



CONSERVATORY INTERNSHIP

Introduction: The Butterfly House & Aquarium (BHA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Home to South Dakota's only saltwater aquarium and tropical butterfly conservatory, the BHA offers unique hands-on experiences for Sioux Falls and surrounding communities. This internship provides an excellent opportunity to gain practical experience in the ecological field with a focus on horticulture, reptiles, insects and other invertebrates.

Mission: Inspiring conservation of the vital building blocks of sea, sky, and land

Primary Duties:

- Adhering to all USDA protocols and standards
- Assisting with the daily maintenance of the containment room, butterfly conservatory, and outdoor gardens
- Participating in animal observation and husbandry of ambassador animal exhibits
- Processing butterfly and moth pupae shipments
- Providing public education and exhibit interpretation pertaining to small animal exhibits and butterfly conservatory
- Developing an independent research project to be presented at the end of the internship

Qualifications:

- Pursuing or hold a degree in biology, environmental sciences, education, or related fields
- Must be 18 or older
- Must be a team player, able to follow instructions, and have a positive attitude
- Must have strong communication skills and a desire to learn
- Willingness to handle insects, reptiles, and other small animals (all training provided onsite)

Assessment:

A satisfactory evaluation will be given to students who comply with their scheduled shifts, perform all tasks with honest effort, and complete their independent project.

Reports to: Michelle Coley, Curator of Animal Husbandry

Time requirement: 12-25 hours per week for 3 months or as needed – reasonable accommodations can be made for qualified candidates with prior notice.

Stipend: Unpaid; school credit can be earned for this internship based on university requirements.

Interested applicants should email a resume and cover letter to:

Andrea Kopp, Volunteer Coordinator, at volunteer@sdaqarium.org