POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE: Camp Inclusion Aide internship

GROUP/DEPARTMENT: CET – Zoo Camp

JOB RELATIONSHIPS:
Reports to: Supervisor, Camp, Overnight, and NatureStart Programs
Supervises: No one

BASIC FUNCTION: This position contributes to the success of the Chicago Zoological Society by providing support to children with disabilities in an inclusive setting at Zoo Camp to inspire conservation leadership and connect all children with wildlife and nature, regardless of ability, through recreation and informal education activities.

PRIMARY JOB DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:
1. Provide one-on-one support to campers with a variety of disabilities.
2. Adapt existing camp activities to individual camper needs and abilities.
3. Communicate daily updates with camp parents and the inclusion specialist.
4. Implement effective behavior management strategies and document behavior challenges.
5. Facilitate camp activities for children ages 4 to 14 with and without disabilities.
6. Complete portfolio project as part of internship.
7. Other duties as assigned.

POSITION REQUIREMENTS AND SPECIFICATIONS:
- Minimum of one year of college at an accredited institution; GPA 2.5/4.0, majoring in special education, therapeutic recreation, rehabilitation services, psychology, or other related field.
- Experience working with children in child care, education, recreation, or other related field.
- Experience working with individuals with disabilities or equivalent coursework.
- Minimum 18 years of age.
- Strong interpersonal, communication, and organizational skills.
- Must be able to commit to 12 weeks; approximately 40 hours/week.
DESI RABLE/PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Interest in one or more of the following areas: inclusion, accessibility, therapeutic recreation, special education, rehabilitation, informal education, and conservation is preferred.
- 6 months or more experience working with children with a variety of disabilities (physical, developmental, and emotional/behavioral) is preferred.
- Familiarity with principles of universal design, universal design for learning, accessibility, behavior analysis, and social model of disability is a plus.
- Working knowledge of American Sign Language, positive behavior management strategies, and crisis prevention and intervention is a plus.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:
This internship position description summarizes the primary duties and functions of this position, but should not be considered a complete listing of every duty the incumbent may ever be called upon to perform. Must represent the Chicago Zoological Society in an appropriate and professional manner to campers, families of enrolled campers and Zoo guests. Must have a genuine interest in nature and animals. Must be willing and able to learn play facilitation skills. Incumbent must display a positive attitude and be a positive role model to program participants and provide a fun and positive learning environment for program participants including school-aged children. Pre-school camp is for children 4 and 5-years old. School-age camp is for children in grades K–5. Zoo Lab is for middle school children in 6th-8th grades. Must have the availability to work the weeks that summer Zoo Camp is in session as well as attend all required trainings in the weeks prior to camp starting. Camp programs run from June through August, training takes place in May-June. The work schedule for Zoo Camp is generally Monday through Friday, 7 to 8 hours per day, based on camper enrollment. All schedules are based on the needs of the operation.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:
See physical requirements sheet.

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