



BERMUDA ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY

SUPPORT CHARITY FOR BERMUDA AQUARIUM, MUSEUM & ZOO

INTERNATIONAL INTERNS – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

- 1. When will I know if my application is successful?**

Successful candidates will be notified by e-mail on March 31. Once accepted, it is the student's responsibility to contact the assigned supervisor and discuss the internship.
- 2. Will late applications be accepted?**

No. Complete applications should be postmarked by the deadline or e-mailed by 11.59 p.m. on the date of the deadline.
- 3. Who oversees the program?**

The Development Office in Bermuda will oversee the program administration. Interns will be assigned a staff supervisor.
- 4. Bermuda is an international destination, what documents are required for travel?**

A valid passport and a return airline ticket are required. Bring the letter that confirms you are studying at the Aquarium. On the airplane you will receive an immigration form. In addition to your passport number, date of birth etc., you need to check the box that says you are on vacation and include your local address. You will be met at the airport.
- 5. Can I volunteer before or after my internship?**

No. Entry into Bermuda is for the stated period of your internship. You will receive a Letter of Permission from the Department of Immigration detailing your arrival and departure dates.
- 6. What currency is accepted in Bermuda?**

The US dollar is accepted throughout the island and is on par with the Bermuda Dollar. Traveller's checks are recommended and can be cashed at banks and most retail outlets. Credit cards are accepted island-wide.
- 7. What about accommodations?**

Interns will be housed at BIOS (Bermuda Institute of Ocean Sciences). Interns must bear the cost of travel to and from Bermuda, while ACP will pay for 2 meals per day, accommodations and provide a monthly public transportation pass.
- 8. What hours will I work?**

Your exact hours will be determined by your supervisor and will vary according to staff timetables.
- 9. Do I have to be SCUBA certified?**

SCUBA certification is not a requirement for an internship unless specified by your supervisor. However, interns who do intend to dive must provide proof of certification and pass a local dive checkout. Note: Persons who suffer from asthma or diabetes will not be allowed to SCUBA dive in Bermuda. Additionally, interns who have had incidents of childhood asthma, but have had no recurrence as an adult are required to provide medical certification before being allowed to undertake a checkout dive in Bermuda.
- 10. What else should I know before coming to Bermuda?**
 - Water is a most precious commodity in Bermuda and we depend on rain to fill our tanks. Be prepared to take short showers and turn off water when brushing your teeth or shaving.
 - Bermuda is a semitropical island. The Gulf Stream that flows between Bermuda and North America keeps the climate temperate. There is no rainy season as such. Showers may be heavy at times and unpredictable, so bring a waterproof jacket or umbrella. The weather is cooler from mid-December to late March with an average temperature of 70°F falling to low 60°F. Summer temperatures prevail from May to mid-November. Relative humidity can be high, rising to 70%- 90%. Average sea temperatures are in the low 60s in January rising to mid 80s in July/August.

- If you intend going out in the evenings the bus service out of the main town, Hamilton, runs until 11:00pm to many destinations. However, you should ensure that you have sufficient money for a taxi fare.
- Talk to your service provider before coming to Bermuda to ensure your cell phone will work while on the island. If you have a SIM card it is possible to purchase a new card locally and set up a prepaid account with a local provider. Prepaid Bermuda calling cards are available at BAMZ in denominations of \$10 and \$25. If you wish to make use of these, please bring cash for the required amount. Do not purchase calling cards in the US-they will not be accepted in Bermuda.

11. What should I bring with me?

- You will be issued two volunteer shirts and are expected to wear them while at BAMZ. Navy blue shorts/trousers are recommended for work.
- Covered shoes with non-skid soles, preferably water resistant
- Lightweight sweater or windbreaker
- Rain jacket or slicker - it does rain in Bermuda quite often.
- Swimsuits, beach towels, mask, snorkel, flippers, sunscreen, sunglasses, hat and cover-up
 - If you intend to SCUBA dive, bring your own regulator, BCD and proof of certification. Underwater camera/dive light optional. A wetsuit is essential; a 5ml full length wetsuit is recommended for summer diving; 7ml for winter. Cloth collecting gloves.
- A lap top computer is recommended
- Notebook - You will need to keep a daily journal. Hand calculators
- Personal hygiene needs (toothpaste, shampoo, motion sickness patches, etc.)
- Prescription medicine. (As needed)

12. Something you should know...

“WILD” is our quarterly newsletter. A review of your internship will be included in this publication. We may also include a photograph of you with any article.