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Veterinary Internship in Wildlife Rehabilitation Medicine **July 2022-July 2023** **April 2022-September 2022**

Program Overview:

The Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota (WRC) is a non-profit wildlife hospital founded in 1979 and located right outside of the Twin Cities. WRC's mission is to provide quality medical care and rehabilitation for all injured, sick, and orphaned wild animals, and to share our knowledge with the people who care about them. Admitting more than 18,000 animals a year encompassing approximately 200 different species, WRC is one of the busiest rehabilitation centers in the world. The intern will work as part of our medical team of four full time and three part time staff veterinarians and six certified veterinary technicians in a fully equipped veterinary hospital including: digital radiology, ultrasound, in-house lab (including teaching microscope), tonometry, a surgical suite, and critical care capabilities. Over the course of this internship, the intern will gain experience practicing evidence based wildlife rehabilitation medicine in a high-volume facility. Ideal candidates will have some previous wildlife experience and will intend to pursue wildlife medicine as a career.

Internship Objectives

- To provide the intern with comprehensive experience in wildlife rehabilitation and medicine. At the end of the internship, interns should be competent in the management of wildlife rehabilitation cases in all aspects, including: physical examinations, handling/restraint, triage, husbandry, medical diagnostics, radiography, anesthesia, surgery, medical treatment, euthanasia decision making, necropsy, electronic record keeping, release assessment, and the ethics of wildlife care.
- To improve the intern's ability to recognize and identify different species of native Minnesota wildlife and be knowledgeable in their natural history, feeding habits, habitat requirements, welfare concerns, stress reduction, and any other specialized care.
- To improve the intern's clinical skills working with non-domestic species, including but not limited to: venipuncture, hematology, parasitology, radiology, anesthesiology, soft tissue surgery, orthopedic surgery, wound and fracture management, drug and fluid administration, and necropsy.
- To provide opportunities to learn more about the inner workings of a large-scale, non-profit wildlife hospital.
- To deepen the intern's understanding of the challenges of a career in veterinary medicine and wildlife rehabilitation and build their skills to address compassion fatigue and prioritize mental health in order to promote a long and rewarding career.
- To provide the intern with a fun and interesting learning environment!

Details:

- Minimum requirements: DVM or VMD degree from an AVMA-accredited veterinary school (or ECFVG certification). Applicants must also have taken and passed the NAVLE and be eligible to secure a Minnesota veterinary license. Intern will be required to provide a current rabies titer and be vaccinated against COVID 19.
- Duration: 1 year internship will begin July 18, 2022 and end July 16, 2023. 6 month internship will begin April 11, 2022 and end September 11, 2022. Minor changes to these dates can be discussed if necessary due to obligations of the applicant's current internship/position.
- Schedule: The intern will be scheduled 40-50 hours/week averaged over the entire year, and will work approximately two out of every four weekends. Because of the seasonality of wildlife rehabilitation in Minnesota, the intern should plan to work more clinic hours per week (maximum of 50) during the late spring, summer and early fall, and less (35-40) during the winter. Intern will work directly with staff veterinarians initially, with increased independence over the course of the internship as the intern's comfort and experience levels grow. Intern will have access to consultation with staff veterinarians at all times. Shifts will vary but will include evenings, holidays and weekends. There is no on-call.
- Vacation: 10 days (or 80 hours) of paid vacation are offered for 1 year intern, 5 days (40 hrs) for 6 month intern.
- Procedures: Interns will be trained to perform all simple procedures independently early in the program. Interns will be able to assist with, and perform more complicated procedures and surgeries as appropriate based on skills, prior experience, and available caseload.
- Teaching: At WRC, we consider ourselves a teaching hospital.
 - Throughout the year, many veterinary students and veterinarians from all over the world visit to receive training in rehabilitation medicine. The intern is expected to take an active role in teaching these students. Responsibilities may include helping with structured lectures and wet labs.
 - Participate in Zoo Pathology lectures (in partnership with the University of Minnesota Veterinary Medical Center)
 - Give short lectures on medical topics of intern's choice during medical team meetings
- Other activities:
 - Participate in monthly journal club rounds with interns from other local wildlife/zoological institutions
 - The intern will be required to complete at least one major project during the internship with the goal of publication. Opportunities exist for both prospective and retrospective research studies as well as the opportunity to participate in the many ongoing research studies already being performed at WRC.
- Compensation/benefits:
 - 1 year: \$26,000 + \$400 CE/education fund.
 - 6 month: \$13,000 + \$200 CE fund

- Housing is not provided. Interns will be reimbursed for all state licensing fees. The 1 year intern is eligible for enrollment in an organizational health insurance plan.

Application:

- 1 year internship program application will be through the Veterinary Internship and Residency Matching Program <https://www.virmp.org/>.
- 6 month internship program application will be outside of the match program. Applicants must submit their curriculum vitae, veterinary school transcript, 3 letters of recommendation, and a personal statement/letter of intent by December 10, 2021. Video or in person interviews will take place in late December and early January.
- Please direct questions about the internship program and applications for the 6 month internship to Dr. Allison Carter (carter@wrcmn.org) and Dr. Miranda Torkelson (miranda@wrcmn.org)
- Applicants are encouraged to organize a facility visit if their schedule allows