

Volunteer Career Experiences Internship and Practicum Area Descriptions



Animal Behavior:

The Animal Behavior Volunteer will assist the Education and Animal Department(s) with the collection of behavioral data on the animals in residence at the zoo. The collection of behavioral data will increase knowledge of animal behaviors in their habitats and enable science-backed changes to increase animal welfare. The Animal Behavior volunteer must be driven and possess ability to be proactive and self-sufficient. All Career Experience Volunteers must be proactive in the development of a personal project that supports zoo goals and will continue to benefit the zoo upon completion of term. Majority of experience will be focused on personal project.

Major Duties and Responsibilities

- Complete current zoo animal behavior study using ZooMonitor daily.
- Identify up to 4 species of zoo residents on which to perform behavioral observations pertinent to zoo operations
- Perform background research on animals and their natural behaviors using peer-reviewed journals
- Identify behaviors for each species to monitor
- Create a plan of action to implement behavioral observations
- Monitor project behaviors using ZooMonitor daily.
- Analyze data gathered from previous semesters
- Perform guest surveys

Requirements

- At least 18 years of age
- Possess a valid driver's license
- Currently enrolled in college and have completed at least 15 hours or be a recent graduate, within the last 2 years.
- Participants must be able and willing to work weekends and holidays.
- Be proficient in the English language