



Specialty Internship: Education Curatorial

This position contributes to the success of Brookfield Zoo Chicago by maintaining the integrity of the zoo's extensive collection of biofacts (biological/animal artifacts) and working with education program managers to design, test, and implement programming that incorporates biofacts into new and existing curricula. This internship is for individuals interested in the career opportunities of informal S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) education, primarily focusing on authentic application of strategies related to instructional research and development and approaches to inclusive community engagement.

- With members of the Education and Community Engagement team, catalog the departmental collection of biological artifacts and related materials. This includes, but is not limited to: conducting research about the specimens, aligning resources in the collection with animals currently under our professional care, and helping to maintain the system that tracks internal use of the artifacts. (30%)
- With the Sr. Manager, King Conservation Leadership Academy, develop inclusive, experiential learning opportunities that utilize biological artifacts to engage a diverse range of individuals. The goals of these activities are to help learners: understand connections between them, their lives, and their environment; foster empathy for living things; and take action that leads to a sustainable relationship with nature. (20%)
- With the Sr. Manager, King Conservation Leadership Academy, and members of the community engagement team, deliver inclusive, experiential learning opportunities that utilize biological artifacts to engage a diverse range of individuals. This is done both on-site at Brookfield Zoo Chicago, as well as in targeted communities within the Chicagoland area. (20%)
- Complete an independent project with objectives and details to be determined with your mentor during the course of the internship, based on individual strengths, interests, and professional pursuits. (20%)
- Other related duties as assigned. (10%)

AT A GLANCE

PAY RATE: Unpaid

HOURS/WEEK: Part-Time (min. 16 hours/week)

COMMITMENT: 12 weeks

LOCATION: Onsite at Brookfield Zoo Chicago

WORK GROUP: Education & Community Engagement

PREREQUISITE: 1 year college credit OR current King Scholar

COLLEGE CREDIT: Available upon request



Position Details: Education Curatorial

Requirements

- One year of college credit and experience required. However, consideration will be extended to high school-aged individuals currently enrolled in, and within good standing with, the King Conservation Science Scholars program.
- Valid driver's license required.
- English fluency (reading, writing, speaking) and strong interpersonal skills required; multilingual ability, Spanish, preferred.
- All interns are required to complete either a final project or daily journal as part of their experience.

All interns, regardless of proximity to animals, must have an up to date TDAP (Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis) vaccination (booster within the last 10 years) and test negative for TB (Tuberculosis) within the last 12 months.

Scheduling Expectations

Brookfield Zoo Chicago operates 365 days a year. Schedules vary by position, but may include weekends, holidays, early mornings, and evenings. Successful interns exemplify a positive attitude, strong work ethic, an eagerness to learn, and an ability to work effectively both in a team and independently. Given the competitive landscape of professional animal care, candidates should be mindful of the following scheduling requirements:

- Must be willing to commit to at least 16 hours per week for 12 weeks in a term, not to exceed 480 total hours.
- Any anticipated scheduling conflicts should be disclosed during the interview process.

Preferred Qualifications

- Current enrollment in, or recent completion of, a collegiate program in communication, education, biology, liberal arts, library science, museum studies, or other relevant field or equivalent combination of related training and experience preferred.
- Multilingual ability, Spanish fluency a plus.