Lake Superior Zoo Internship Description

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

Animal Care Internship

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

**Overview**
- At the Lake Superior Zoo we care for over 300 animals of a variety of taxa. Animal care interns work primarily in one or two of our five animal care areas, while also having opportunities to learn about primates and raptors:
  - Main routine: ambassador animals (reptiles, amphibians, birds, small mammals)
  - Australia routine: Australian animals (kangaroos and other mammals, reptiles, amphibians, reef tank)
  - Primate Conservation Center/Nocturnal routine: nocturnal mammals and amphibians
  - MN/Asia/Barn routine: native mammals, Asian hoofstock, and domestic farm species
  - Carnivore routine: large carnivores (primarily cleaning, diets, and enrichment-no shifting)
- Internship sessions are approximately three ½ to four months long though qualified interns may request to extend the internship to a second session on a case by case basis. The Lake Superior Zoo expects motivated and passionate interns that promote our mission to “inspire connections to wildlife and action towards conservation in our region and around the world.” Spring, summer, and fall internship sessions are available.

**Learning Opportunities and Responsibilities**
- At the Lake Superior Zoo we care for over 300 animals of a variety of taxa. Animal care interns work primarily in one or two of our five animal care areas, while also having opportunities to learn about primates and raptors:
  - Best practices in animal welfare
  - Cleaning animal enclosures and holding areas
  - Diet preparation and distribution with general nutrition
  - Environmental enrichment and its role in animal management
  - Overview of positive reinforcement training and its application
  - Practical skills in guest interaction and keeper talk development
  - Behavioral observation and analysis with Zoomonitor
  - Proper animal handling and/or interaction
  - Orientation to daily record-keeping and medical care
  - Overview of best safety practices in a zoological setting
  - Additional seminars and learning opportunities that may include: medical procedure observation, animal weighing, enrichment construction, orientations to various taxa, familiarity with USDA and AZA regulations
  - Resume review and job-finding/interview assistance
- Spring internship dates are flexible but generally run mid-January through April. Applications for the spring session are due by December 1st, but applications will be accepted until all positions are filled. College credit may be earned upon request, email eperala@lszoo.org for more details.

**Requirements**
- Internships are unpaid, do not provide housing, and spring session interns have a minimum time commitment of 20 hours per week.
- Applicants should be enrolled or recently enrolled in a degree program in biology or a related field
- Must have the ability to work with people of all ages, abilities, and cultures
- Candidates need to be dependable, cooperative, and self-motivated
- A negative TB test is required before beginning the internship

**How To Apply**
- The internship application can be found at: [https://lszoolduluth.org/about/employment/](https://lszoolduluth.org/about/employment/)
- Please send your completed application along with a cover letter, resume, and one letter of reference to Emily Perala by email to: eperala@lszoo.org.
- OR by mail:  
  Attn: Emily Perala
  Lake Superior Zoo
  7210 Fremont St
  Duluth, MN 55807
- For more information, email or call Emily (218) 730-4500 x104 or visit the intern page on our website at [https://lszoolduluth.org/about/employment/](https://lszoolduluth.org/about/employment/)