



**POTAWATOMI ZOO
VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

PURPOSE To provide Veterinary Technology students with an introduction to zoological medicine.

THE ZOO As the oldest zoo in Indiana and built in 1902, the Potawatomi Zoo consists of over 400 species of animals housed on 12 acres. Specimens include mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

The state-of-the-art veterinary hospital was built in 2002 and is staffed by one full-time veterinarian, one full-time veterinary technician, and volunteers.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION Preferred duration is at least 6 weeks; internships are available throughout the year. Interns are expected to participate as a team member in all veterinary department activities including assisting in routine medical care, animal restraint, written and computerized medical records (MedArks), and preparing for procedures in the hospital and on the zoo grounds. Students perform laboratory procedures including hematology, parasite exams, urinalysis, cytology, and preparing samples for outside laboratories. Students will also help care for all hospitalized and quarantined animals. Students will also rotate in each keeper area to learn the husbandry of each species. Approximately fifty percent of the student's time is spent preparing for, assisting in, and cleaning up after procedures. Approximately twenty-five percent of the student's time involves animal care. The remaining time is spent on hospital cleanliness, treatments, record keeping and other duties. Each student will also complete a special project during his or her time at the zoo.

There is no stipend offered for the internships, but housing can be provided if available.

HOURS 8:00am – 4:30pm Monday through Friday. Additional hours or weekends/holidays as required.

REQUIREMENTS Proof of negative TB within 60 days prior to internship. Proof of tetanus vaccine required. Proof of rabies vaccine suggested but not required.

Complete of parasitology and anesthesia courses required. Completion of hematology strongly recommended.

APPLICATION

1. Letter of intent describing background, interest, goals, and dates requested.
2. Resume stating education.
3. Veterinary technology program transcripts.

SEND TO: **Laura Tarwater, RVT**
Potawatomi Zoo
500 South Greenlawn Avenue
South Bend, IN 46615