



INTERNSHIP REQUIREMENTS & FAQ

All interns must be at least 18 years of age.

The minimum commitment for an internship is one month with a preference for longer stays. Applicants who can commit to 2-3 months are given priority.

Internships typically begin on the first day of the month of internship and end on the last day of the month though there is usually some flexibility to adjust start/end dates when we finalize your internship plan together. All interns are expected to arrive one day before the start of the internship.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. We usually only have one intern at a time. Interns play a valuable role as part of our animal care team and should expect to be working outside doing physical labor for most of their internship. There are also educational goals set for each internship, with readings and ongoing, immersion learning opportunities. Internships here are not busy work – you should come ready to learn and ready to work!

Internship positions are available year-round. Positions are filled on an on-going basis as applications are received. Summer positions fill more quickly, so contact us well in advance. Winter internships are greatly needed but please note, working this time of year is particularly challenging. If you are interested in working at a sanctuary, the experience you will get working through a tough Maine winter is especially valuable. We highly recommend that people interested in getting jobs in the sanctuary movement intern during more difficult months of the year to get a better sense of the work required. Although we do not have enough spaces to accommodate all applicants, we appreciate really everyone's offer to help!

Interns volunteer full time, working 40 hours/week following a set schedule. Every intern gets days off each week, although not necessarily consecutive days. Weekend shifts are typically required. For people looking to do part time internships, applications will be received on a case-by-case basis but please know on-site housing is only available to full time interns.

Out of respect for the animals and the work we do, interns are required to commit to a vegan lifestyle while on our premises. That means diet (no meat, dairy, eggs, honey or other animal by-products), personal care items (must be cruelty-free with no animal byproducts) and clothing (no leather, silk or wool). We will be happy to help you with tips, recipes and meal ideas, if you like.

On-site housing is available for full-time interns. Our intern housing is modest but clean and comfortable with private bedroom/living space with a shared kitchenette and bathroom. Basic furnishings are provided. Please bring your own bedding and towels.

Our kitchenette has a refrigerator, double hot plate, toaster oven, small appliances like a blender, electric teakettle, and coffee maker. The kitchenette is also equipped with plates, bowls, silverware,

cutting boards, knives, colander, cooking utensils, etc. You will be responsible for buying and preparing all of your own meals and \$100/week food/expense stipends are available to full-time interns. Weekly trips to the grocery store can be provided if you are not bringing a vehicle. There is a small food co-op here in Brooks and a larger food co-op and chain grocery store in nearby Belfast that all have plenty of vegan options.

For clothes, you should plan on being comfortable and not worrying about getting dirty. Bring insulated/waterproof boots, good rain gear, and winter gear for October - May. Dressing in layers and having extra clothes to change into if you get wet or too dirty is very helpful. Weather conditions can be extreme, so please bring a range of gear and reach out if you have questions. Shared laundry facilities are available at the sanctuary. Please note that shorts are not allowed when working with the animals for your protection from accidental injuries.

As an intern, you will have a chance to observe health care procedures, but interns are never trained to medicate or perform healthcare treatments on our animal residents. These procedures are performed by our staff.