**DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE**

**INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

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| 2023 Summer Internship Program | Stipend: $644 per week |
| DEPARTMENT: Field Conservation  LOCATION: Washington, DC, relevant field office, or remote  TIMEFRAME: June - August 2023, 40 hours per week | |
| LAST REVISED: January 2023 | |

**ABOUT DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE**

Founded in 1947, Defenders of Wildlife is the premier U.S.-based national conservation organization dedicated to the protection and restoration of imperiled species and their habitats in North America. Defenders’ approach is direct and straightforward – We protect and restore imperiled species throughout North America by transforming policies and institutions and by promoting innovative solutions. We speak with one voice informed by scientific, legal and policy expertise, hands-on wildlife management experience and effective advocacy.

**Field Conservation**

The Field Conservation Program focuses on developing innovative management, science and policy strategies to conserve and restore imperiled species and their habitats. Our on-the-groundwork to protect biodiversity around the country involves species- and habitat-specific recovery efforts, state-based policy initiatives and legal and policy initiatives undertaken in collaboration with other Defenders’ conservation programs. A cornerstone of our restoration work is promoting coexistence between people and wildlife.

**INTERNSHIP SUMMARY**

Defenders of Wildlife is seeking to recruit interns for a 10-week summer internship program. The program will provide an in-depth perspective on how Defenders enacts its mission of conservation, the opportunity to acquire specific skills needed to pursue professional goals, the opportunity to engage in hands-on research/projects, and the opportunity to build professional networks. The program will provide students with cross-disciplinary exposure, one-to-one mentor matching, and peer-to-peer support. The internship program is intended to be highly diverse, and we particularly encourage students from historically underrepresented and marginalized backgrounds to apply.

**QUALIFICATIONS**

**Education:** Current undergraduate student at an accredited 2 or 4-year institution

**Experience:** Demonstrated interest in conservation; demonstrated interest and/or commitment to broadening the inclusion of multicultural and/or marginalized communities in the conservation movement.

**Requirements:**

* Must be eligible to work in the United States without employer sponsorship
* Must be at least 18 years of age
* Must be able to commit to the full 10-week term of the program

**Application Materials:**

* CV or resume
* In lieu of a cover letter, a written statement (500 words or less) that answers the following:
  + What draws you to this specific discipline/area of study? AND
  + Please describe ways you have contributed to increasing diversity and inclusion in your area of study AND/OR
  + A diversity/inclusion-based challenge you have faced and how you navigated through the challenge.

**Physical Activities and Demands**

* Constantly remaining in a stationary position, often standing or sitting for prolonged periods.
* Communicating with others to exchange information.
* Repeating motions that may include the wrists, hands and/or fingers.
* No adverse environmental conditions expected
* Occasionally moving about to accomplish tasks or moving from one worksite to another

Visit [www.defenders.org](http://www.defenders.org) to apply.

All Interns are required to satisfactorily perform the essential duties and responsibilities of their internships. The essential duties and responsibilities listed above are not intended to be construed as an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties and skills required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of the job.

Defenders requires interns who engage in in-person activities, including business travel or onsite work, to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. An applicant (i) who is disabled or pregnant or who has a qualifying medical condition that contraindicates a COVID-19 vaccination or (ii) who objects to being vaccinated on the basis of a sincerely held religious belief, observance or practice may request an exemption from this vaccination policy. This determination will be made on a case-by-case basis and in accordance with applicable law. Any medical information concerning an applicant's disability will be treated as a confidential medical record in compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws.

Defenders of Wildlife provides equal employment opportunity to all qualified individuals without regard to their race, color, creed, religion, sex national origin, ethnicity, age, physical or mental disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, personal appearance, family/parental status, matriculation, political affiliation, genetic information, or any other legally protected characteristic in all personnel actions.

Please be advised this position is NON union eligible.