



Internship Program



Specialty Internship: Graphic Design

This position contributes to the success of Brookfield Zoo Chicago (“BZC”) by designing, illustrating, and producing a variety of visual communications including print, signs, and environmental graphics as assigned to educate our guests about animals and conservation, to raise funds, to share the results of research, to enhance the guest experience at the zoo and to drive attendance as assigned and benefitting BZC’s mission and in support of the Zoo’s goals for a Sustainable Future, Extraordinary Guest Experience, and Innovations in Science, Education, Training, and Animal Welfare.

- As directed, designs art, print materials, posters, signage, digital assets and other graphics consistent with the BZC brand to meet criteria established by clients and supervisor. Develops materials manually or utilizes graphic software to design and produce finished artwork or product.
- Produces printed and electronic materials, signs and other design graphics in a creative way that captures the information that the client is trying to show. Solves visual problems and challenges.
- Assists in in-house fabricated signs and print, including special event signs, park sign maintenance, and printed materials requiring trimming/laminating, welcome, and other temporary signage in an accurate and timely manner.
- All interns are required to complete either a final project or daily journal as part of their experience.
- Other related duties as assigned. (10%)

AT A GLANCE

PAY RATE: Unpaid

HOURS/WEEK: Part-Time (min. 24 hours/week)

COMMITMENT: 12 weeks

LOCATION: Onsite at Brookfield Zoo Chicago

WORK GROUP: Marketing & Communications - Design Team

PREREQUISITE: At least 1 year of college credit & experience

COLLEGE CREDIT: Available upon request



Position Details: Graphic Design

Requirements

- One year of college credit and experience required.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills. Intern must be comfortable in a dynamic, mission- and value-driven organization with an evolving culture. Individuals must have a high level of energy, be self-motivated, and have a commitment to professional excellence.
- Strong computer and internet skills.
- A digital portfolio review is required at the time of application.
- 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 20 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

- Preference is given to those who have completed at least 2 years of college.
- Current enrollment in, or recent completion of, a collegiate program in graphic design or other relevant field or equivalent combination of related training and experience preferred.
- Portfolio representing Adobe Creative Suite skills
- Innate or trained design sensibility including an eye for type, layout, and color.
- Candidates should be able to maintain a positive attitude, strong work ethic, and desire to learn;
- Candidates should possess the ability to work cohesively in a team or be trusted to work independently.
- Multilingual ability, Spanish fluency a plus.