Animal Commissary Internship (Unpaid)

With over 500 animal species of our grounds, we go through a lot of food! Our full-service Commissary Department keeps all our animals’ diets and appetites under control and interacts with every animal area in the Zoo.

This internship encompasses skilled professional and technical work in the routine daily tasks of the Commissary, receiving all ordered food and supplies, utilizing equipment, daily cleaning, and related facilities as assigned. Commissary keepers have a unique role in providing service to many areas of the zoo and must possess and utilize excellent communication, customer service skills and efficient use of their time. Interns will be trained on and assist with all aspects of Commissary keeper responsibilities including but not limited to: Planning and conducting a comprehensive range of ordering, stocking, cleaning, organizing, customer service, oversight of all food and product delivery, and record keeping duties for the Commissary. This position requires a person to be detail-oriented and able to complete certain tasks within an allotted period. It is imperative this person demonstrate a positive attitude that provides vision and opportunities for individuals and the Zoo to grow. They must advocate the plans and objectives of the Zoo everyday through their activities. Interns assist with all daily cleaning of Commissary areas including browse cooler, hay barn, around the outside of the buildings ensuring the equipment is functional and the truck is clean. All tasks and activities are in compliance with the occupational Health and Safety Act and all CZBG safety policies.

Successful candidates will embrace and continuously demonstrate the Core Values of the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden which include, but are not limited to: Building Collaborative Relationships through open communication and active listening; having Positivity and Energy through positive attitudes and making time to celebrate successes; having Accountability, Mutual Trust and Respect through taking ownership of issues, learning from mistakes, treating others with respect, holding self and others accountable and doing what you say you’re going to do; possessing Progressive Thinking through being a self-directed learner, and learning from others, thinking creatively, challenging the status quo respectively, and demonstrating relentless pursuit for improvement; and having Pride, Passion & a Sense of Ownership through respect and care for the living collection, going the extra mile, always being an advocate for the Zoo and demonstrating a strong personal ownership.

Qualifications: Successful applicants must demonstrate experience delivering excellent customer service & use of communication and problem-solving skills, while applying good judgment. The ability to establish and maintain positive relationships with co-workers (including staff, interns, students and volunteers) is imperative, and a positive attitude and an affinity for the Mission of the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden are must-haves! Education and experience in a related environment are desired, however, we will consider all combinations that provide the ability to successfully perform the duties of the position.

Working Conditions: Internship is contingent upon successful completion of a post-offer, pre-employment drug & nicotine screen, background check & physical. This position is physically taxing. While performing the duties of this job the intern is regularly required to stand; walk; climb or balance; grasp; and negotiate stairs and ladders. In addition, the employee is regularly exposed to outside weather conditions and must be able to lift/move/carry 50-75 pounds on a routine basis, without mechanical assistance.