



Position: WAVE Foundation Conservation Education Intern (summer 2024)
Hiring Organization: WAVE Foundation at Newport Aquarium (AZA Member)
Wavefoundation.org/volunteer
Location: Newport, KY
Volunteer/Internship: Internship - unpaid

Position Summary: WAVE Foundation Conservation Education Intern serves as an instructor for WAVE Foundation education programs. This intern is instrumental in executing WAVE Education programs in the community and onsite at Newport Aquarium. Under the supervision of the Conservation Education Coordinator and Manager, the Intern will serve as an ambassador for WAVE at WAVE on Wheels Programs, and other Community driven events. WAVE Foundation Conservation Education Intern is an unpaid, volunteer position with WAVE Foundation. There is no monetary compensation for this position.

Responsibilities:

- Learn to deliver WAVE Educational Programs. This includes teaching Prek-12 WAVE on Wheels programming, Camp WAVE curriculum, and also working community table events to promote WAVE programs and partnerships. (60 %)
- Keep our curriculum up to date by assisting in the writing, updating, & editing of WAVE Education Programs for Camp WAVE or WAVE of Wheels. (25%)
- Help Team WAVE stay organized with clerical education tasks; supply inventory, program prep, etc. (15%)
- Discover the role that the WAVE Education team plays during fundraisers by helping with our Annual Putt for Penguins Fundraiser on Monday, June 24th (time frame TBD).
- Follow and adhere to WAVE Foundation and Newport Aquarium policies and procedures for proper care, handling and presentation of program animals upon completion of animal handling training, provided by Education Department staff.
- Maintain knowledge of the animals you will be working with, and the methods, materials, procedures and techniques utilized in assimilating scientific information and effectively communicating/interpreting to a broad range of audiences.
- Must be willing to travel around the tristate with Educational programs, and assist/lead WAVE Education staff in serving as WAVE Foundation & Aquarium ambassador in schools for events such as career days and outreach programming and in the community for outreach events.
- Maintain an awareness of industry guidelines pertaining to education programs as set forth by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.
- Communicate and maintain working relationships with educators, students, guests, staff, supervisors, volunteers, other departments, and colleagues in related industries.
- Communicate well in an environment, which may include loud noises, large crowds and varying settings. Provide excellent and accurate customer service for WAVE Foundation and Newport Aquarium's missions.
- Direct questions, suggestions or grievances through appropriate procedures and channels. Notify the appropriate person if unable to intern, due to either illness, vacation, resignation or leave of absence.
- Represent WAVE Foundation and Newport Aquarium in a professional manner, including dress code, behavior and timeliness.
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

- Must be 18 years or older. Due to the nature of the position, intern must be willing to submit a background check if selected.
- Must be willing to be animal handling trained with Sharks, Stingrays, Reptiles, Amphibians, and other aquatic species.
- No history of allergies to any of the animals that WAVE Foundation works with.
- Be engaging, friendly, courteous, enthusiastic and sincere.

Requirements:

- Ability to remain on feet for long periods of time (up to 6 hours), climb stairs, bend, stoop, and be able to lift 40 lbs. You must also be able to push a 400 lb. cart on wheels.
- Ability to sit for long periods in a vehicle.
- Complete Aquarium orientation, online training, and other trainings associated with intern position.

NOTE: May involve exposure to inclement weather, dust, potentially dangerous and unpredictable animal species, and potential dangerous machinery, restraint devices and toxic chemicals and/or drugs. Occasional use of protective clothing or equipment is required e.g. goggles, mask, gloves, and gowns.

Commitment:

- Must be the lead on a WAVE of Wheels program at least once to demonstrate skills learned.
- Mid-August – Early November, 160 total hours, must have 2 weekdays and 1 weekend day available for scheduling, and will be scheduled between 8-16 hours per week dependent on needs. You will work with your mentor to determine schedule upon onboarding.

NOTE: Scheduling hours after the first day is at the discretion of the intern based on agreement of the Mentor. Interns will be required to schedule themselves online at www.myvolunteepage.com, A WAVE Foundation supported database.