



Zoo Animal Technology Graduate Internship at White Oak

White Oak conserves and sustains some of the earth's rarest wild animals through innovative training, research, education, breeding and field programs that contribute to the survival of wildlife in nature. The conservation programs span 600 acres along the St. Marys River in northeast Florida, surrounded by 12,400 acres of mixed forest and wetlands that make up the beautiful White Oak property. Founded in 1982, White Oak leads professional efforts to improve veterinary care, develop holistic animal management techniques, and better understand the biology of critically endangered species by providing excellent care and managing conservation programs for 30 species of imperiled wildlife in large, naturalistic enclosures.



White Oak is dedicated to providing professional training opportunities in the diverse disciplines employed in our holistic conservation programs. White Oak utilizes expert staff and infrastructure to give students introductions to, and hands-on experience with, captive conservation breeding programs linked to international efforts. The Santa Fe graduate internship is a historically successful program with excellent placement of graduates in professional zoo keeping positions at respected AZA institutions. The internship, rewarding in many ways, also includes a stipend for the duration of the program and free housing.

Skills and Experiences (hands-on and discussion/observation):

- Basic husbandry- feeding, shifting, and observation in large enclosures with large social groups
- Restraint techniques- Chemical immobilization, hydraulic chute and manual handling
- Challenges and methods of group care
- Breeding introductions and management
- Pre-parturition and neonatal management (including hand-rearing)
- Transport (in-house and external)
- Veterinary care
- Sorting/herding in large enclosures
- Daily reporting
- Diet preparation
- Avian egg management
- Field conservation programs
- Sample collection
- Cheetah lure coursing
- Guest interactions and education
- Enclosure landscaping and maintenance
- Research and scientific management basics



White Oak Conservation Holdings LLC

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www.whiteoakwildlife.org

Application Information:

In August 1997, an animal keeper internship was established for outstanding Santa Fe College (SF) Zoo Animal Technology (ZAT) graduates. Up to two students from the graduating ZAT class may be selected to work at White Oak (WO) for approximately eight months.

The internship is designed to give graduates additional work experience with new and unique animals. The selected candidate will be required to work in all animal areas including carnivores, birds, and ungulates. Commitment to the selected schedule and individual work duties will be required.

The selected candidate receives free housing at White Oak for the duration of the internship. Housing for family or pets is not available. A stipend will be paid to the graduate and the selected candidate will be paid for up to 40 hours/week. There will be no guarantee of employment at the end of the internship. To avoid conflicts, the selected candidate will not be eligible for job openings at White Oak that occur during the internship. White Oak respects and understands the necessity for candidates to job search during the internship, but White Oak requires that interns complete the eight month program before beginning employment elsewhere. The summer/fall internship period lasts until early January and interns are expected to remain at White Oak throughout the holidays.

For the summer/fall 2016-2017 internship period, all application materials must be received between **January 1st and January 18th**. White Oak staff will select the intern after initial review of all applications and in-person interviews of selected candidates. Only certain candidates will be selected for in person interviews, as determined by White Oak. Please see instructions on how to apply below. The internship period will be from late April to early January.

Eligibility Requirements

- Candidates must graduate from the SFC Zoo Animal Technology Program before beginning the internship.
- Candidates should be self-motivated, able to work well alone and with others, and willing to learn new skills and make the most of the internship experience.
- Candidates must be able to lift 50 lbs. without difficulty, work in adverse weather conditions, and remain on their feet for long periods of time.
- Candidates must have proof of a valid driver's license.
- Candidates must have proof of valid health insurance.
- Candidates must have a reliable motor vehicle for transportation.

How to Apply

Submit ONE FILE as an email attachment to training@white-oak.org with the subject line 'Santa Fe Internship Application'. Included in this file should be a resume/CV and cover letter, detailing why you would like to participate in this internship and how it will help you reach your career goals. Only electronic submissions will be considered (.doc, .docx, and .pdf format only). Applications materials must be submitted by January 18th, 2016 for consideration.



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