



Title: Wildlife Care Summer Internship

Duration: 10 weeks

Dates: 6/14/27–8/20/27

Overview: Are you passionate about wildlife and conservation? Join us for an immersive and educational summer internship at San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance! This unique opportunity will provide you with hands-on experience in wildlife care and conservation. As an intern, you'll work alongside experienced wildlife care specialists contributing to the well-being of the diverse wildlife we care for, while learning about wildlife behaviors, habitats, and conservation needs. While this program does not guarantee you a position at San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance at the end of your internship, many of our former interns have successfully embarked on professional careers within wildlife care and conservation.

Who Should Apply?

The Summer Wildlife Care Internship is designed for individuals who are interested in pursuing a career in wildlife care, including zookeeping, animal husbandry, and related animal care professions. While interns work alongside experienced wildlife care teams and gain hands-on experience with wildlife care, this program is not designed to provide veterinary or pre-veterinary clinical experience. Students primarily seeking veterinary experience may find other programs better suited to their educational and career goals.

Key Responsibilities:

- Assist wildlife care specialists in daily care routines, including feeding, cleaning, and habitat maintenance.
- Participate in the creation and implementation of strategies to promote species-specific natural behaviors.
- Learn about various wildlife species and their specific care requirements.
- Collaborate with the wildlife care team to ensure the health and safety of wildlife we care for.
- Gain insight into conservation initiatives, and participate in educational programs.
- Attend educational courses to enhance your knowledge of wildlife care and conservation.

Qualifications:

- Enthusiasm for wildlife conservation and wildlife welfare
- Pursuing a degree in biology, zoology, wildlife management, or a related field (preferred, but not required)
- Strong communication skills and ability to work as part of a team

- Physical fitness and ability to perform tasks that involve lifting, bending, and working outdoors in various weather conditions
- Prior experience with animals or volunteering in animal-related organizations (preferred, but not required).

Benefits:

- Paid internship with a stipend to help cover living expenses
- Valuable hands-on experience in wildlife care and conservation
- Opportunity to learn from experienced professionals in the field
- Access to San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance's extensive resources and facilities.
- Networking opportunities with fellow interns and wildlife care professionals.

Application Process:

- Submit a resume, cover letter, and any relevant course work or experience.
 - o Cover letter should include why you are interested in this internship and how this internship will benefit you in the future.
- Candidate finalists will be invited for an interview.
- Successful applicants will be notified via email.

Applications Open: November 2, 2026

Application Deadline: November 15, 2026

Stipend: \$4160

Don't miss this chance to contribute to the well-being of wildlife while gaining invaluable experience in the world of wildlife care and conservation. Apply now to embark on a rewarding summer internship journey at the San Diego Zoo and San Diego Zoo Safari Park!



**San Diego Zoo
Wildlife Alliance**