



Animal Care Internship

Position Description

Including: General Exotic Animal Care, Family Farm, Australia/Americas, Butterfly Garden

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Preparation of animal diets
- Cleaning and disinfecting animal enclosures, cages and pens
- Animal observation
- Record keeping
- Assisting with:
 - medications and/or veterinary procedures
 - behavioral enrichments
 - operant conditioning
 - exhibit maintenance/construction
- Supervising Junior Zookeepers (youth volunteers)
- Handling and presenting small education animals to visitors
- Exhibit interpretation
- Researching animal husbandry and/or enrichment information
- Ability to make public speaking presentations, and effectively communicate orally and in writing with co-workers, other recreation organizations, program participants, and the public, including being sensitive to professional ethics, gender, cultural diversities and disabilities.
- Other duties as assigned

Physical Effort:

Internships are very physical and demanding. Interns will be working both indoors and outdoors in a variety of weather conditions. Interns must be able to:

- Climb ladders/stairs
- Lift and carry animal crates/animals/feed weighing 50lbs.
- Handle a hose for cleaning
- Load and operate wheelbarrows
- Be agile and flexible to maneuver around animals within an exhibit/holding area
- Work in various weather conditions and tolerate extreme weather conditions
- Able to tolerate hay, dust and animal hair/dander

Interns perform duties indoors and outdoors involving the handling of a variety of animals with different temperaments, exposure to animal bites and possible zoonotic diseases, as well as dust, dirt, adverse weather conditions, extreme temperatures, cleaning chemicals and power tools for which safety precautions must be followed at all times to avoid injury to self and others.

Qualifications:

- Minimum 2.5 GPA
- Basic biological knowledge
- Ability to work in a team setting
- Strong verbal and written communication skills
 - Ability to follow oral and written instructions
 - Ability to engage with the public
- Proof of negative TB test (if requested)
- Proof of recent tetanus vaccination (if requested)
- Ability to obtain and maintain valid driver's license
- Ability to work weekends, holidays and evening as assigned
- Willingness to work with youth and enjoy interacting with the public

Internships are unpaid. Housing and transportation is the responsibility of the intern.