

PITTSBURGH ZOO & PPG AQUARIUM

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Veterinary Student Externship

The Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium's Animal Health department offers a six- to eight- week externship in zoological and aquarium medicine and surgery for 4th year veterinary students (3rd year students will be considered if in their clinical year). The externships take place on the grounds of the Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium which is one of only six facilities in the country to have both collections at the same institution. The collection consists of over 4000 animals representing approximately 475 species. The veterinary staff also provides medical care for our elephants out at the International Conservation Center in Somerset County, PA.

Externships emphasize clinical training with a variety of animals including invertebrates, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and terrestrial and marine mammals. The veterinary student will play an integral role in all aspects of animal health care including: preventive medicine, daily medical care, anesthesia, surgery, radiology, clinical rounds, medical record keeping, quarantine procedures, and clinical pathology.

The extern will work under the supervision of two veterinarians, two registered veterinary technicians and an administrative assistant. The 40 hour work week is Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm, with additional weekday or weekend hours possible for emergency cases. Off-site housing adjacent to zoo grounds is available for rent. If housing is needed, one to two months advance request is required. Student must provide proof of medical insurance, a negative TB test and rabies vaccination (or titer) within the last 6 months. Current tetanus vaccination is recommended. Extern must have own transportation.

If interested in applying for an externship at the Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium please submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, veterinary school transcript, letters from two professional references and 2-3 preferred time slots via mail to:

Dr. Ginger Takle
Associate Veterinarian
Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium
One Wild Place
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Additional questions about the application process can be directed to Barbara Calabrese (Administrative Assistant) at 412-365-2562 (phone) or vethsp@pittsburghzoo.org.