



# Utah's HOGLE Zoo

**Organization: Utah's Hogle Zoo (AZA Member)**

**Internship: Herpetology Internship**

**Location: Salt Lake City, Utah, United States**

## **POSITION SUMMARY:**

This internship is geared toward college students and recent graduates who are interested in playing a direct role in caring for a variety of reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates. Interns should be organized, self-motivated, and have excellent people skills. This internship is an in-depth program requiring a 40-hour-per-week commitment for 12 weeks. Interns must be flexible with their schedule and have the ability to work on weekdays, weekends, and holidays.

**REPORTS TO:** Animal Care Supervisor of Herpetology

**DATES: Summer; May 18- August 17, 2026** (start and end date may be flexible based on school schedule)

## **POSITION DESCRIPTION:**

The internship position will encompass multiple zones in the Small Animal Building, a small section of aquatic enclosures in our Wild Utah exhibit, as well as the Amphibian Conservation Center. Interns will have the opportunity to learn and assist in the care of reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates. This includes a variety of endangered exotic species, including spotted turtle, pancake tortoise, prehensile-tailed skink, Jamaican boa, Chinese crocodile lizard, emperor spotted newt, various arachnids and insects, and more. The internship will also include native Utah species, such as brine shrimp, tiger salamander, and gopher snake. As an important focus of the Herpetology program, interns may also participate in the husbandry and captive propagation efforts for UHZ's Western Toad ex situ assurance colony. Animal collections may change over time depending on the needs of the department and the zoo.

**\*\*Interns will not participate in direct husbandry with crocodilians or any venomous reptiles\*\***

The selected candidate will assist Animal Care staff in multiple aspects of maintaining the herpetological collection. This internship is designed to provide instruction in the following areas: animal husbandry, nutrition and diets, record-keeping, exhibit maintenance, enrichment and training, public education, and knowledge of a variety of animals. Intern duties may include the following, under keeper supervision (may vary based on skill level and departmental needs):

- Assist with exhibit maintenance and cleaning.
- Prepare daily diets and perform daily feeding.
- Observe and record animal condition, behaviors, and responses.
- Assist with exhibit construction.

- Provide positive and educational interactions with zoo guests.
- Participate in animal enrichment and observe animal training sessions.
- Complete various projects.

## **QUALIFICATIONS:**

The applicant should have a strong career interest in animal husbandry in a zoological setting and be currently enrolled in, or have recently graduated from, a college or university. They should have a minimum of one year of course work in a major field of study to be applied during the internship (e.g. biology, zoology, environmental science, etc.). Experience working with reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates, and/or aquatic systems is preferred, but not required. The applicant needs to demonstrate maturity, self-motivation, and an ability to follow directions. Candidates should be able to lift 50 pounds, be comfortable using ladders, have the ability crouch, bend, or climb as needed, and will need to have a recent TB test and tetanus shot. A basic knowledge and understanding of computer word processing and Microsoft Office software is helpful. The ability to gain and hold a driver's license is required. Candidates must also pass a background check and a drug test if selected.

**WORK SCHEDULE:** 40 hours a week for a minimum of 12 weeks. Interns are expected to work on holidays and weekends.

**COMPENSATION:** The Herpetology Intern position is unpaid. Professional development opportunities will be available. Possible college credit is available for those able to receive it through their college/university. No housing provided.

**Scholarship Award:** Interns participating in an unpaid internship at Utah's Hogle Zoo will have the opportunity to apply for the Hugh H. Hogle, MD Internship Award. This award provides one scholarship annually to a Utah's Hogle Zoo summer intern; as funds are available.

**TO APPLY:** Applications are due by **February 15, 2026**.

Please visit <https://www.hoglezoo.org/internship-opportunities/> to fill out an application. Attach a resume, cover letter, and informal transcript to the application and e-mail it to [volunteeroffice@hoglezoo.org](mailto:volunteeroffice@hoglezoo.org). Incomplete application packets will not be considered.

Applicants will be contacted for interviews at the end of February. Please do not expect to hear from us before then.

Please e-mail [volunteeroffice@hoglezoo.org](mailto:volunteeroffice@hoglezoo.org) with any questions.

**Utah's Hogle Zoo is committed to providing a diverse and inclusive internship program representative of a variety of backgrounds, age groups, perspectives, experiences, abilities, and strengths.**