

**Title:** Hoofstock Internship

**Description and Expectations:**

Interns will rotate through different areas within our hoof stock collection. Interns will assist with daily care and exhibit maintenance of animals in the hoofstock areas. Interns will get to work with our giraffes and other large hoofstock, as well as smaller animals like the wallabies. Interns will assist with enrichment activities and observe operant conditioning training. They will also learn about routine record keeping and participate in veterinary consultation as necessary. Other duties will include providing routine animal observation; reporting any concerns to the keepers on duty; and other tasks as assigned.

Interns will be expected and required to interact with a diverse team of animal programs staff, interns, volunteers and guests. Interns will be expected to follow the directions of paid staff for their personal safety and safety/care of all animals. Must have a sincere interest in the particular field where the intern desires placement. Interns will be expected to work irregular schedules including weekends and holidays if applicable during placement. This internship is a physically demanding experience and will require intermediate levels of strength and flexibility as well as the ability to work outdoors in all types of weather conditions. Uniform shirts will be provided to all interns upon start of internship.

**Responsibilities**

- ❖ Animal Care: daily husbandry, exhibit maintenance, animal observations, observing animal training, and diet/enrichment preparation
- ❖ Interns may work with giraffes, zebra, gazelle, impala, kudu, and other animals based on additions/changes to our collection
- ❖ Interactions: informal interactions with Zoo guests
- ❖ Journal: All interns must complete daily journal entries which are turned in and reviewed monthly.
- ❖ Project: All interns are required to complete an observation based research project or other deliverable as determined by internship area and mentor
- ❖ Research: Become familiar with Species Survival Plans (SSP), as well as natural history, current research and conservation studies related to animals in area of internship
- ❖ Other related duties as assigned

**Requirements**

- ❖ Minimum 1 year of college with 2.5/4.0 overall GPA.
- ❖ Proof of recent tetanus shot (within last 5 years) and negative TB test (within last year) required **PRIOR** to start date. All tests/vaccinations are at the applicant's expense.
- ❖ Must submit to drug testing prior to start of internship and prove clear throughout internship
- ❖ Ability to lift up to 50 pounds

**Notes**

Interns will be evaluated regularly on performance and knowledge.

Naples Zoo reserves the right to dismiss an individual from the internship program at any point during the internship.

**Wages** All Naples Zoo Internships are Unpaid