and clear tables; clean and polish equipment and service areas; and serve students, staff, visitors, and other stakeholders
- Wash dishes after meals, store them for reuse, and assist with routine and in-depth cleaning of ranges, ovens, refrigerators, freezers, and other food-service equipment
- Maintain clean, safe, tidy, and sanitary work areas and use approved cleaning chemicals safely and according to instructions
- Assess inventory, request replenishment, when necessary, rotate stock on a first-in, first-out basis, and dispose of spoiled items correctly
- Comply with sanitation, occupational health and safety requirements, SAWC standard operating procedures, and College policies
- Provide friendly, professional service, appropriately assist people with disabilities, and cooperate with colleagues in the interests of College students
- Undertake manual domestic duties, including handling and carrying, and perform other duties assigned by the Kitchen Supervisor within the general scope of the post

Reporting Line

You will work under the direction of the Kitchen Supervisor or their designee and support the wider Hospitality team across the College and its sites.

Required Qualifications & Experience

- A recognised relevant tertiary qualification in culinary arts is preferred
- A minimum of 1–2 years' experience as a Food Service Assistant or in a similar food-service role and environment
- Experience in food preparation and knowledge of hygiene requirements for preparing, serving, and storing food
- Ability to work flexibly in different areas of the College and its sites, including functions and special events
- The College promotes the employment of youth aged 25–35

Essential Skills & Attributes

- A passion for providing nutritious and delicious meals
- A positive attitude, professionalism, respect for others, and a strong service orientation
- Basic food-handling skills and the ability to apply relevant South African and industry-specific requirements
- Ability to stand for long periods, up to eight hours, and the resilience and stamina to work in a busy kitchen
- Self-motivation, reliability, and the ability to cooperate effectively with colleagues
- A friendly, people-focused approach and the ability to deal professionally with students, staff, visitors, donors, and stakeholders
- Genuine passion, creativity, and the ability to multitask effectively
- A willingness to learn, develop, and share skills
- Computer literacy would be an advantage

What We Offer

The Southern African Wildlife College Hospitality Department provides meals for on-site students, manages functions and special occasions, and supports graduation events. Our dynamic kitchen team works in a busy environment that values service excellence, hygiene, teamwork, innovation, and flexibility. This entry-level and varied role offers a culinary enthusiast the opportunity to build sound, all-round hospitality experience while working with students and guests from across Africa, Europe, and the Americas. We focus on staff empowerment, individual development, and strong working relationships.

How to Apply

If you are ready to join our team as a Food Service Assistant, please complete the employment application form using the link below, which can be opened on a smart phone, tablet, or computer.

<https://wildlifecollege.org.za/sawc-employment-application/>

Applications close on **23 October 2026 at 16h00.**

We look forward to welcoming a dedicated Food Service Assistant to our team!

Candidates should ensure that all relevant qualifications, experience, written references, and contact details are included. Applications from youth aged 25–35 are especially encouraged.

Please note: It is an operational requirement that all College employees undergo pre-employment integrity testing and may be subject to random integrity tests and background checks.

The nitty gritties¹

If you are shortlisted, we will contact you to request any further information and invite you to an interview.

You will NOT be invited to an interview if you do not provide **relevant contactable work references and valid certified qualifications** in your application.

Ngirivani Land claimants should indicate they are land claimants and provide their file number in the relevant place in the application form in the link above.

Candidates who have not received a response within two weeks of the closing date are kindly requested to assume that their application has not been successful in this instance.

¹ SAWC seeks to promote diversity among its staff and reserves the right to place candidates from within, in line with their transformation and development policy. Where this placement creates a vacancy at a lower level, or benefits communities by providing a full-time or casual employment opportunity, the College reserves the right to then fill this position. SAWC is an equal opportunities employer and will always give preference to applicants from designated groups, in line with our transformation plan. The SAWC also reserves the right not to fill this position.