



Specialty Internship: **Environmental Quality**

This position contributes to the success of Brookfield Zoo Chicago by providing seasonal support for the Environmental Quality Manager. This position will work to monitor the various environments provided for animals at the zoo using a variety of instrumentation and techniques. They will also report the findings (and any potential issues) to the appropriate Animal Care and Programs (ACP) managers and staff. This includes, but is not limited to, routine water quality sampling and analysis for all re-circulating aquatic systems, routine air sampling and analysis of areas of the zoo that may present health issues for animals, the analysis and assessment of artificial UV lighting used for indoor exhibits, and the routine use of a toolkit designed to assess outdoor exhibits to determine if enough shade or heat has been provided.

- Water Quality Testing, Data Entry, and Reporting (75%)
- Routine Maintenance of Instrumentation and Laboratory (10%)
- Assist the Environmental Quality Manager with other Environmental Quality Monitoring (10%)
- All interns are required to complete a final short-form video project as part of their experience.
- Other related duties as assigned. (5%)

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: Animal Health & Welfare

PREREQUISITE: At least 1 year of college credit & experience

COLLEGE CREDIT: Available upon request



Position Details: Environmental Quality

Requirements

- One year of college credit and experience required;
- Enrollment in or completion of BA or BS in Biology, Ecology, Zoology, Environmental Science, or other directly relevant field, or equivalent combination of training and experience.
- Must interact positively with zoo guests, and represent Brookfield Zoo Chicago in a professional manner at all times.
- Intern must be comfortable in a dynamic, mission- and value-driven organization with an evolving culture.
- Experience and/or ability to work and interact effectively with a diverse, multicultural audience.
- English fluency (reading, writing, speaking) and strong interpersonal skills required; multilingual ability, Spanish, a plus.
- 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

- Familiarity with basic aquarium chemistry and testing methods preferred.
- Creative thinker with attention to detail.
- Genuine interest in wildlife and conservation.