

VETERINARY PRECEPTORSHIP/EXTERNSHIP AT WHITE OAK

White Oak conserves and sustains some of the earth's rarest species through innovative training, research, education, breeding, and field programs that contribute to the survival of wildlife in nature. White Oak Conservation is a progressive private facility with approximately 300 specimens including 30 unique and imperiled exotic species. The conservation programs span 700 acres along the St. Mary's River in northeast Florida, surrounded by over 16,000 acres of mixed forest and wetlands that make up the beautiful White Oak property.



The *Veterinary Preceptorship* provides a continuing education opportunity for fourth year veterinary students intending to work in the zoo and wildlife field. The preceptorship will provide extensive hands on experience working clinically with a wide variety of exotic species within an AZA accredited zoological setting with highly respected veterinary staff. Students will be under the direct supervision of head veterinarian Scott B. Citino, D.V.M., Dipl. ACZM and associate veterinarian Jessica A. Emerson, D.V.M., Dipl. ACZM. White Oak has a modern, well-equipped medical and surgical facility that includes digital radiography, ultrasound, endoscopic and laparoscopic equipment and a fully equipped clinical pathology laboratory. Students frequently get opportunities to work with specialists from the University of Florida, College of Veterinary Medicine and local specialty practices on our cases.

Skills, Experiences, and Duties:

Under the supervision and direction of the veterinary staff, *Veterinary Preceptors* will participate in all aspects of the veterinary department including but not limited to-

- Capture, restraint and anesthesiology
- Clinical and preventative medicine
- Diagnostics – Including hematology, cytology, fecal parasitology, radiography, ultrasound, endoscopy & post mortem exams
- Disease control and conservation issues related to zoos and conservation centers
- Nutritional concerns
- Records-medical records using ZIMS
- Neonatal care (if applicable)
- Exhibit design

Students will work alongside veterinary, animal care and administrative staff learning the importance of various aspects of operations at the facility. With the assistance of the veterinary staff, each student will identify a topic of interest applicable to the White Oak collection to be covered in a short-term project and give a brief presentation to the conservation center staff at the end of the program.

How to Apply:

The duration of the *Veterinary Preceptorship* ranges from a minimum of four weeks to a maximum of eight weeks. The selected candidate will receive free housing at White Oak for the duration of the internship. Preceptors are scheduled to work 40 hours a week and are on call every other weekend, but may be asked to assist with after-hours duties such as emergencies or intensive care cases. Preceptors have access to select White Oak amenities including a fitness center and swimming pool. Housing for pets and/or spouses is not available. White Oak reserves the right to terminate preceptorships at any time.



Eligibility Requirements

1. Candidates must have completed the first three years of veterinary school.
2. Candidates should be self-motivated, able to work well alone and with others, and willing to learn new skills and make the most of the preceptorship experience.
3. Candidates must be able to lift 50 lbs., climb in and out of truck beds, remain bending/standing/ stooping for long periods of time, and work in adverse weather conditions.
4. Candidates must have proof of a valid driver's license.
5. Candidates must have proof of valid health insurance.
6. Candidates must have proof of a negative TB test within 12 months of the program and tetanus toxoid booster within the last ten years.
7. Candidates must pass a drug test upon starting their preceptorship.
8. Candidates must abide by the White Oak dress policy which includes covering tattoos and maintaining natural colored hair.

How to Apply

All candidates will submit a letter of introduction/purpose, a current resume/CV, a copy of college transcripts (unofficial is acceptable), and a letter of reference from a faculty member or other veterinary professional to training@white-oak.org with the subject line: Veterinary Preceptorship Application. Applicants must provide two or more designated time periods in which they can come for the preceptorship.

Applications are due no later than September 30th, two years prior to graduation (9/30/2021 for 2023 graduates). Applications will be reviewed and accepted on a rolling basis and applicants are encouraged to apply early as spots fill quickly. All spots for the clinical year are expected to be filled by October 15th. Please inform us if you are applying to the preceptorship and attending the annual American Association of Zoo Veterinarians conference. Please contact training@white-oak.org with any questions.