



Wildlife Education Internship

Internship Location	3200 SW 4 th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315
Position Grade	3 ; background check includes Criminal Background, Social Security Number Verification and Sex Offender Registry
Focus of the Internship	Wildlife Education Interns at South Florida Wildlife Center provide environmental and conservation education through a diverse range of engaging learning experiences aligned with the Outreach Department's purpose of facilitating individuals discovering their role and responsibilities in the natural world.
Learning Opportunities	<p>Interns will gain experience in:</p> <p>Outreach & Education Programs:</p> <p>Providing interpretative, hands-on experiences related to conservation, nature, and the environment during our Wild Talks and Tours.</p> <p>Utilizing informal education methods to educate a wide range of audiences including center visitors, families, scout groups and school groups in a variety of settings including virtual, and traditional classrooms.</p> <p>Wildlife Hospital & Resource Center:</p> <p>Assist the Community Service Coordinators in the Resource Center by fielding calls from the community, admitting patients to the Wildlife Hospital, performing initial triage on injured, sick and orphaned patients as well as upkeeping with data entry on pertinent software.</p> <p>Volunteer Program:</p> <p>Work alongside the Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator with onboarding new volunteers and organizing specific volunteer events.</p> <p>Wildlife Education Ambassador Program:</p> <p>Alongside the Outreach Specialist, learn to provide husbandry, training and enrichment for SFWC's Wildlife Education Ambassador Animals.</p>
Orientation/Training	Orientation includes the following: history and tour of the SFWC, description of rules, overview of programs, and zoonosis information. Interns will be trained on the particular aspects of their role and will be given access to a list of Standard Operating Procedures for reference.
Intern Objectives	<p>Outreach & Education Programs (2 weeks):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work alongside the Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator to learn about SFWC - what we do, what we offer and how the community can help us in our mission.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shadow team during presentations and eventually present in traditional and informal settings. <p>Wildlife Hospital & Resource Center (2 weeks):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn the Standard Operating procedures for admitting sick, injured, and orphaned patients, inputting data entry, fielding calls and accepting donations. Go with staff to perform rescues in the field. <p>Volunteer Program (2 weeks):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work alongside the Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator to host New Volunteer Orientations, onboard new volunteers through Rehab 101 and attend events to represent SFWC. <p>Wildlife Education Ambassador Program (2 weeks):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work alongside the Outreach Specialist to learn husbandry and diets for the Education Ambassador Animals in the collection. Move onto creating and providing enrichment items, learning basic operant conditioning, and helping with habitat maintenance. Learn to handle the animals for presentations and tell their story during educational presentations on and off site.
<p>Level of Difficulty 1=easy/5=demanding (physical, mental, emotional)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical difficulty is level 4; must be able to withstand high heat; requires high levels of mobility including animal restraint, must be able to withstand close quarters and be able to spend most of the day standing Mental difficulty is level 3; requires learning and following procedures and protocols Emotional difficulty is level 4; requires understanding decision-making concerning quality of life issues and euthanasia for animal patient and will encounter severe injuries to wildlife.
<p>Expected Environmental Conditions</p>	<p>Work is both indoors with air-conditioning and outdoors with extreme heat, high humidity, and sudden storms. Some work will be in areas where wild plants are plentiful, so knowledge of any allergies to wild plants is important. Exposure to mosquitoes and other small insects is likely.</p>
<p>Qualifications/Requirements for Intern Applicants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge of basic animal handling Able to speak English well enough to communicate under pressure and understand basic medical terminology Able to tolerate outdoor temperatures up to and at times above 95 degrees F with high humidity for short amounts of time Ability to tolerate mask-wearing for extended periods of time Able to read and understand scientific literature Able to meet the requirements outlined in the Essential Capabilities document with or without reasonable accommodation Able to learn and demonstrate a familiarity with SFWC's programs
<p>Restrictions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Must be at least 18 years old. Must submit the required paperwork and pass a background check before being assigned. Must learn and follow all guidelines and policies of SFWC, and follow directions given by staff. Must wear closed-toed shoes, an SFWC shirt that is provided, and follow SFWC dress code. Must work in designated area, not entering other habitats. No cologne/perfume.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Should have access to a computer and ability to login into an online volunteer communication site to receive updates.
Internship Start Date	<p>Winter/Spring – Late January 2022 through early April 2022.</p> <p>Spring/Summer – Late April 2022 through early July 2022.</p> <p>Summer/Fall – Late July 2022 through early October 2022.</p> <p>Fall/Winter – Late October 2022 through early January 2023.</p>
Internship Time Commitment	Minimum 16 hours per week for 8 weeks
Internship Scheduling Guidelines	Interns will be scheduled in shifts per week from 9AM – 5PM with a one-hour lunch break. Preference may be given to interns that are available at least one weekend day.
Tools/Equipment Provided (including Personal Protective Equipment)	All necessary equipment such as gloves, mask, protective goggles, etc. will be provided.
Optional Tools/Equipment	Covered beverage container, spare change of clothes, and proper mask.
Supervisor(s)	Jordan Wheatley, Outreach and Volunteer Coordinator: 954.524.4302 ext. 25; jwheatley@southfloridawildlifecenter.org
Additional Mentor(s)	Katie Forgham, Outreach Specialist: 954 732 4229 kforgham@southfloridawildlifecenter.org
Number of Concurrent Internship Openings	1-2
Additional Information	This is an unpaid externship; unfortunately we cannot provide housing. This internship is ideal for those wishing to learn how to educate about wildlife in a variety of settings.
To Apply	Submit application here: Wildlife Education Internship Application (volgistics.com)
Updated	11/20/2021 -CPS