



Position: Wildlife Rehabilitation Apprentice

Location: Kendalia & San Antonio, TX

Website: www.wildlife-rescue.org

Apply to: Education@wildlife-rescue.org

Job Type: Apprenticeship

History: Established in 1977, Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation (WRR) receives over 10,000 wild animals per year for rehabilitation and release as well as providing permanent sanctuary for more than 600 resident non-releasable indigenous wildlife, non-native wildlife (large mammals, primates, reptiles and birds) and farmed animals. Wildlife Rescue is located on 212 acres in the beautiful Texas Hill Country, near Austin and San Antonio.

Description: This educational program is designed as an introduction to wildlife rehabilitation for individuals who have previous experience in wildlife rehabilitation or animal care and are interested in developing the basic and advanced skills required when pursuing a career in the field of wildlife rehabilitation. The one-year program combines hands-on training and classroom instruction during which participants will learn practical skills and general knowledge required to succeed in the fields of wildlife rehabilitation and animal care. The wildlife rehabilitation apprentice concentrates on the care and rehabilitation of injured and orphaned native Texan wildlife, with some attention to domesticated farmed animals, companion animals and small non-native animals. Participants in the programs can expect to spend long and demanding shifts caring for injured and orphaned infant native Texan wildlife.

Primary Apprentice Duties and Responsibilities:

- Learn the natural history, life stages, diet, daily care and housing requirements for a variety of Texas native avian, mammal and reptile species, including but not limited to: songbirds, doves, turtles, tortoises, squirrels, opossums, raccoon, skunks, fawns, and waterfowl
- Understand and participate in the process and stages of wildlife rehabilitation including rescues and releases
- Carry out demanding and substantial animal husbandry duties consisting of feeding, cleaning and maintaining enclosures, and enrichment activities while maintaining exceptional standards of care
- Undertake basic medical work including administration of prescribed medications and treatments
- Conduct behavioral observations and maintain detailed care-taking records
- Demonstrate proper understanding and practice of safety procedures
- Develop written and interpersonal communication skills
- Complete administrative duties including paperwork and record keeping
- Participate in public education in person and through the WRR Hotline service
- Participate in seasonal group projects designed to leave a lasting impact on the lives of the animals in the care of the WRR

Requirements:

- Minimum six months of previous professional animal care experience required, wildlife rehabilitation hospital experience preferred
- Bachelor's degree required, animal-related field preferred
- Commitment to completion of the twelve month program
- Willingness to work evenings, weekends, and holidays
- Ability to work long hours (40-70 hours per week) in all weather conditions
- Ability to lift 50lbs, twist and bend, and spend long periods of time on your feet
- Capable of handling physically, mentally and emotionally stressful situations
- Competent in working independently and as part of a team
- Possess a strong personal work ethic, positive attitude and high level of integrity
- Meningitis, Tetanus and **Rabies pre-exposure** vaccines are required
- Valid driver's license and clean driving record are required

Availability:

Annual Wildlife Rehabilitation apprentice sessions begin in February. A one-year commitment is required.

Compensation:

A monthly stipend of \$400 dollars is granted. On-site housing is provided.

If you have questions about the program, please email Education@wildlife-rescue.org with your query.

Persons interested in applying for this position should send a cover letter, resume, three references, and any letters of recommendation (email preferred):

Email: Education@wildlife-rescue.org

Email Subject Line: **"Apprentice Application Your Name"**

Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation, Inc.
Attn: Apprentice & Training Supervisor
P.O. Box 369 | Kendalia, TX 78027
Fax: (830) 336-3733