

California Wildlife Center

2024 Wildlife Rehabilitation Internship

Job Title: Wildlife Rehabilitation Internship

Division: Animal Care

Reports To: Wildlife Technicians

Summary: During this intensive and immersive program, interns will assist staff and volunteers with all aspects of animal care within the wild bird and mammal nursery (Neonate Intensive Care Unit, NICU) as well as the general hospital (Intensive Care Unit, ICU).

Sessions, schedule, and housing:

- Interns may receive a mileage reimbursement at the end of their session, up to \$1,000.
- Each internship is approximately ten weeks.
- The weekly hour requirement is 32 hours per week comprised of four shifts that are 8 hours each (including a 30-minute lunch break), for a total of 300 hours during the length of the internship
- Each shift will be either 7 am-3 pm, 9 am-5 pm, or 12-8 pm, will include at least one weekend day, and potentially holidays.
- California Wildlife Center is unable to provide housing. Housing and reliable transportation are the responsibility of the applicant due to the remote location of the facility.

What interns will be taught and then be responsible for:

- Daily routines that include laundry, cleaning enclosures, and dishwashing
- Daily husbandry-related activities including medical treatments, cleaning, diet preparation, and feeding in the NICU and ICU
- Safe handling skills for a wide variety of native orphaned baby birds/ baby mammals
- Safe handling skills for a wide variety of wildlife including raptors, pelagic birds, songbirds, and mammals
- Feeding and tending to a wide variety of Native Southern California bird species including but not limited to crows, ravens, finches, sparrows, doves, pigeons, jays, and woodpeckers.
- Feeding and tending to a variety of Native California terrestrial mammal species including but not limited to squirrels, opossums, and rabbits
- Advanced animal care duties that include but are not limited to, tube feeding, medication dosing, and subcutaneous fluid administration
- Assist with intake procedures for new patients
- Species identification and determining specific care requirements based on natural history and species behavior
- Assist with wildlife releases

- Help lead the animal enrichment schedule
- Learn about the natural history and behavior of native California wildlife
- Learn medical record-keeping skills
- Assist in transporting wildlife from local animal shelters (desired but not required)
- Other duties as assigned

Qualifications:

- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Currently studying or having a background in biological, natural history, life science, medical studies, or animal care is recommended but not required
- Must have respect for wildlife and courtesy toward the public

Requirements:

- Must be able to perform physically demanding tasks such as cleaning, lifting, bending, stooping, etc.
- Must be able to work independently and as a team member
- Must be able to work quickly and efficiently while following directions and procedures
- Must be able to multitask and work in a very stressful environment

Language Skills:

Ability to read and interpret documents such as safety rules, operating and maintenance instructions, and procedures manuals.

Mathematical Skills:

Ability to add, subtract, multiply, and divide in all units of measure, using whole numbers, common fractions, and decimals. Ability to compute rate ratio and percentages.

Physical Demands:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an intern to successfully perform the essential functions of this position. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform essential functions.

While performing the duties of this position, interns are regularly required to use their hands to handle or feel objects, reach with their hands and arms, talk, listen, and smell. The intern is frequently required to stand, walk and sit. The intern must occasionally lift and/or move up to 25 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception and the ability to adjust focus.

Environment:

The CWC environment characteristics described here are representative of those an intern encounters while performing the essential functions of this position. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform essential functions.

While performing the duties of this position, the intern is routinely exposed to toxic or caustic chemicals, zoonotic diseases, aggressive and feral animals, mechanical moving parts, and outside weather conditions.

Contact:

Applicants must submit a resume/ CV and a letter of intent to Jasmine Regalado, the Volunteer Coordinator at jregalado@cawildlife.org. **The letter of intent must state the months in which the intern is available, detail interests related to the internship, discuss any previous experience, and mention the city the intern will be commuting from. A rabies pre-exposure vaccine is NOT required, but if an intern has received the vaccine, they can include this information in the letter of intent.** A telephone interview will be scheduled with qualified applicants after their application has been received and reviewed.

There is no deadline by which applicants must apply. Positions are filled on an ongoing basis as qualified candidates are found.

Prepared Date: July 2024