

# Lake Superior Zoo Internship/Externship Description

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

## Veterinary Technician Internship/Externship

### Dates

- Spring: Mid-January through April (application deadline December 1<sup>st</sup>)
- Summer: Mid-May through August (application deadline March 15<sup>th</sup>)
- Fall: Mid-September through December (application deadline August 15<sup>st</sup>)

### Time Commitment

- Minimum of 20 hours per week Monday-Friday with availability to potentially respond to emergencies after hours and on weekends. Internships and housing are unpaid. College credit may be earned.

### Overview

- This position is intended to offer clinical experience to help current students and recent graduates of an AVMA-Accredited Veterinary Technology Program gain the skills necessary to work in the field of exotic animal medicine. The intern/extern will perform the duties of a veterinary technician under the direction and supervision of the certified veterinary technician and staff veterinarian.

### Responsibilities

- Set up and perform laboratory procedures (fecal parasite testing, complete blood cell count, urinalysis, cytology, etc.)
- Assist with general anesthesia of patients by monitoring and evaluating physiological parameters – heart rate, ECG, respiratory rate, blood pressure, oxygenation, etc.
- Calculate drug dosages, prepare medications, and administer through topical, oral, intravenous, intramuscular, and subcutaneous routes.
- Assist with physical exams, surgical procedures, necropsies, radiographs, and dental cleanings on various species.
- Perform daily care and husbandry of animals in quarantine and the hospital.

### Qualifications

- Currently enrolled in or recently graduated from an AVMA-Accredited Veterinary Technology Program
- Eagerness to learn about veterinary care involving a wide variety of animal species and conservation of endangered/threatened species.
- 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 (test must be within 6 months of internship/externship start date)

### Work Environment

- The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an intern/extern 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/externship, the intern/extern 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, pharmaceutical medications, and animal waste. The intern/extern is frequently in direct contact with exotic animals that may cause injuries – most animals are anesthetized for animal and human safety to avoid this. On occasion, handling of blood from non-human primates may occur – all biosafety measures are to be followed.

### Physical Demands

- The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an intern/extern 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/extern will need the ability to remain on their feet for long periods of time, traverse zoo grounds without a vehicle, perform a variety of physical tasks that include, but are not limited to, climbing, bending, stooping, kneeling, twisting, reaching, crawling, and be able to regularly lift and move 30 lb. and occasionally 50 lb. objects. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close, distance, and peripheral vision, depth perception and the ability to adjust focus. Evaluating animal health, diet, or environment requires hearing and smell. Interaction with staff, guests, and animals requires talking and hearing.

For further inquiries contact Amy Gallagher, CVT by email: [agallagher@lszoo.org](mailto:agallagher@lszoo.org) or phone: (218) 730-4500 ext. 101