



## **POSITION DESCRIPTION Animal Care Internship**

<b>Position Title:</b>	Animal Care Intern
<b>Employment Classification:</b>	Internship
<b>Reports to:</b>	Animal Care Specialists
<b>Department:</b>	Animal Care Department
<b>Salary:</b>	Unpaid

### **Internship Description**

The Living Coast Discovery Center is currently seeking enthusiastic and motivated individuals interested in gaining experience or a career in animal care to participate in a part-time, unpaid internship.

LCDC has a diverse collection of avian and aquatic species including a variety of birds of prey (eagles, owls, falcons, hawks), shorebirds, and local marine species ranging from seahorses to sharks and sea turtles. LCDC is also home to a variety of reptiles such as snakes, lizards, and tortoises.

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of the internship, interns will be able to:

- Demonstrate proper food handling and preparation
- Demonstrate an understanding in animal behavior
- Demonstrate an understanding in exhibit cleaning/maintenance
- Explain the purpose of enrichment
- Demonstrate proper animal handling protocols
- Give a 10-15 minute animal presentation to the public

### **DUTIES AND KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Daily husbandry care and feeding of animals.
- Cleaning and maintenance of animal exhibits and/or aquariums.
- Perform behavioral observations.
- Keep detailed records.
- Diet preparation.
- Animal enrichment.
- Interactions and customer service with guests.

### **QUALIFICATIONS/SKILLS**

#### **Required Qualifications**

- Ability to work as a team and with minimal supervision.
- Be comfortable handling deceased animals such as fish, mice and rats during food prep.
- Ability to work in outdoor conditions including sun, rain, wind, and heat.
- Be willing to learn about all aspects of animal care.
- Help with any tasks requested by the supervisor with a positive attitude.

- Participants must be able to adjust to changes within the daily routines.
- Ages 16 and up only.

**Desired Qualifications:**

- Previous animal care experience (may include caring for domestic animals).
- Focus of study in biology, zoology, conservation, or other natural sciences.
- Knowledge of native bird species, aquatic species and/or wetland ecosystems.

**Commitment:**

- Interns will spend 12 weeks working within the Avian/Mammal or Aquatic/Reptile Departments depending on availability.
- Shifts are 7 hours, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., with a minimum of two days per week availability.
- Schedules will depend on each intern's availability and must be consistent for the duration of the internship.
- Weekend and holiday work may be required.

**WORKING ENVIRONMENT/ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS**

Essential functions may include: lifting up to 20 pounds, climbing ladders, walking on uneven or wet surfaces, working in various weather conditions, and handling shellfish. Reasonable accommodations can be made.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Please complete the online **Internship Application Form** that can be found on our Internship webpage. In the application you will need to submit both a cover letter and resume. Applications without these documents will not be considered for the position.

Our internship interview consists of 3 stages. Stage 1 is reviewing applications, resumes, and cover letters. Stage 2 is a phone interview. Stage 3 is an in person interview. After submitting your application, we will contact you for your next steps.