



**KING CONSERVATION
LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**

**BROOKFIELD ZOO
CHICAGO**

College Internship Program

Animal Welfare Research Intern

Department

Animal Health & Welfare

Work Group or Team

Animal Welfare & Care

Season/Term

January-June or July-December

Level of Commitment

Part-time

Est. Hours per Week

25

Pay Rate

Unpaid

Position Summary

This position contributes to the success of Brookfield Zoo Chicago by training future leaders in the fields of animal behavior and welfare. Intern will work with the Animal Welfare Scientist, along with other members of the Animal Health & Welfare team, to learn all aspects of performing behavioral research at a zoological institution, specifically focusing on evaluating and optimizing animal welfare. Intern will receive direct experience collecting behavioral data for both ongoing and new research projects. Additionally, intern will participate in the design of projects focusing on evaluating animal welfare, as well as the animal of data collected. Finally, intern will practice their scientific communication skills by conducting a formal presentation of work completed for relevant Brookfield Zoo Chicago staff.

Duties & Responsibilities

- Learn techniques necessary to conduct behavioral research in a zoo setting.
- Collect data via live observations on zoo grounds and video recordings.
- Assist in the planning and design of behavioral research projects, and the analysis of behavioral data.
- Participate in departmental discussions and meetings, including the review and discussion of scientific literature.
- Present results of behavioral research and/or skills and abilities learned to Brookfield Zoo Chicago staff.
- Other related duties as assigned.

Requirements & Specifications

- Minimum of two years of college at an accredited institution; minimum GPA 2.5/4.0, majoring in biology, psychology, ecology, endocrinology, animal behavior, animal science, or other relevant field.
- Minimum 18 years of age
- Completion of intern-led project required as part of position
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Good computer skills
- Good organization skills
- Must be able to commit to 6 months at approximately 25 hours/week
- Cultural proficiency; experience and/or ability to work and interact effectively with a diverse, multicultural audience
- English fluency at a Speaking 3 (General Professional Proficiency).
- Ability to maintain confidentiality of privileged information
- Preferred: Valid driver's license preferred
- Preferred: Applicants who demonstrated experience with research in a laboratory, field, or other relevant setting
- Preferred: Coursework in research skills, biology, animal behavior, ecology, or related.
- Preferred: Previous experience working or volunteering at a zoological institution.
- Preferred: Multilingual ability, Spanish fluency a plus.