

Position: Animal Care Internship: Reptiles & Amphibians

Hiring Organization: WAVE Foundation at the Newport Aquarium (AZA Member)

Wavefoundation.org/volunteer



Location: Newport, KY

Job/Internship: Internship (unpaid)

Position Summary: Animal Care Intern for Reptiles and Amphibians supports the Animal Care Team in providing superior care to our herpetological animal collection while advancing the missions of The WAVE Foundation and Newport Aquarium. WAVE Foundation at Newport Aquarium Internships allow college students and recent college graduates to gain valuable hands-on experience in animal husbandry pertaining to our herpetology collection under the mentorship of the Animal Care Team. The WAVE Foundation Animal Care Intern for Reptiles and Amphibians is a volunteer position with the WAVE Foundation. There is no monetary compensation for this position.

Responsibilities:

- Work alongside Biologists to complete learning objectives and goals, through weekly reading assignments and daily journal.
- Learn the necessary maintenance, cleaning, and organization of support areas (kitchen floors, decking, sinks, counters, etc.) that play a key role in the health and wellness of our animal collections.
- Discover husbandry responsibilities, including diet preparation, feeding, and maintenance of animal enclosures to ensure the best environment for animals to thrive in.
- Promote conservation, animal welfare, and good stewardship in daily tasks.
- 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 the Aquarium's missions.
- Represent WAVE Foundation and the Newport Aquarium in a professional manner, including dress code, behavior, and timeliness.
- Notify the appropriate person if unable to volunteer, either due to illness, vacation, resignation or leave of absence.
- Perform in accordance with all protocols, policies and operating procedures of the WAVE Foundation and the Newport Aquarium. Direct questions, suggestions or grievances through appropriate procedures and channels.
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

- Must be 18 years or older.
- Must be comfortable working with fish, invertebrates, reptiles, and birds. Even though this is a Reptile & Amphibian Internship, you will still be near other animals.
- Ability to perform repetitive tasks and take direction.
- Ability to work independently and an enthusiasm for learning

Physical and Medical Requirements:

- No history of allergy related to animals or plants, which might interfere with ability to work
- Ability to remain on your feet for lengthy periods of time (up to 8 hours), climb stairs, bend, stoop, and be able to lift 25lbs.
- Immunocompetence (possible exposure to infections and parasitic disease)

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

Training:

- Complete WAVE Foundation and Newport Aquarium orientation and on-line training. This includes any training given throughout your internship.
- Use Canvas to complete readings, quizzes, and other assignments.

Commitment:

- Summer Session: minimum of 24 hours per week, maximum of 40 hours (about 3 days) per week for 12 weeks (about 3 months)
- Report for shifts as scheduled and on time – must notify Volunteer Liaison of any absence prior to scheduled shift

NOTE: Scheduling hours after the first day is at the discretion of the volunteer. Volunteers will be required to schedule themselves online at www.myvolunteerpage.com, A WAVE Foundation supported database.