



Position: Wildlife Rehabilitation Apprentice

Location: San Antonio, TX

Website: www.wildlife-rescue.org

Apply to: Education@wildlife-rescue.org

Job Type: Apprenticeship

History: Established in 1977, Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation (WRR) is a non-profit organization that receives over ten thousand wild animals per year for rehabilitation and release. WRR also provides a permanent sanctuary for over six hundred non-releasable native animals and non-native wildlife including large mammals, primates, reptiles, and birds as well as farmed animals. Wildlife Rescue has two locations; the main sanctuary and rehabilitation hospital is located on 212 acres in beautiful Kendalia Texas, Roger and Phillis Sherman Animal Care Complex (SACC) located in San Antonio and functions as a rehabilitation hospital and outreach center.

Description: This educational program, located at SACC, 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 seven-month 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. 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.
- 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

Requirements:

- Minimum six months of previous professional animal care experience required, wildlife rehabilitation hospital experience preferred
- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience required, animal-related field preferred

- Commitment to completion of the six-month program
- Willingness to work evenings, weekends, and holidays
- Proficient in time management, multi-tasking, and critical thinking skills
- Ability to work long hours (40-50 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
- 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 April. A seven-month commitment is required.

Compensation: A monthly stipend of \$400 dollars is granted.

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):

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

Email: Education@wildlife-rescue.org
Email Subject Line: "**Apprentice Application Your Name**"