

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Animal Care Internship

Position Title:	Animal Care Intern
Employment Classification:	Internship
Reports to:	Animal Care Manager
Department:	Animal Care Department
Salary:	Unpaid

Internship Description

The Living Coast Discovery Center is currently seeking enthusiastic and motivated individuals interested in gaining experience or a career in animal care to participate in a part-time, unpaid internship.

LCDC has a diverse collection of avian and aquatic species including a variety of birds of prey (eagles, owls, falcons, hawks), shorebirds, and local marine species ranging from seahorses to sharks and sea turtles. LCDC is also home to a variety of reptiles such as snakes, lizards, tortoises, and a chameleon.

DUTIES AND KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Daily husbandry care and feeding of animals.
- Cleaning and maintenance of animal exhibits and/or aquariums.
- Perform behavioral observations.
- Keep detailed records.
- Diet preparation.
- Animal enrichment.
- Interactions and customer service with guests.
- Deliver interpretive talks and presentations to guests.
- Complete an intern project.

QUALIFICATIONS/SKILLS

Required Qualifications

- Ability to work as a team and with minimal supervision.
- Ability to perform interpretive talks for guest experience during scheduled public feeds.
- Be comfortable handling deceased animals such as fish, mice and rats during food prep.
- Ability to work in outdoor conditions including sun, rain, wind, and heat.
- Be willing to learn about all aspects of animal care.
- Help with any tasks requested by the supervisor with a positive attitude.
- Participants must be able to adjust to changes within the daily routines.
- Ability to lift 50 lbs. and be able to perform physical tasks such as standing, walking, bending, and lifting.

Desired Qualifications:

- Previous animal care experience (may include caring for domestic animals).
- Focus of study in biology, zoology, conservation, or other natural sciences.
- Knowledge of native bird species, aquatic species and/or wetland ecosystems.



Commitment:

- Interns will spend 16 weeks working within the Bird or Aquatic Departments depending on availability and applicants.
- Shifts are 7.5 hours, 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., with a minimum of two days per week availability.
- Must complete 240 hours of service over a 14-18 week period.
- Schedules will depend on each intern’s availability and must be consistent for the duration of the internship.
- Interns will be responsible for one project that they will be able to work on over the course of the internship, and will participate in other professional learning activities.
- Weekend and holiday work may be required.

WORKING ENVIRONMENT/PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

This position requires to be physically able to perform all duties assigned, which may include the ability to lift up to 50 pounds and pull/push 120 pounds, climb ladders, walk on uneven or wet surfaces, and work in various weather conditions.

HOW TO APPLY

Please send your resume and a short paragraph stating why you are interested in the position to: volunteers@thelivingcoast.org. Due to the high volume of applicants, we will only be able to contact those we are interested in interviewing.

Please also complete the online **Volunteer Application Form** that can be found on our Internship webpage.

There are four intern sessions available each year:

Winter: December-March.

Spring: March-June.

Summer*: June-September (start date is flexible between May 15 - June 25).

Fall: September-December.

*Due to the considerable differences between the end dates for semester and quarter-system schools, allowance is given for individual start dates for the summer session.