

## **Nutrition Internship (Unpaid)**

**Description:** Internships are available in nutrition to students with an interest in nutrition. Students must have completed some nutrition course work. The internship is a 14-week (40 hours per week unpaid, un-benefited) professional intern position working alongside the Curator of Nutrition. Regular off-days will be Saturday and Sunday. Dates for internships would be listed on the zoo's website.

**Summary:** This Internship includes exposure to developing, implementing and supervising all aspects of a comprehensive Zoo animal nutrition program.

The internship would include learning the management of the commissary, food safety/handling, quality control, diet formulation, diet records and continual assessment of animal condition for the ~1600 animals exhibited at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden. The intern, working alongside the Curator of Nutrition, would work closely with animal management, keepers, researchers and veterinary staff, to provide diet evaluations, animal body condition assessments and product recommendations, along with assisting commissary staff in product purchasing. The intern would be exposed to the development and supervision of a local browse program to fulfill nutrition and enrichment needs of the collection while managing the commissary budget. The intern would track, organize and create diet records as part of learning. The intern would conduct research deemed appropriate in the effective and applied animal nutrition program such as food nutrient analysis (sample processing, data collection and entry) and quality control (forages, feeds, browses, etc.). No direct animal contact takes place in this role. Some computer experience is preferred. Each week a new topic will be presented and discussed. Topics can include (but aren't limited to) basic husbandry, operant conditioning, enrichment, nutrition, browse, veterinary care, public speaking and presentations, green practices and conservation, and job-seeking/interview skills. In the 14-16 week program the intern will work with the Curator of Nutrition on 4 separate small projects related to a comprehensive nutrition program. Mid-session and final reviews will be conducted in order to provide each intern with constructive feedback about their contribution to the internship. This internship is unpaid, but housing is available for a minimal fee.

**Qualifications:** The ideal candidate will meet the following requirements: 1) Current college junior or senior working toward an animal related field, Nutrition, Animal Science, Biology, Zoology etc.; or within one year of graduation with a related degree. 2) Demonstrate commitment to working with wildlife in a zoo setting. 3) Comfortable working on a computer plus some comfort with handling many different foods and food products as well as bags of dry foods, browse, and hay.

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 50 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

**To apply for this position:** Cover letter and resume should be attached to your online application.