



Specialty Internship: Communications

This position contributes to the success of Brookfield Zoo Chicago by supporting a variety of Communications initiatives. This includes writing media materials, assisting with media monitoring, researching and tracking timely local and global storytelling opportunities, and supporting internal communications. Successful interns will learn how to deliver information effectively to the public, understand how to develop messaging for different internal and external audiences, gain experience working with media, and practice professional interpersonal communication skills.

- Support with drafting fact sheets and press materials, building media lists and staffing media interviews and events.
- Assist with the development of staff newsletters and digital content to share unique stories about animal care, veterinary medicine, education and conservation efforts.
- Conduct research and track timely news topics and conservation efforts happening locally globally.
- All interns are required to complete either a final project or daily journal as part of their experience.
- Other duties as assigned.

AT A GLANCE

PAY RATE: Unpaid

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

COMMITMENT: 10-12 weeks

LOCATION: Onsite at Brookfield Zoo Chicago

WORK GROUP: Communications

PREREQUISITE: At least 1 year of college credit & experience

COLLEGE CREDIT: Available upon request



Position Details: Communications

Requirements

- Minimum one year in a collegiate program in communications, mass media, journalism, public relations, or other relevant field.
- Minimum 18 years of age
- Valid driver's license required.
- Experience and/or ability to work and interact effectively with a diverse, multicultural audience.
- Must be willing to accept the internship as an unpaid position and commit to 10-12 weeks.
- 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.
- 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 10-12 weeks in a term, not to exceed 480 total hours.
- Any anticipated scheduling conflicts should be disclosed during the interview process.

Preferred Qualifications

- Possess excellent writing skills, with writing samples available upon request.
- Good interpersonal, communications, and organizational skills.
- Spanish fluency a plus
- Creative thinker with attention to detail.
- Genuine interest in wildlife and conservation.