

# Internship Program



**Shades of Hope Wildlife Refuge** is an accredited wildlife hospital and rehabilitation center located in Pepperlaw, a rural area north east of Toronto, Ontario Canada. We accept all wildlife (birds and mammals) with the exception of raccoons. Our facility treats an average of 7,000 patients each year.

## THE EXPERIENCE

This internship is fast-paced, intense, comprehensive and a great “hands on” learning opportunity for anyone that is considering a wildlife related career. Although primary responsibilities will be in infant care and husbandry, you will also learn and assist with diagnostics, fluid therapy, medications, nutrition, wound management, physiotherapy, enrichment and record keeping. Surgeries are performed onsite by a wildlife veterinarian and can be observed by interested parties.

## THE REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must be passionate about wildlife and able to work long hours (including some split shifts). The rehab is open seven days a week and all year round. SOH Internships are a minimum of eight weeks (two months). Preference is given to applicants willing to commit to 16 weeks (four months) during the busy Spring/Summer season. Your work week will include five days with a total of 40-44 hours depending on fluctuating volumes of intakes.

You will need to be physically able to lift up to 30lbs and spend a lot of time on your feet. Applicants must also be mentally strong as there are many difficult losses along with some exhilarating successes. The ability to work in a team environment, yet not requiring constant supervision is imperative. You must be able to stay calm in hectic situations, using common sense, and be able to focus on the task at hand for long periods if necessary. Accuracy in record keeping and prioritizing are also important in this position.

**Applicants must be 18 years of age or older and fluent in English – both spoken and written.**

## VOLUNTEER VS PAID

This is primarily a volunteer position. There are a few grant positions available for students that meet the qualifications needed:

- A commitment of 16 weeks (May 1 – Aug 31)
- Currently enrolled in a post-secondary school program
- Significant animal handling and leadership experience

## ACCOMMODATIONS

For those interns volunteering, accommodations are free. For those receiving payment, there is a rental fee of \$50/week. The Intern House is a short distance away from the rehab. It features four shared bunkrooms, wireless internet, cable, air conditioning, laundry and kitchen facilities. Food is not provided. For those without vehicles, transport to and from the rehab will be arranged for you.



Visit us at: [shadesofhope.ca](http://shadesofhope.ca)

Send your COVER LETTER and RESUME to us at: [internship@shadesofhope.ca](mailto:internship@shadesofhope.ca)