

Native Songbird Care & Conservation Internship Outline



The internship program at Native Songbird Care & Conservation provides a unique opportunity to gain experience in the care of injured, ill and orphaned native songbirds within the wildlife rehabilitation setting. During this challenging internship, students will learn a wide range of skills while working side by side with the Director and hospital supervisors.

Time commitment:

The internship term begins May 15 and ends August 15. Positions are unpaid, minimum 20 hours a week with strict adherence to the agreed upon work schedule for the duration of the term. Interns are required to attend three classes as part of their coursework during their term and a final exam at the end of the term.

In addition to the coursework during their term, interns must attend one of the scheduled New Volunteer Orientations and complete one series of training classes before the internship begins on May 15.

New Volunteer Orientation:

Wednesday, March 15 at 6pm
Thursday, March 23, 6pm
Saturday, March 25, 10am
Thursday, April 20 at 6pm

New Volunteer Training Classes:

SERIES 1	Saturday, 9am - 1pm	4/1, 8, 15	meet once a week
SERIES 2	Wednesday, 9am – 1pm	4/5, 12, 19	meet once a week
SERIES 3	Sunday, 9am – 1 pm	4/23, 30, 5/7	meet once a week
SERIES 4	Wednesday, 9am – 1pm	4/26, 5/3, 5/10	meet once a week

Coursework:

3 once-monthly classes will be taught on May 22, June 19, and July 17. Classes will cover areas of wildlife rehabilitation relevant to student's work at NSCC with the birds. There will be discussion with the Director and other interns related to class material, current cases/patients in the clinic, and rehabilitation procedures and practices at NSCC. On August 14, there will be a final exam based on the reading material, classes, and rehabilitation procedures learned at NSCC.

Responsibilities and requirements:

Interns are responsible for assisting with the care of orphaned, sick and injured native songbirds admitted to NSCC. Interns will learn and practice several aspects of animal care in a wildlife rehabilitation hospital. They will assist hospital staff with the daily care

of patients, including cleaning, feeding, enrichment, intake, exams, treatment and releases. They will learn species identification and natural history of native passerines. They will assist with training new adult and junior volunteers. They will also answer the hotline and learn to assist members of the public seeking help with wildlife.

The internship also requires that students be available to help with transport from municipal shelters, veterinary clinics and other wildlife centers who will hold sick, injured and orphaned wildlife brought in by their communities and need to be transferred to NSCC for rehabilitation. Transport schedules will be determined upon the establishment of the intern work schedule at NSCC. Students must have their own vehicle, driver's license and insurance. NSCC does not reimburse for gas money spent on transport.

Housing and Transportation

Housing and transportation are the responsibility of the intern. There is no on-site housing available.

Qualifications

- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age
- Science, natural science, or animal care background required
- Must be able to perform physically demanding tasks such as cleaning, lifting, bending, stooping, etc.
- Must have respect for wildlife and courtesy toward public
- Must be able to work independently and as a team member
- Must be able to work quickly and efficiently while following directions and procedures
- Must be able to multi-task and work in a very stressful environment
- Must be able to work long hours with few breaks

Application process:

Please submit a resume and letter of intent to the email below. The letter of intent must state the orientation date and training session you are available to attend and detail your interests, experience, availability and demonstrate that you have housing and reliable transportation. If you qualify, an interview, by phone or in person, will be scheduled.

Please submit your resume and letter of intent to director@nativesongbirdcare.org with the subject line *Internship Application*.

If you have any questions, please send your inquiry to director@nativesongbirdcare.org

The deadline to apply is April 1, 2017.

Upon completion:

Upon successful completion of the internship and final exam, students will receive a certificate of completion from NSCC and be eligible for a letter of reference from the Director summarizing their coursework, accomplishments and skills learned during the internship.