



South Florida
WILDLIFE CENTER
Saving Wildlife in Our Urban Jungle

Position Description

Wildlife Nursery Internship

Nothing in this position description restricts management's right to assign or reassign duties and responsibilities to this position at any time.

Internship Location	3200 SW 4 th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315
Internship Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is an unpaid internship • We cannot provide housing for this internship • SFWC requires interns to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination to participate in our programs. Proof must be submitted during the onboarding process via email or in-person to the Director of Outreach prior to the scheduled internship/externship dates. Those who are unable to get vaccinated must provide medical exemption, or a religious waiver. • This Wildlife Nursery Internship allows interns to assist rehabilitators in the daily care of animals. Interns will gain experience in species identification and natural history, proper husbandry techniques, animal handling, proper feeding of orphaned mammals and birds, medication administration and lab work.
Position Grade	3 ; background check includes Criminal Background, Social Security Number Verification and Sex Offender Registry
Focus of the Internship	Introduce intern to the care of sick, injured, and orphaned baby wildlife and certain non-natives.
Learning Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn the care and husbandry challenges of the animals in our care • Gain hands-on wildlife experience including proper handling procedures, feeding techniques, husbandry, species-specific diets, and administration of medications • Learn what's involved in rearing an animal in preparation for release • Exposure to the operations of a wildlife center • Knowledge of humane coexistence with wildlife
Orientation/Training	Onboarding is completed by the Outreach Department but Interns will be trained by the Rehabilitation Department on the particular aspects of their role by meeting one-on-one with staff members and being cleared to work in the different areas.
Intern Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean and set up enclosures/habitats • Prepare diets and formulas • Hand feed animals using appropriate techniques • Document all care and observations • Handle patients for weighing and transfers • Assist with routine care and physical exams • Provide enrichment • Convey potential problems to staff • Assist with general housekeeping/laundry
Level of Difficulty 1=easy/5=demanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical difficulty is level 3; must be able to withstand close quarters; requires interns to be on their feet the majority of the day

(physical, mental, emotional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental difficulty is level 3; requires learning and following procedures and protocols and using good judgment; also requires intense multitasking and strong levels of time management • Emotional difficulty is level 4; will come into contact with severely compromised and orphaned wildlife, which can be emotionally distressing
Expected Environmental Conditions	Work is mainly indoors with air-conditioning; however, during summer, inside temperatures can reach the upper 80s. Work is performed in small areas where space is limited, and patient noise level can be high. Exposure to strong odors and allergens is expected.
Qualifications/Requirements for Intern Applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to tolerate indoor temperatures up to or above 85 degrees F with high humidity for a couple days or weeks at a time • Able to meet the requirements outlined in the Essential Capabilities document with or without reasonable accommodation • Able to learn and demonstrate a familiarity with the SFWC's programs • Able to understand policies and positions regarding animal protection issues and able and willing to appropriately and accurately represent those policies when interacting with the public or otherwise representing to the SFWC
Restrictions	<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 the SFWC, and follow directions given by staff • Must wear closed-toed shoes, an SFWC shirt that is provided, and follow the SFWC dress code • Hair must be tied back • Must work in designated area; no entering other habitats • No cologne/perfume • Should have access to a computer and ability to login into an online volunteer communication site to receive updates
Internship Start Date	Spring/Summer- Early April through late June Summer/Fall – Early July through late September
Internship Time Commitment	24-32 hours per week for 12 weeks
Internship Scheduling Guidelines	Preferred schedules (there is flexibility, must work at least 1 weekend day): Sunday-Wednesday, 9AM – 5PM Thursday-Saturday, 9AM – 5PM
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 and spare change of clothes
Supervisor(s)	Jessica Sonzogni, Nursery Supervisor
Additional Mentor(s)	Carolina Montano, Director of Outreach
Number of Concurrent Internship Openings	2-3
Additional Information	
Updated	18 March 2022 - CPM