POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM
A facility of Metro Parks Tacoma

Thank you for your interest in the Asian Forest Sanctuary exhibit internship position at the Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium. This internship is an in-depth program requiring a 32 to 40 hour per week commitment, for a minimum of 400 hours for 10-12 weeks (12 weeks for fall, winter and spring sessions and 10 weeks for the summer session). Interns must be flexible with their schedule, and have the ability to work weekdays, weekends and holidays. It is an unpaid position and there is no housing provided. We will do everything possible to accommodate school requirements for those who can earn class credit.

We do accept interns year round, up to two per quarter. The summer session is the most competitive, we encourage you to consider other times of year. Our schedule is as follows:

Spring internship:	March/April/May Applications accepted until the 3rd Friday in January
Summer internship:	June/July/August Applications accepted until the 1st Friday in March
Fall internship:	September/October/November/December Applications accepted until the 3rd Friday in June
Winter internship:	December/January/February/March Applications accepted until the 3rd Friday in October

If accepted you must provide proof of a negative TB test, given within the last year and have had a tetanus vaccine within the last five years. As our internships are unpaid, interns are considered volunteers so the zoo does not provide any medical coverage for on or off the job injuries or incidents.

Good luck,

Cathleen McConnell
Internship Program Coordinator
Education Department

Steven Ok
Intern Coordinator
Asian Forest Sanctuary

POINT DEFIANCE ZOO AND AQUARIUM
Internship Information

The internship program at the Aquarium of Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium is designed to provide individuals 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 positions available.

To apply for an internship at Point Defiance Zoo and 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. biology, zoology, animal behavior, psychology, etc.).
3. Be capable of the physical abilities required to work with animals (i.e. lift 50 pounds, etc.).
4. Submit an application.
5. Submit a cover letter. (including your career goals)
6. Submit a resume.
7. Submit answers to application questions.
8. Submit two letters of recommendation from an advisor or supervisor. Each letter should specify the internship position for which you are applying.
9. Undergo a phone or on site interview.
10. Commit to a minimum of 400 hours (32 –40 hours a week) for at least 10 weeks.
11. Once selected, provide proof of a negative TB test within the last year.
12. Once selected, provide proof of a tetanus vaccination within the past 5 years.

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.

Asian Forest Sanctuary Internship Description

The Asian Forest Sanctuary internship at the Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium is designed to provide applicants with practical, hands-on learning opportunities in the field of animal husbandry. In return, the intern makes a significant contribution to the daily operation of the Asian Forest Sanctuary area. The Asian Forest Sanctuary has a diverse array of mammals from throughout Southeast Asia with specific husbandry and dietary concerns. This area is one of the few rotational exhibits in the country which requires extensive shifting of animals daily in a safe and thoughtful manner.

This internship is designed to provide knowledge of and instruction in the following areas:

1. Animal Husbandry
    - Cleaning and maintenance of exhibits and holding areas
    - Shifting animals in a rotational exhibit system
    - Animal observations and recordkeeping
    - Dispensing medication

2. Nutrition and Diet
    - Preparation of diets
    - Feeding techniques

3. Animal Enrichment
    - Implementation and recordkeeping
    - Design/construct new enrichment

4. Animal/Species Knowledge
    - Natural history
    - Behavior
    - Identification of individual behaviors

5. Training
    - Observe and assist with current trained behaviors and training programs

6. Public Presentation
    - Informal exhibit interpretation
    - Scheduled tiger presentation

POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM
Asian Forest Sanctuary 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 (if applicable)_____

Number of credits received upon completion (if applicable):_____

Courses and experience applicable to this internship:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

How did you learn of this internship?_____

Circle internship applying for: *winter* *fall* *spring* *summer*

Dates available:_____

For office use only:
Date submitted: _____
Interview date and time: _____
Interviewer/s:_____
Date offered:_____Date accepted:_____
Start date:_____End date:_____

Asian Forest Sanctuary Internship
Short Essay Questions

1) Please tell us what you will bring to the internship program. Be specific.

2) What attracts you to this internship position that is different from other similar opportunities?

3) What are your career objectives?

4) Describe your perception of your ideal job and where you see yourself in ten years.

5) Why do you want to work with animals?