



ANIMAL KEEPER II

Non-Exempt Hourly Position - Union

The Buffalo Zoo is hiring an Animal Keeper II for the SOAR Team (Sea Lion, River Otter, Arctic Edge Team).

Basic Purpose and Responsibility:

Under the supervision of the General Curator and/or Assistant Curator, the Keeper II is responsible for supporting the day-to-day operations associated with the husbandry of the animals and the maintenance of animal exhibits within the SOAR team.

Essential Functions:

- Primary accountability for specific functions and results. The list of essential functions is not exhaustive and may be supplemented or changed as necessary.
- Prepares and provides diet and feeding regime to designated animals as specified by the Keeper III, Curator or veterinarian.
- Assists in the cleaning and shifting of animals to perform exhibit maintenance duties and modify exhibits to meet seasonal requirements.
- Assists veterinary staff with any prescribed treatment routines or medication administration.
- Records and reports any abnormal animal health or behavioral condition to the supervisor noting any short or long term variances.
- Assists with departmental research projects as directed by the Curator and provides support to other Zoo projects as needed.
- Identifies any potential maintenance or safety issues and reports them to the supervisor.
- Cooperates in answering questions presented by the public, other zoo employees, volunteers and interns to promote quality guest service.
- Assumes the duties of Keeper I and Keeper III on an as needed basis.
- Oversees work activities and provides training for interns or seasonal workers assigned to that area.
- Performs any additional animal care duties or departmental responsibilities as directed by the supervisor.

Position Qualifications:

To perform at a proficient level and be fully qualified, a person would be expected to have:

Education (Minimum Needed):

- Two-year degree in one of the natural sciences or other discipline - four-year degree preferred. Degrees in other fields may be substituted by additional relevant experience.

Experience (Minimum Needed):

- Two years' experience with a diversified exotic animal collection gained through internships, volunteer experience or employment. Extensive domestic animal experience may be a qualifying substitute.
- Marine mammal (specifically Pinniped and/or Polar bear) husbandry and care experience highly preferred.
- Demonstrated understanding and tangible achievement with behavioral management techniques including operant conditioning training and enrichment implementation is also highly preferred.

Special Skills:

- Experience with physical restraint equipment, vehicles and related maintenance equipment.

- Demonstrated proficiency in use of all cleaning and husbandry equipment and supplies.

Other:

- Must possess or be able to obtain within 30-days of employment a valid New York State driver's license and have an average or better driving record based on the evaluation process of our insurance company. Retention of position is contingent upon maintaining required license. Must upgrade to classification appropriate to requirements (non-CDLC or CDL class).
- TB Test conducted annually.
- Must be able to work weekends and holidays as necessary.

This is a full-time, non-exempt hourly CSEA union position. If interested, please submit resume and cover letter to Dave Brigham, Assistant Curator, Buffalo Zoo, via dbrigham@buffalozoo.org by Nov 1st, 2019. Use subject line: Buffalo Zoo Animal Keeper II SOAR. Attachments are to be formatted: Last name first name Cover Letter.Doc or PDF, and Last name first name Resume.Doc or PDF.

Full Time benefits available include health plan, life insurance, dental, vision, 403B retirement plan, annual leave time, holiday time, and sick time. Benefits are available after the successful completion of an introductory probation period of 60 days of work.

The Buffalo Zoo is an At Will employer and all Buffalo Zoo employees are subject to employment eligibility and background security checks as well as testing for illegal substance use as allowed by law.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER