Moody Gardens®

Rainforest Internship Application

Thank you for your interest in the Moody Gardens® Rainforest Internship Program. Please note that this is an unpaid internship and housing/food/travel stipends are not provided. Interns must commit to a regular schedule (16-20hrs per week in the fall and spring) (20-40hrs per week in the summer) for a short-term period of at least 3 months.

Application Schedule:

Spring Internship: January-March
Applications accepted until December 1st.
Start by January 15th

Summer Internship: June-August
Applications accepted until May 1st.
Start by June 1st

Fall Internship: September-November
Applications accepted until August 31st
Start by September 20th

As the internship is unpaid, Moody Gardens® does not provide any medical coverage for on or off the job injuries or incidents.

If accepted and wanting to work with the primates you must show proof of a recent negative TB test. If accepted and wanting to work with bats you must show proof of rabies vaccine and/or current titer check if already vaccinated.

Karl Maahs: Volunteer Program Specialist

Paula Kolvig: Curator of the Rainforest
Moody Gardens®
Internship Application Information

To apply for an internship within the Rainforest section at Moody Gardens® you must:

1. Be currently enrolled as a sophomore or higher in an accredited college or university.
2. Have a minimum of one year course work in a major field of study to be applied during the internship.
3. Be receiving course credit for the internship.
4. Must have a minimum 3.0 GPA at the time of internship.
5. Submit an application.
6. Submit a cover letter.
7. Submit a resume.
8. Submit answers to the application questions.
9. Submit an unofficial or official copy of your current transcripts.
10. Submit two letters of recommendations (one must be from an academic advisor or professor).
11. Submit a letter from your course professor stating the course for which the internship will credit along with his/hers contact information.
12. Undergo a phone, online, or on-site interview based off current geographic location.
13. Commit to 16-20 hours a week for 12 weeks for the fall or spring internship program and a 20-40 hours a week for 10 weeks during the summer internship.
14. Must be able to pass a background check.
15. Meet expectations as outlined under ‘Internship Expectations’

Please mail or e-mail completed application materials to:

Karl Maahs
Moody Gardens-Volunteer Program Specialist
One Hope Boulevard
Galveston, TX 77554
Volunteers@moodygardens.org

Please note: Incomplete application packets will not be considered. Letters of recommendation may be sent separately
Goal of Internship

The goal of the Moody Gardens internship experience is to support Rainforest Department and provide pre-professional, experiential learning opportunities for individuals who volunteer their time working towards Moody Gardens mission: a public, non-profit education destination utilizing nature in the advancement of rehabilitation, conservation, recreation, and research.

Intern Benefits:

- Learn daily husbandry and nutrition of a diverse collection of animals.
- Gain experience with hands-on opportunities.
- Learn proper food preparation techniques and understand system diets.
- Learn common and scientific names of a diverse collection of animals.
- Work closely with rainforest biologists and interact with guests
- Moody Gardens Annual Pass after completion of internship.

Intern Expectations/Responsibilities:

- Must be on-time!
- Work 16-20 hours a week for at least 12 weeks in fall/spring semesters and 20-40 hours a week for 10 weeks in summer semester.
- Set schedule prior to the start of the internship with morning shifts running from 7:00am to 11:00pm and afternoon shifts running from 12:00pm to 4:00pm.
- Capability of lifting a minimum of 50 pounds, climbing ladders, stairs, and work around saltwater.
- Limited animal handling. No petting or playing with any of the animals is allowed! Work Safety!
- Interactions with Moody Gardens® visitors. Be prepared to answer questions from the public.
- Must complete online courses and course evaluations.
- Must attend two one-hour long continuing education class sessions.
- Must turn in a Daily Log of experience.
- Be prepared to work in all weather conditions.

Intern Dress:

- An Intern uniform shirt and nametag will be provided.
- Wear khaki pants or shorts (no shorter than an inch above the knee, no capris or cargos allowed) and comfortable brown, black or white close toed shoes provided by the intern.
- A black or brown belt must be worn.
- All clothing must be presentable with no holes or rips.
Name_________________________________________________ Date____________________

Home Address______________________________________________________________

City _____________________ State__________________ Zip Code___________________

Email Address__________________________________________ Primary Phone_____________________

College/University Attending____________________________________________________________

City/State________________________ Anticipated Graduation date_________________________

Major Field of study___________________

Name of Professor sponsoring Internship___________________________________________________________

Email Address & Primary Phone of Professor________________________________________________________

Please list any previous intern experience_________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

Where did you learn about the internship program?_________________________________________________

Courses and experience applicable to this internship________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

Have you ever interned, volunteered or worked for Moody Gardens® before? ___________________________

If yes, when? ___________________________________________________________________________

Which internship semester are you applying for: Fall Spring Summer

Dates available: __________________________________________________________________________

Please list any special requirements your school may have: ______________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

Emergency contact information
Contact Name ______________________________ Relationship _______________________
Home Phone ____________________________ Work Phone __________________________
Cell Phone ______________________________

Alternate Contact Name ______________________________ Relationship _______________________
Home Phone ____________________________ Work Phone __________________________
Cell Phone ______________________________

PLEASE READ THIS STATEMENT CAREFULLY!

I hereby affirm that the information given by me on this application is complete and accurate. I understand that any falsification or omission will be immediate grounds for dismissal from the Intern Program. I authorize a thorough investigation to be made concerning my character; general reputation, employment and education background and criminal record whichever may be applicable. I understand what this investigation may include and I hereby authorize the release of documents, and personal interviews with third parties, such as prior employers, family members, business associates, financial sources, friends, neighbors or others with whom I am acquainted.

I also acknowledge that due to the ongoing COVID-19 global health crisis, the requirements and procedures of this internship are subject to change. I hereby affirm that during the course of this internship I will comply with all health and safety guidelines as required by both Moody Gardens and any government ordinances. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the program and a failing grade being reported.

Internship Applicant Signature ___________________________ Date __________________________

Karl Maahs
Volunteer Program Specialist
Moody Gardens (409) 683-4108
One Hope Boulevard fax (409) 683-4929
Galveston, TX 77554 Volunteers@moodygardens.org

For office use only:
Date Received: ______________
Interview date and time: ____________________________
Accepted: __________________________
Start date: ______________ End date: ______________
Orientation____________________ Uniform and nametag___________

Moody Gardens®
Rainforest Internship Short Essay Questions

1. Briefly describe your long-and short-term goals and where you see yourself 5 years from now.
2. Discuss a special attribute or accomplishment that sets you apart.