



Thank you for your interest in a spring internship position with the Education Department's Academic & Community Programs at the Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium.

This internship is a hands-on program requiring a minimum commitment of 20 hours per week, for a minimum of 10 weeks. Applicants who are available for up to 40 hours a week are highly desirable. This is an unpaid position 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.

The primary responsibility of this intern is to accompany Education staff to off-site formal presentations at schools and community venues. An intern project will also be required of the selected intern. Other duties will also be assigned within the Education Department.

We will be accepting spring interns to begin work in March. The schedule is as follows:

Spring Internship: March/April/May/mid-June (flexible)
Applications accepted until January February 15th

Fall Internship: September/October/mid-November
Applications accepted until July 16th

Winter internship: December/January/February/March
Applications accepted until October 15th

Good luck!

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

Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium promotes responsible stewardship of the world's resources through education, conservation, research and recreational opportunities.



POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM

Academic & Community Education 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. (available on the Internship Program page of our website)
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 minimum of 20 hours a week (or up to 40 hours a week) for a minimum of 10 weeks.
9. May be required to receive certification in CPR/First Aid.

Please mail OR email completed application materials to:

cathleen.mcconnell@pdza.org

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5400 North Pearl Street
Tacoma, WA 98407

Please note: Incomplete application packets will not be considered. However, letters of recommendation may be sent separately.



Academic & Community Programs **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 zoological education. 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. **School Programs**
 - Delivery of off-site ZooM outreach
 - Delivery of on-site Discovery Programs
 - Instruction opportunities will be available to qualified interns
2. **Learn and Demonstrate Various Teaching Styles**
 - Classroom management
 - Use of questioning techniques and guided inquiry
3. **Learn and Demonstrate Lesson planning**
 - Preparation of instructional segments and classroom materials
 - Design and implement classroom projects, activities and games
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
 - Use of live animal ambassadors as teaching tools
 - Appropriate behavior around live program animals
5. **Learn and Demonstrate Knowledge of Animal Species**
 - Natural history of program collection species
 - Animal behavior
 - Basic taxonomy
6. **Demonstrate an Understanding of Zoo & Aquarium General Operations**
 - Zoo & Aquarium departmental organization
 - Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium Mission
 - Policies and public safety procedures



9. 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

Academic & Community Education 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? _____

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

Dates available: _____

For office use only: Date received: _____ Interview date and time: _____ Interviewer: _____ Accepted: _____ Start date: _____ End date: _____
