

Purdue Animal Sciences State Fair Education and Animal Care Internship

The Purdue Animal Sciences department is seeking 18 paid student interns to work the 2025 Indiana State Fair (August 1-17) in Indianapolis, IN. To increase the visibility of the department in the state and to educate the general public, the Animal Sciences Department will be setting up “life cycle exhibits” in each of the species’ barns at the State Fair.

The interns would be tasked with animal care and husbandry during the Fair, while also being responsible for educational programming at the exhibits. Interns would be expected to work in teams, rotating through each of the species’ barns each day and being knowledgeable on the life cycle of each species. Species to be exhibited include horses, sheep, goats, dairy cattle, beef cattle, swine, poultry, and rabbits.

Duties at the State Fair

Animal Husbandry

- Cleaning and mucking the animal holding pens
- Keeping the animals fed and watered; ensuring they are comfortable as possible under these conditions; providing therapeutic care if needed based on directions provided
- Ensuring the welfare and security of all animals under your care during your shift
- Helping Purdue ASREC staff with the loading and unloading of animals

Education of the Public

- Present educational information to exhibit visitors on the life cycles of the animal species; you will be expected to learn about the life cycles of every species prior to the State Fair
- Handing out educational materials and Purdue Animal Sciences promotional giveaways (if provided)
- Answering questions about the animals
- Taking photos of visitors if requested

Transportation and Lodging

Transportation to and from the Fairgrounds is the responsibility of the student intern. Lodging will be provided by the Purdue Animal Sciences Department at/or adjacent to the fairgrounds for interns.

Hours at the State Fair

Eight or twelve-hour shifts each day July 28th – August 17th; with one Monday off.

Mandatory Commitment:

April – In person meeting on Campus and Spring Fest (April 12th) – Assisting the ANSC ambassadors and other students with Animal displays

May – Evening Zoom Meeting (1/month)

June – Evening Zoom Meeting

July – Evening Zoom Meeting

July 28th- July 31st – Training at Indiana State Fairgrounds

August 1st – August 17th – 2025 Indiana State Fair (attendance is mandatory)

Optional Paid Internship and training at ASREC, June 2-July 25th

Training with all the species at ASREC (beef, dairy, poultry, swine, sheep) will be provided prior to the Indiana State Fair with a more focused training with 2 species (4 weeks/species) during the 8 week internship program at ASREC to provide students background to serve as species specific references during

the State Fair. The interns will be paid for 20 hr/week for training and work at the ASREC animal units. Additional work hours maybe available through the species units.

Pay

During the State Fair \$10.50/hr for the first 40 hrs/wk + 15.75/hr for overtime above 40 hr/wk

During the Animal Sciences optional internship training at ASREC (June 1-July 28) - \$12/hr for 20 hrs/wk

Skills

- Strong organizational and time management skills
- Strong interpersonal communication skills
- Ability to engage with the public, answering questions with a positive and congenial attitude
- Passion for and knowledge of multiple animal species; a willingness to learn about a variety of species (at the ANSC 102-240 level)
- A willingness to have fun!

Contact information

- If interested, please send your resume in PDF format and short email statement of interest (including your experience with any different species) to James Krotz no later than **Friday, March 28th.** (jkrotz@purdue.edu)