

Position: Veterinary Technician Internship – 2019-2020

Department: Veterinary

Immediate Mentor: Hospital Manager

Reports to: Hospital Director and Hospital Manager

The Wildlife Center of Virginia (WCV) currently has an opening for a 13-month veterinary technician intern with a start date of June 3, 2019; however, the position will remain open until the right candidate is hired.

In order to be considered for this position you must be eligible for licensure in Virginia in Veterinary Technology. This means you must either be:

- Currently licensed as a veterinary technician

OR

- In your final semester of an AVMA approved veterinary technology program and able to provide a passing score on the VTNE within three months of the internship start date

Organization Information

The Wildlife Center is a non-profit wildlife teaching hospital with a professionally staffed, fully-equipped, 5,700-square foot hospital, research, and environmental education center located in Waynesboro, Virginia. WCV admits approximately 2,800 patients annually representing more than 150 species. Sixty-five percent of the patients are birds and approximately half of these are raptors.

Further information about The Wildlife Center of Virginia can be found at www.wildlifecenter.org.

Training

Two licensed veterinary technicians and four veterinarians will help supervise the successful candidate. The candidate will be assisted by certified wildlife rehabilitators, and numerous students and volunteers. The intern will be involved in all aspects of wildlife medicine, including hematology, parasitology, cytology, radiography, anesthesia, medical treatments (restraint, medicating, IV catheter placement, venipuncture, wound care, bandaging, etc.), necropsy, husbandry, nutrition, rehabilitation, record maintenance, telephone consultations, and presentations at rounds. This internship will place a special emphasis on veterinary diagnostics and a significant amount of time will be spent performing manual CBC's, cytology, fecal examinations, and wildlife parasitology. The intern will also help train senior veterinary and technician students performing externships at the Center.

To successfully complete the internship, the applicant will:

- Pass the IWRC Certified Wildlife Rehabilitators exam
- Present at a state or national conference or submit a manuscript for publication

Opportunities exist to be involved in ongoing conservation medicine research projects as well as interaction with local or allied institutions (Virginia Department of Game and

Inland Fisheries, Virginia Marine Science Museum, National Zoo rounds).

Key areas of responsibility

- Perform diagnostic procedures (radiographs, blood work, and fecal exams) to evaluate patient health
- Monitor anesthesia on a variety of species
- Work as part of a team to complete routine daily patient treatments
- Provide technical support to other hospital staff as needed, including patient admissions and maintenance and completion of daily patient records
- Assist with training students (veterinary and veterinary technician) and volunteers
- Assist with hospital maintenance including autoclaving, cleaning, and inventory control (speaking with vendors, ordering supplies, managing in-kind donations, etc.)
- Assist with other duties which may include assisting with rehabilitation tasks, feeding of orphaned animals, etc
- On-Call duty two nights a week providing advice over the phone for after-hour emergencies, occasional on-site after-hour duty admitting emergency cases

Compensation

- Housing will be provided in addition to transportation to and from our student house
- An allowance of \$800/month will be provided to offset living expenses
- Two days off per week (working on Saturday, Sunday and some holidays will be required)
- License fees will be paid for by the Center
- Continuing education conference registration and transportation costs will be paid for by the Center **IF** the applicant presents at the conference
- The successful candidate will receive a certificate of internship in wildlife and conservation veterinary technology on completion of the program
- Monetary compensation for on-call responsibilities

Qualifications

The successful candidate must have the following qualifications:

- Be a Licensed Veterinary Technician or enrolled in the final semester of an AVMA approved Veterinary Technology program; a passing score on the VTNE is required within 3 months of start date
- Be eligible for a Virginia veterinary technician license
- Excellent interpersonal skills; team player with the ability to work independently
- Hardworking and efficient with good organizational skills
- Flexible with the ability to adapt to a dynamic environment
- Even-tempered, ability to remain calm in stressful situations
- Positive attitude and a sense of humor
- Ability to lift a minimum of 40 pounds
- Rabies vaccinated
- Tetanus vaccinated
- Strong interest in wildlife medicine with well-developed clinical and technical skills
- Applicants must be proficient in written and spoken English and be comfortable talking to groups

Applications are currently being accepted and the position will be filled as soon as the right candidate is found.

Send application including a CV, letter of intent, and at least three reference letters to:

Wildlife Center of Virginia
Re: Veterinary Technician Internship
PO Box 1557
Waynesboro, VA 22980
or
VetTech@wildlifecenter.org