POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM

Internship Program

Thank you for your interest in a **Summer Camp** program internship position within the Education Department at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium. We offer two internship opportunities for each summer, one full time (40 hours/week) and one part time (20 hours/week).

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 with no housing provided. We will do everything possible to accommodate school requirements for those who can earn class credit.

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.

We will be accepting summer camp interns to begin work in June.

Application deadlines are as follows:

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

Good luck!

Cathleen McConnell
Education Specialist
Internship Program Coordinator

Craig Standridge
Education Specialist
Summer Camp Intern Supervisor

Erin O'Hagan
Public Programs Lead
Summer Camp Intern Supervisor

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POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM

Summer Camp Program 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 primary responsibility of this intern is to support Summer Camp staff in the planning and implementation of on-site youth programs for students entering kindergarten through middle school.

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

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

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

4. <u>Learn and Demonstrate Principles of Environmental Education</u>
    - 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. <u>Learn and Demonstrate Knowledge of Animal Species</u>
    - Natural history
    - Adaptations
    - Taxonomy

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Internship Application Process

The internship program at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium is designed to provide an individual with practical learning experience while gaining valuable knowledge related to her/his 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 cover letter including your career goals.
5. Submit a resume.
6. Submit two letters of recommendation from an advisor or supervisor.
7. Participate in a phone or on-site interview.
8. Commit to a 32-40 hours a week for 8-10 weeks.

Please note: Candidates may apply for multiple positions during one application period; however complete applications must be submitted for each position. Candidates may not apply for multiple seasons during one application period (applications will not be kept for future positions).

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

POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM
Summer Camp Program Internship Application

Name _____Date _____

Mailing Address _____

Email Address _____

Primary Phone _____Secondary Phone _____

College/University _____

City/State _____

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:

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How did you learn of this internship?_____

Dates available: _____

POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM
Summer Camp Program Essay Questions

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

2) What will you bring to this internship program? Please include both strengths and weaknesses.

3) What do you expect to gain from this internship?