

Think you have what it takes to work for the animals? Want to find out?
Apply for Zoo InternQuest at the San Diego Zoo!

Zoo InternQuest is a work-exploratory program offered through the San Diego Zoo. It's designed to give high school juniors and seniors a real-world look at wildlife and conservation related jobs at the San Diego Zoo, Safari Park and the Institute for Conservation Research. This internship is for students who are seriously considering careers that will benefit wildlife. This internship is not an animal keeper training or a job shadow program. It is much, much more.

Zoo InternQuest started over 50 years ago as a way to find the next generation of conservation scientists! The program is a look behind the scenes at the Zoo, Safari Park, and the Institute for Conservation Research. You will learn that there is much more to zoo jobs than zookeeping! You might encounter experts in pathology, genetics, animal nutrition, horticulture, reproductive physiology, ecology, horticulture, or veterinary medicine. You will meet people who are working hard to save the world's wildlife. Experts take you into their work area which can range from labs to field enclosures. Then you share your experiences, along with photos, online by posting weekly blogs on the San Diego Zoo's web site.

Zoo InternQuest applicant requirements:

- Current student status is a high school sophomore or junior in San Diego County. Home schools included.
- GPA of 3.0 or above.
- Demonstrated interest in science, wildlife, conservation, and the community through extra-curricular activities.
- Two letters of recommendation, at least one from a science teacher.
- Good writing skills as illustrated in writing samples on application.
- Computer experience
- **Availability to commit to seven weeks of after-school sessions from 2:45 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. at the San Diego Zoo and/or Safari Park on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.**
Fall Session (October 3rd - November 16th 2017) / Winter Session (February 6th - March 22nd 2018)

Check out our web site!

Zoo InternQuest interns have their own weblog and photo journal on the San Diego Zoo's web site! You'll make your own profile page, then post blogs of your adventure for "virtual interns" to read. Check out what previous interns were up to at the Zoo InternQuest webpage at sandiegozoo.org.

Application details and deadline:

Due to the unique nature of the internship, we can only accept up to eight to ten interns per session. Applications for either session are due no later than 4:30pm, Wednesday, May 31, 2017. Applications are not accepted by email or fax.

To apply for either the fall 2017 or winter 2018 session, please do the following:

- Thoroughly read this application and the online information to understand the program description.
- Complete all the information on this form and include attachments.
- Mail or hand deliver to the San Diego Zoo Education Department by 4:30pm, Wednesday, May 31, 2017.

Mailing address:

San Diego Zoo
Education Department: Zoo InternQuest
P.O. Box 120551
San Diego, CA 92112-0551



application to participate 2017 - 2018

Name: _____ date of birth: _____

Home address: _____

City, State and Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ email: _____

Cell phone or other contact number: _____ parent's email: _____

School: _____ GPA: _____

How did you first hear about Zoo InternQuest? _____

Grade during the 2017 - 2018 school year: 11 12

Semester choice(s) mark 1 for first choice, 2 for second choice:

____ Fall Session

____ Winter Session

(October 3rd thru November 16th 2017)

(February 6th thru March 22nd 2018)

Please attach your answers for the following information:

- 1. List of all science courses completed and/or are currently enrolled in from 7th grade to the present. No transcripts.
2. List computer skills including platforms, software experience as well as your digital photography experience.
3. List of science and/or education experiences, activities, and honors (e.g., science fair, science Olympiad, summer courses, after-school classes, clubs, volunteer work, paid experience, camp counselor, etc.) since 7th grade.
4. Write one paragraph about your favorite animal as if you were writing for a magazine geared toward young readers.
5. Write a 500 to 1,000 word personal essay describing your interest in a Zoo, biology, or conservation related career or field of study. Essay will be critiqued for writing skills.
6. Two brief letters of recommendation: one from a science instructor; and a second from a teacher, career counselor, school administrator, club leader, or other adult not related to you who can recommend you for this experience.
7. If you are reapplying for Zoo InterQuest, please submit new writing samples.

I have read the program description and requirements of the San Diego Zoo InternQuest Program, and wish to apply for an intern position.

Applicant's signature: _____ date _____

Parent/guardian's statement: I understand how this opportunity might benefit my child, and agree to facilitate his or her participation in this program if selected.

Guardian's signature: _____ date _____

Print name: _____ relationship to the applicant _____

Principal's statement: I have reviewed this student's application, and recommend him or her for your consideration. I understand that early dismissal from school may be necessary for participation in Zoo InternQuest.

Principal's signature: _____ date _____

Print name: _____