

Lake Superior Zoo Internship Description

ADDRESS: 7210 Fremont St, Duluth, MN | PHONE: (218) 730-4500 | FAX: (218) 723-3750

Education Internship

Dates

- Spring: Mid-January through April (application deadline December 1st)
- Summer: Mid-May through August (application deadline March 15th)

Time Commitment

- Minimum of 20 hours per week with weekday and weekend shifts. Internships are unpaid.

Overview

- Education interns are responsible for maintaining a presence on zoo grounds while educating guests about wildlife and conservation. Interns will teach guests about animals using live animals and animal artifacts. Interns may be asked to develop an interpretative talk, present animals at birthday parties and outreach events, and assist with on-site education programs. Education interns will be expected to work 20 hours per week including some weekend days. Interns will also be expected to attend trainings and educational seminars.

Responsibilities

- Give presentations while properly handling live animals including mammals, reptiles, invertebrates, and small hoofstock.
- Provide educational experiences to guests in the Griggs Learning Center, the barn contact yard and using interpretive carts.
- Create and present an interpretive talk or cart for zoo visitors.
- Assist with birthday parties, outreach programs, field trip programs or summer programs such as Zoo Camp and Zoo Crew.

Qualifications

- Currently enrolled or graduated from a college/university
- Understanding of biological concepts
- Eagerness to learn about animals and conservation
- Comfortable with public speaking
- Comfortable working with people of all ages, abilities and cultures
- Effective written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team
- Computer skills including Microsoft Office and internet research
- A negative TB test is required before beginning the internship

Benefits – Upon completion of the internship, you will receive:

- Experience teaching a variety of audiences in a zoo setting.
- Experience handling live animals at an AZA-accredited zoo.
- Experience developing and presenting interpretive programs for people of different ages and backgrounds.

Work Environment

- The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an intern encounters while performing the essential functions of this position. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. While performing the duties of this internship, the intern is regularly exposed to outdoor weather conditions, and occasionally exposed to adverse environmental conditions such as dirt, dust, pollen, odors, fumes, temperature and noise extremes, airborne particles, and animal waste. The noise level in the work environment can be higher than moderate based on the number of visitors at the zoo. Interns may be asked to work in physically close quarters.

Physical Demands

- The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an intern to successfully perform the essential functions of this position. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. While performing the duties of this internship, the intern is regularly required to use hands to finger, handle, or feel; reach with hands and arms; and talk or hear. The intern is required to stand and stoop, kneel, crouch, crawl, walk and stand for extended periods of time. The intern must occasionally lift and carry up to 30 pounds. The intern is occasionally required to carry and set up tables, chairs, boxes of supplies, and other necessary equipment. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, and the ability to adjust focus. Close vision is required to read educational materials and computer screens. Distance vision is necessary for supervising children outdoors and adequate crowd control.