

Dolphin Cove Internship Guidelines

The Dolphin Cove internship program is designed for students and college graduates interested in obtaining critical practical experience in the marine mammal field. Interns work directly with animal care staff members and assist with aspects of animal care and husbandry, guest relations, and day-to-day operations.

Internships are offered throughout the year and may be available for credit through an academic institution. Candidates must be at least 18 years of age, available for a minimum of 4 weeks, and willing to accept the internship as an unpaid position. Dolphin Cove does not provide housing; however the internship coordinator can assist interns in finding affordable housing in close proximity to Dolphin Cove.

Internship requirements:

- Develop, propose, and implement a formal research project. Submit a detailed scientific manuscript to Dolphin Cove within six months of the internship termination date.
- Assist staff in daily site procedures, including but not limited to, diet preparation, overseeing swim sessions, basic cleaning and maintenance at the facility, and guest relations. Additionally, interns will be required to familiarize themselves with dolphin identification, dolphin behavior (both naturally occurring behaviors and trained behaviors) and assist trainers in training sessions.
- Be available a minimum of five days per week, (generally 8 am to 5 pm, but subject change), for a minimum of 4 weeks.

Individual research projects must be non-invasive and observational in nature. Although staff will be available to offer guidance concerning research projects, interns are expected to develop and implement original research concepts and methods. When considering potential projects, candidates should keep in mind that interns are not permitted to feed or directly train the animals.

Dolphin Cove will accommodate individuals interested in receiving academic credit for an internship. Once accepted to the program, interns will discuss the details for credit with their academic advisor and furnish the Internship Coordinator with a letter highlighting these requirements. Letters of reference are available for individuals who successfully fulfill all internship obligations.

Candidates should mail the completed application and resume to Dolphin Cove, Attn: Internship Program Coordinator, at least three months prior to the desired start date. E-mail Animalstaff@DolphinCove.com or contact Melissa Szegeski and Kayla Burgman at (305)451-4054 with any questions or concerns.

Please mail your completed application packet to:

Dolphin Cove
Attn: Internship Program Coordinator
P.O. Box 870
Key Largo, FL 33037

Dolphin Cove - Internship Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Date of Birth (must be at least 18 years of age to apply): _____

Today's Date: _____

Education:

College/University: _____

Years completed: _____

Diploma/Degree: _____

Background Information:

SCUBA certification: _____

Primary language: _____

Any other languages spoken: _____

Please answer the following questions accurately and completely. Use additional sheets if necessary.

1.) When are you available to participate in the Dolphin Cove internship program? (Program is 4 – 12 weeks).

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6.) What makes you a valuable candidate for the Dolphin Cove internship program?

7.) Are you comfortable in or around deep water?

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8.) List any possible project ideas or specific areas of interest.

9.) Please provide two letters of recommendation and contact information from either professors or previous employers.

10.) Please attach a copy of your resume and your college transcript.

Candidates should mail the completed application and resume to Dolphin Cove, Attn: Internship Program Coordinator, at least three months prior to the desired start date. For those of you who are interested in applying for the busy summer session we ask that your application be in no later than April 1st.