

Marine Mammal Internship (Full Time)

Description

We are looking for a hardworking and dedicated team player with a passion to learn more about marine mammals and a career as a marine mammal trainer. This full-time Marine Mammal Internship with the Marine Mammal & Bird department is designed for college students and recent graduates. The internship will be instrumental in gaining increased experience with California sea lions, Harbor seals, Grey seals and potential experience with Humboldt Penguins. Selected interns will work closely with the marine mammal and bird staff and will be schooled in animal husbandry, training techniques, and overall care. Marine Mammal Interns may be asked to assist with duties of Penguin Keepers. Interns will also be expected to complete a project to complete during their time here. Working with our animals is considered a privilege, which comes with intensive training and a considerable amount of dedicated time. While most of our interns successfully complete training needed to work with our animals, we cannot guarantee animal contact or interaction.

Responsibilities:

Interns will work closely with training staff to assist in the overall husbandry of our animals. Daily responsibilities include food preparation, maintaining animal habitats, performing water quality, and keeping all preparation areas up to USDA standards. Other responsibilities will include learning seal presentations and speaking on a microphone, assisting trainers with enrichment and training sessions, learning operant conditioning techniques, and interacting with the public.

Requirements:

- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Must currently be enrolled in college or recently graduated with a major in animal science, biology, zoology, psychology or another related field
- Serious interest in a career with marine mammal training
- Able to work on a team, as well as function independently, with little supervision
- Must be able to afford housing and transportation
- Able to lift and carry fifty (50) pounds; work on uneven and slippery surfaces; withstand extreme hot and cold temperatures; be able to sit/stand for long periods of time when necessary
- Demonstrate proficiency in public speaking and guest interaction
- Competent swimmer and comfortable in cold, deep water
- Must be able to work a 40-hour work week unpaid for a 12-week period

Availability:

- Fall
- Winter
- Spring
- Summer

Deadline for application:

Summer-March 15th

Interested candidates should apply online at aquariumofniagara.org including a resume, cover letter, and 2 letters of recommendation. Interns must also attend an orientation session before the start of the internship.

For more information or questions, please email Krystin Wroblewski at kwroblewski@aquariumofniagara.org.