

## Veterinary Technician Internship (Unpaid)

**Description:** The Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden's Veterinary Technician Internship is a minimum of 6 weeks (40 hours per week unpaid, un-benefited) professional intern position with the Animal Health Department. Two separate internships are offered during the summer months with the first internship session beginning in mid-May and the second session starting in mid-July. Regular off-days will be Saturday/Sunday.

**Summary:** Under general supervision provides assistance to the Veterinary Staff in the veterinary care of the animal collection. Performs diagnostic tests, radiographs animals, maintains hospital records and assists in surgical procedures. Responsibilities include:

- Sets up for procedures
- Sets up and performs laboratory procedures, including fecal exam for parasites, urinalysis; prepares and correctly labels and submits specimens for evaluation by outside laboratories. Positions animals for diagnostic radiographs, operates radiograph equipment and produces diagnostic digital radiographs following recommended safety protocols.
- Assists in surgical procedures, including preparing and maintaining the animal in proper position and preparing and maintaining the sterile surgical environment. Follows appropriate surgical etiquette and assists veterinarians in surgical procedures as needed and directed.
- Assists with general anesthesia of patients by monitoring physiological parameters - heart rate, respiratory rate, blood pressure, oxygenation.
- Provides medication administration through topical, oral, intravenous, intramuscular, and subcutaneous
- Participates in medical behavior training.
- Assists with necropsy procedures.
- Maintains the Zoo Hospital, including sanitation, maintenance of physical plant, equipment maintenance, and inventory of supplies and medications.
- Prepares medications, calculates drug dosages.
- Performs miscellaneous treatments including dental prophylaxis, ear cleaning and wound care.
- Reports daily observations and diagnostic results accurately in computerized animal records.
- Interacts with keeper staff as needed.
- Maintains a safe environment including the handling and disposal of sharp objects and biological samples, as well as other Zoo related and animal related safety protocols.
- Has a basic understanding of zoonotic diseases.
- Familiar with basic CPR procedures
- Interacts with Zoo visitors courteously and offers proper attention at all times.

### **Qualifications:**

Education: A graduate or currently enrolled in a Veterinary Technician program (preference given to students who are seniors).

Skills: Good written and oral communication skills. Good computer skills, including Microsoft Office (Word & Excel). General knowledge of medical terminology and disease processes. General knowledge of the anatomy and physiology of mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians. Ability to read and interpret documents such as safety rules, operating and maintenance instructions. Ability to calculate figures and amounts. Ability to apply concepts of basic algebra and geometry.

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.

***Working Conditions/Other Requirements:*** While performing the duties of this position the intern is regularly required to stand; walk; climb or balance and grasp objects. In addition, the intern is regularly exposed to outside weather conditions; must be able to lift & move 75 pounds without mechanical assistance.

- Appointment is conditional upon passing a pre-start drug & nicotine screen
- Must provide a negative TB test result prior to beginning the internship
- Candidates must provide proof of current medical insurance, and maintain this insurance for the duration of the internship