



HENRY VILAS ZOO

LTE Zoo Education Intern

COMMITMENT TO EQUITY AND INCLUSION

As an employer, we strive to provide a work environment where diversity and differing opinions are valued, creativity is encouraged, continuous learning and improvement are fostered, teamwork and open/honest communication are encouraged, and meeting visitor needs through quality service is a shared goal. All employees must be able to demonstrate multicultural competence – the awareness, knowledge, and skills needed to work with others who are culturally different from self in meaningful, relevant, and productive ways. Applicants from traditionally underrepresented populations including women, racial and ethnic minorities, and persons with disabilities are especially encouraged to apply.

DEFINITION

The Zoo Education Interns will help support schools and families, especially from underserved areas, with childcare and virtual learning. Interns will work alongside an Education Instructor assisting students with logging on to their virtual learning, answering their questions, and helping them stay on task. Interns will assist Instructors in creating and implementing environmental and zoo education activities. They must have an appreciation for science education and a commitment to conservation and working with children and animals. They should be prepared to learn about current education methods for child-led science investigations, Next Generation Science Standards, and encourage children to make discoveries for themselves. This is a great experience for anyone wanting to go into elementary or middle school education, science education or science-related fields, or environmental education. A passion for working with children is essential, and an interest in animals is important.

POSITION OVERVIEW

Zoo Education Intern positions are 20 hours a week, either AM or PM (exact times TBD), Monday through Friday for the two months of planned MMSD virtual schooling, with the possibility to extend depending on MMSD decisions. Four positions available. **Paid internship at \$16.68 hourly.**

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

- Assist students with their school-assigned virtual learning requirements
- Help to implement the Zoo's educational programming and helping to design new activities
- Facilitate scientific investigations and engineering challenges with the students
- Establish norms for scientific investigations and discussions
- Use specific questioning skills to push campers' critical thinking
- Facilitate team-building and empathy-building exercises

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

Minimum Requirements:

- Requires training and/or experience equivalent to one semester of college.

Preferred:

- Previous experience working with kids, especially in a classroom or camp setting.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Ability to lead and create engaging, inquiry-based activities
- Ability to uphold the Zoo's Behavior Policy.
- Ability to learn and support the vision of the Education Department and the Henry Vilas Zoo.
- Demonstrated respect for all animal species.
- Demonstrated attendance punctuality and reliability.
- Ability to work with all ages, but especially with children between 6 and 10 years of age.
- Demonstrated appreciation for science education and a commitment to conservation
- Knowledge of relevant safety precautions and practices.
- Ability to organize and perform necessary duties in the most efficient, effective, and safe manner.
- Ability to work efficiently and cooperatively with others.
- Demonstrated reasoning skills and the ability to carry out instructions furnished in written, oral, and/or diagrammatic form.
- Ability to effectively relate with coworkers, supervisors, and the general public.

PHYSICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL WORK REQUIREMENTS:

- Strength to perform average lifting of less than 5 pounds and occasionally over 15 pounds.
- Body agility and equilibrium for activities including touring and games.
- Ability to walk 2 or more miles per day.
- Ability to sit, stand, kneel, stoop crouch and crawl.
- Ability to work indoors and outdoors in all weather conditions.
- Ability to use finger, wrist and hand motions.
- Ability to see and hear within normal ranges with or without adaptive devices.
- Ability to speak and be heard.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Must have CPR and First Aid training or be willing to get it before the position starts.
- **Background Check Statement:** Some positions may require a criminal background check. Dane County may disqualify an applicant if the position's responsibilities are substantially related to the applicant's criminal history. Management reserves the right to make employment contingent upon successful completion of the background check.

TO APPLY:

To apply, send a resume and cover letter to education@henryvilaszoo.gov.

Application period closes on August 10th, 2020.