

## The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore Intern Position Description

**Title:** Program Evaluation Intern

**Department:** Conservation Education

**Supervised by:** Director of Interpretation & Evaluation; Manager of Volunteers

**Dates:** September – December 2024

**Time Commitment:** Internships are 12-14 weeks and typically follow a part-time workweek pattern: Interns must be able to volunteer between the hours of 10:00 am and 2:00 pm at least twice per week, which will include some weekend days. The department supervisor sets final schedules.

### **Overview:**

Founded in 1876, The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore is the third oldest zoo in the United States and is internationally known for its contributions in conservation and research. The Maryland Zoo is also a major tourist and education destination that welcomes 450,000 guests annually.

As an AZA-accredited institution, the Maryland Zoo is committed to using evidence to demonstrate the effectiveness of its programs for achieving mission-based outcomes. The opportunity provided to Program Evaluation Interns allows them to gain insight into conservation education in a zoo context through hands-on experience in carrying out evaluation with zoo audiences.

**Please note:** Internships are unpaid, and there is no reimbursement for transportation or housing.

### **Responsibilities:**

- Support staff with data collection and analysis efforts that may include front-end, formative, and summative evaluations of both structured conservation education programs and interpretive experiences as well as visitor use of interpretive media (e.g., signage) and exhibit space (e.g., timing and tracking observations).
- Provide support for Zoo volunteers in carrying out evaluation-related tasks (if applicable).
- Use manual (pen & paper, clicker counter) and digital (e.g, ipad, survey software) tools to collect data
- Take ownership of developing an evaluation plan for one Zoo program or interpretive medium (e.g., a set of signage, on-grounds videos).
- All interns at the Maryland Zoo are required to complete a final project and present to zoo staff at the conclusion of their internship. This final project can be tailored to the position and department. Each project may be taken with you and used in your professional portfolio.

### **Qualifications:**

- Must be at least 18 years of age and current college student or recent graduate;
- Ability to work with individuals from a wide variety of age groups and ethnic, cultural and economic backgrounds;
- Ability to work independently;
- Excellent communication and organizational skills;

- Must have the ability to handle multiple tasks;
- For college credit encouraged;
- Friendly, outgoing and patient personality;
- Proficient in Microsoft Office applications;
- Willingness to learn about Maryland Zoo amenities, layout, operations, animal collection, and conservation efforts;
- Must be able to lift up to 30 pounds;
- Must be able to walk large areas of the Zoo as needed;
- Must be able to stand on hard surfaces for long periods of time; and
- Must be able to work outdoors in all seasons and weather conditions.

**Training:** All interns must complete Volunteer Orientation, a Self-Guided Tour, and on-the-job training for position.

**Benefits:**

- The opportunity to learn in an AZA accredited facility.
- Hands-on experience, experiential learning and mentoring by our staff.
- Professional development workshops.
- Zoo Membership during your internship.
- Free Zoo admission, discount on purchases in Zoo gift shops and volunteer newsletter with wildlife news and Maryland Zoo happenings.
- Maryland Zoo Internships may be applied to receive college credit in accordance with your school's policy.

Apply here: <https://www.marylandzoo.org/about-us/internships/>

Please send resume and transcript here after applying: [internships@marylandzoo.org](mailto:internships@marylandzoo.org)