

Program Animal Specialist Intern – No Stipend

Brandywine Zoo

DELAWARE STATE PARK INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



CLICK HERE TO APPLY: <https://destateparks.com/volunteer/positions>

DESCRIPTION

Brandywine Zoo is seeking outgoing applicants who are pursuing degrees in biology with an interest in animal husbandry, zoo keeping, or education.

This position will include daily husbandry of program animals. Program Animal Specialist Interns will work with staff to perform routine husbandry in one area of the Zoo's collection of over 30 program animals, which includes small mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates.

Program animal interns may also provide live animal encounters or other programs for the public, as necessary. They may present various programs utilizing artifacts and program animals from our teaching collection to engage visitors on zoo grounds, assist zoo guests with way-finding, lead tours for scheduled groups, assist with the zoo's special events, present live animal shows for the public, including Reptile Shows, and assist with off-site Traveling Zoo programming as needed. As with all our programs, they should positively and professionally represent and promote the Brandywine Zoo and its mission.

This position is flexible, with a minimum of three days per week required, maximum of five days per week. One weekend day may be required, as well as some scheduling on holidays or evenings. Hours for this position are 8 am – 4 pm Saturday & Sundays, while weekdays can be full days (8 am – 4 pm) or can be worked as half-days, starting at 8 am, to accommodate active students' class schedules for afternoon classes, as long as weekly minimum of 22.5 hours are reached.

We're looking for an individual with great people skills, is a self-starter, able to work as part of a team and independently, energetic, positive, creative, a positive sense of humor and has a passion for the environment!

LOCATION Brandywine Zoo – Wilmington, DE
<https://brandywinezoo.org>

TERM OF SERVICE 6 months – Part Time 22.5-37.5 hours per week

QUALIFICATIONS

- Must be comfortable handling a variety of live animals, including reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates, and mammals, and knowledgeable about their natural history.
- Must have good time management skills, with the ability to complete designated tasks in a punctual manner.
- Attention to detail is necessary for making observations, recording data and completing day-to-day husbandry tasks.

- Applicants must be working toward or already have a degree in Biology, Psychology, Animal Science, Pre-Vet, Wildlife Conservation, or other Biological Sciences.
- Must have an interest in working with the general public; especially children ages 4-13.
- Must exhibit consistent professional characteristics such as a positive attitude, ability to show initiative, emotional maturity and self-responsibility.
- Comfortable with public speaking.

REQUIRED SKILLS

- At least 18 years old with valid driver's license and reliable transportation
- Provide proof of negative TB Test within the last 12 months before start date
- Good physical condition: able to stand/walk for extended periods of time, kneel, crouch, and able to work in all weather conditions.
- Be able to lift up to 25 pounds
- Must be fluent in the English language (verbal and written communication)
- Overall GPA must be 2.5 or higher
- Good organizational and time management skills.
- Able and willing to read and follow verbal and written work instructions and work independently
- Willing to assist with administrative, customer relations, and housekeeping tasks and possibly animal care
- Able to commit to upholding all Zoo safety and personnel policies, and support the overall mission
- Able to professionally represent the Brandywine Zoo in all interactions with visitors, staff, and other members of the community.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Performing daily husbandry for a variety of reptiles, amphibians, mammals and invertebrates.
- Able to follow protocols to prevent the spread of zoonotic diseases and maintain high levels of animal safety.
- Ability to work weekend days and flexible hours as schedules dictate.
- Comfortable with public speaking

DIRECT SUPERVISOR

The direct supervisor will be the Curator of Education at Brandywine Zoo.

BENEFITS

- **Training:** A hallmark of the program, interns receive training from the field experts they will be working with. In addition to this formal and informal training to successfully conduct their internship assignment, interns will have the opportunity to build associated skills and share real-time experience with park staff and colleagues. Training will be made available to the interns to further their personal and professional development. Additionally, the position will develop critical skills for those interested in a career in conservation, natural resource management, animal management, or ecological studies. Opportunities for school credit are available.
- **Housing:** Shared, co-ed housing may be available for this internship between September and May, on a first come, first served basis.
- **Activities:** Interns will have the opportunity not only to visit ALL Delaware State Parks at no fee, but also participate in many of the tours, programs, and associated events for free. Delaware State Parks span the length of the state and whether it be canoeing at Trap Pond State Park, surfing at Delaware Seashore State Park, attending a concert at Bellevue State Park, or touring the living history facility at Fort Delaware, there is certainly something for everyone.

- **Stipend:** This is an unpaid internship.

All Delaware State Parks Interns are required to undergo and successfully complete a background check performed by the Division.

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The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce