



Wildlife Education Internship

Position Scope: The Wildlife Education Intern is a member of the Utica Zoo's education team, reporting to the Education and Conservation Manager. This position offers experience in all facets of the zoo education field, including program development, implementation, and evaluation, as well as ambassador animal handling and training. The Wildlife Education intern will assist with programming, including camp, outreach, animal encounters, birthday parties, and guided tours.

This is an unpaid internship opportunity. Housing is not provided; however, local housing recommendations are available upon request.

Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. To apply, please submit a resume and cover letter to victoria.carrillo@uticazoo.org

Key Responsibilities

- Assist education staff with off-site programming, traveling, and presenting to school programs, camp programs, assisted living facilities, festivals, and events.
- Support zoo camp staff to prepare and facilitate camp activities, assist with animal presentations, monitor students, and guide campers through the zoo.
- Learn and maintain ambassador animal handling certification; Once trained, responsible for knowing and abiding by proper handling, transportation, presentation, training, and interaction protocols for a diverse collection of animals in preparation for and during programs.
- Learn and apply best conservation messaging practices to engage zoo visitors with conservation issues, threats, and solutions, fostering environmental stewardship.
- Other duties as assigned.

Preferred Qualifications

- Preference given to candidates pursuing a degree in formal education, conservation/environmental education, zoology, ecology, or a related field.
- Preference given to candidates with public speaking and teaching experience.

Required Skills & Abilities

- Comfortable working in proximity to both wild and domestic animals in a zoo setting, including handling select ambassador animals.
- Ability to engage respectfully and positively with diverse audiences of varying ages and learning abilities.
- Ability to lift up to 50 lbs. and perform physical tasks required by the position.
- Flexible availability, including weekdays, weekends, and holidays. Flexible start and end dates are available.

Employment Requirements

- Negative TB test dated within six (6) months before the internship start date.
- Proof of employment eligibility.