Thank you for your interest in a Summer Camp Internship position with the Education Department at the Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium. We are offering two internships for the summer season, one full time (40 hours/week) internship and one part time (20 hours/week) internship.

Our internships offer a hands-on opportunity to work with youths in conservation and environmental education in a zoo and aquarium setting and require a minimum commitment of eight weeks.

These are unpaid positions and while we may be able to help you in your housing search, there is no housing provided. We will do everything possible to accommodate school requirements for those who can earn class credit for internships.

This internship involves working with youth of all ages in support of summer camp instructors and with Zoo volunteers during on-site summer camp activities.

We will be accepting summer camp interns to begin work in June. The schedule is as follows:

Summer Camp Internship: June/July/August
Applications accepted until the 1st week in March

Good luck!

Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium
Education Department – Internship Program
5400 North Pearl Street
Tacoma, WA 98407
(253) 404-3666
cathleen.mcconnell@pdza.org

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POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM
Education Summer Camp Internship Information

The Education Department's internship program at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium is designed to provide an individual with practical learning experience while gaining valuable knowledge related to his/her career goals.

Requests for internship positions are evaluated on experience – professional and/or volunteer, academic achievement, interview success, and position availability.
To apply for an internship with the Education Department at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, you must:

1. Be currently enrolled in a college or university, or have recently graduated from a college or university.
2. Have a minimum of one year of course work in a major field of study to be applied during the internship (e.g. education, biology, zoology, psychology, etc.).
3. Submit an application.
4. Submit a resume.
5. Submit a cover letter. (including your career goals)
6. Submit two letters of recommendation from an advisor or supervisor. Each letter should specify the internship position for which you are applying.
7. Participate in a phone or on-site interview.
8. Commit to a minimum of 20 or 40 hours a week for a minimum of 8 weeks.
9. May be required to receive certification in CPR/First Aid.
10. If accepted, you must provide proof of a negative TB test, given within the last year.

Please mail OR email completed application materials to:
cathleen.mcconnell@pdza.org

Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium
Internship Program Coordinator – Education Department
5400 North Pearl Street
Tacoma, WA 98407

Please note: Incomplete application packets will not be considered. However, letters of recommendation may be sent separately. Please make sure that each letter of recommendation specifies the internship for which you are applying.

Summer Camp Education Internship Description

The internship program at the Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium is designed to provide participants with practical learning experience and knowledge in the field of education (with an emphasis on the natural sciences). In return, the intern makes a significant contribution to the Education Department at the Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium.
The internship is designed to provide knowledge and/or experience in the following areas (some or all may apply depending on skill level and department's needs):

1. Program Instruction (on site)
    - Assist and potentially lead instruction of on-site summer camp programs for diverse age groups, from pre-k through adult

2. Learn and Demonstrate Various Teaching Styles
    - Classroom management
    - Behavior modification techniques
    - Use of Questioning techniques and guided inquiry

3. Learn and Demonstrate Lesson planning
    - Design and implement classroom projects, activities and games
    - Arts and crafts projects

4. Learn and Demonstrate Principles of Environmental Education
    - Promote conservation of the world's wildlife and natural resources
    - Support a better understanding of the natural world and our connection to all living things
    - Impart a respect for animals and the diversity of life
    - Use of animal biofacts as teaching tools
    - Appropriate behavior around live animals

5. Learn and Demonstrate Knowledge of Animal Species
    - Natural history of collection species
    - Animal behavior
    - Taxonomy

6. Demonstrate an Understanding of Zoo & Aquarium General Operations
    - Zoo & aquarium departmental organization
    - Mission and purpose of zoo & aquarium
    - Policies and public safety procedures

7. Administrative Assistance
    - Assist Program Staff and Management in creating educational materials
    - Input data, make photocopies, organize, clean and/or procure educational materials.
    - Other Duties as assigned

POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM
Education Summer Camp Internship Application

Name_____Date_____

Mailing Address _____

Email Address _____

Primary Phone_____ Secondary Phone _____

College/University_____

Address_____

Attendance/Graduation date_____ Major Field of study: _____

Name of Professor sponsoring internship _

Number of credits received upon completion of this internship:_____

Courses and experience applicable to this internship:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

How did you learn of this internship?_____

You are applying for:

- ❒ Full-time internship
- ❒ Part-time internship
- ❒ Either full-time or part-time

Dates available:_____

For office use only:

Date received: _____
Interview date and time:_____
Interviewer: _____ Accepted: _____
Start date: _____ End date: _____