

The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore Intern Position Description

Title: Primate Intern

Department: Animal Department

Location: Chimpanzee Forest

Summary: The Animal Department is responsible for the daily care and wellbeing of the Zoo's animal collection. Healthy animals and clean exhibits are vital to the Zoo's mission of conservation, research, education, and recreation. The Primate Internship in the Zoo's Chimpanzee Forest is designed to provide an immersive experience to students specifically interested in pursuing a career working with primates. Interns will have an inside look at providing care for primates on a daily basis, including gaining knowledge of husbandry, creating and implementing enrichment, and learning how the animal staff trains behaviors using operant conditioning. During your internship you will have the opportunity to learn the complex social and intelligent behaviors of our large, dynamic chimpanzee troop, and work closely with ring-tailed lemurs, red ruffed lemurs, Coquere's sifaka, and Black and White colobus monkeys. You will also complete a project to showcase some of the tools you have learned in this program.

Responsibilities:

- Cleaning, maintenance, and alteration of animal enclosures, exhibits and facilities;
- Record keeping of daily activities, animal nutrition, and training programs;
- Preparing diets;
- Creating enrichment and learning animal behavior;
- Educating and engaging guests at keeper chats;
- Other duties as assigned

Qualifications:

- Minimum age 18;
- Must provide evidence of a negative TB test;
- Must be able to lift up to 50 pounds, and work on feet for up to four hours;
- Must be comfortable working in all weather conditions and tolerance of strong odors, hay, straw, dust or dander;
- Must be able to commit to a minimum of 24 hours per week, 8 week minimum, 120 hours minimum;
- Must have access to reliable transportation

Time Commitment: Interns must be able to volunteer full-days at least three times a week Mondays through Sundays, Minimum of 120 hours within a chosen semester, from 8:30am to 4:30pm.

Training: Maryland Zoo Intern Orientation (2 hours); Observing, shadowing and on-the-job.