



The Oklahoma City Zoo Residency Program

The Oklahoma City Zoo residency program is a three-year training program, meeting the criteria of the American College of Zoological Medicine (ACZM). This program provides the resident with medical exposure to the Oklahoma City Zoo's diverse collection of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish, consisting of approximately 1,200 animals representing over 300 species. The primary objective of the program is to train post-graduate veterinarians in the specialty of Zoological Medicine, meeting or exceeding the standards established by the American College of Zoological Medicine.

Major Objectives:

1. Preparation of candidates for a career in zoological medicine. Candidate should have the ability to sit for the American College of Zoological Medicine examination within 2 years of program completion.
2. Development of skills necessary for independent clinical management of zoo species.
3. Development and refinement of communication and presentation skills to zoo staff, professional colleagues and program mentors.
4. Familiarization with the biological and physiological characteristics of zoo species.
5. Familiarization with the disciplines essential to practicing zoological medicine, including nutrition, comparative pathology, epidemiology, captive animal husbandry, behavior, toxicology, and exhibit design.
6. Comprehensive understanding and adherence to laws/regulations governing care and shipment of zoo species.
7. Knowledge of the zoo and wild animal medical literature.
8. Design and completion of investigative research, followed by dissemination of findings in peer-reviewed literature.
9. Development and application of appropriate and practical preventive medicine protocols in captive zoo animals

Additionally, residents will have the opportunity to gain experience at the Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine and the Tulsa Zoo. Program applications are available through the Veterinary internship and residency matching program (VIRMP) at www.virmp.org. **The next application will be available October 2023.**

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