



Think you have what it takes to work for wildlife? 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 conservation through the eyes of our experts at the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance. This internship is for students who are considering a career benefiting wildlife. Please note: there is not hands-on animal experience in Zoo InternQuest.

Zoo InternQuest started over 60 years ago as a way to find the next generation of wildlife conservationists. The program is a behind-the-scenes look at the careers at the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance. You might encounter experts in pathology, genetics, animal nutrition, horticulture, reproductive physiology, ecology, horticulture, or veterinary medicine who are working hard to save species from the brink of extinction. Experts take you into their work area which can range from labs to field enclosures. Interns then share their experiences online by posting weekly blogs to 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, illustrated by two writing samples within the application.
- Computer experience.
- **Availability to commit to eight weeks of after-school sessions at the San Diego Zoo and/or Safari Park on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:45 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.**

Check out our web site!

Zoo InternQuest has their own blog on the San Diego Zoo's web site! Interns post blogs of their adventures for "virtual interns" to read. Check out what previous interns were up to online.

Application details and deadline

Due to the unique nature of the internship, we have limited spaces available for participants. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are only accepting applications for the spring session to accommodate interns from the 2020-2021 school year whose session needed to be postponed to the fall session of 2021-2022.

Applications are due by 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 30, 2021

To apply, please do the following:

- Thoroughly read this application and the online information to understand the program description.
- Complete the information on this packet.
- Group interviews will be scheduled for December and January 2021.
- **Applications are due by 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 30, 2021 either by mail or hand delivery.**

San Diego Zoo

Education Department: Zoo InternQuest

P.O. Box 120551

San Diego, CA 92112-0551



San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance

2021 - 2022 Application

Name: _____

Date of birth: _____ Pronouns: _____

Home address: _____

City, State and Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ Parent's phone: _____

Email: _____ Parent's email: _____

School: _____ GPA: _____

How did you hear about Zoo InternQuest? _____

Are you a first time applicant to the program? YES NO Grade during the 2021 - 2022 school year: 11 12

Semester choice(s): Mark 1 (first choice) and 2 (second choice) NA Fall Session (Oct – Nov) ___ Spring Session (Mar – Apr)

Please staple the requested documents and submit. No folders or plastic page protectors please.

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., sports, science fair, summer courses, after-school classes, clubs, volunteer work, paid experience, 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 the San Diego Zoo or a wildlife 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 InternQuest, please submit new writing samples.

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

I have read the program description and requirements of the InternQuest Program, and wish to apply for a position.

Applicant's signature: _____ date _____

Parent/guardian's statement: I understand how this program operates and agree to facilitate his or her participation if selected.

Parent/Guardian's signature: _____ date _____

Print name: _____ Relationship to the applicant _____