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A Tradition of Leadership and Excellence in Equine Medicine

Pre-graduate equine working student program

Spring and Summer Semesters

Philosophy

Peterson & Smith Equine Hospital is a full service equine practice in the heart of Ocala, Florida's horse country. Established in 1981 it has grown to one of the most highly recognized equine practices in the United States. We are always striving to remain one of the leading veterinary practices on an international level by providing state-of-the-art diagnostics, surgery and medicine for our patients and to foster a relationship of professionalism and integrity with our clients. Our services provided range from single patient management to large farm consultations. In addition to offering educational and practical experience opportunities to students with an equine interest, we offer continuing education opportunities to both veterinarians and horse owners.

The program has now been in operation since 2004. We are hoping to find students for our hospital (surgery/ medicine/ sports medicine), our equine reproduction center; and our ambulatory department. (Ambulatory students must commit to working from mid-January to mid-June.) Details of the proposed internships are attached they will run during the spring semester - approximately mid-January through mid-May. Summer internships run mid-May through mid-July – mostly in our Reproduction Center.

We will concentrate on the areas of: surgery, internal medicine, diagnostic imaging, theriogenology, emergency medical/surgical care, sports medicine, general medicine, and herd health.

It is our intent that this opportunity will fulfill the practical experience requirements necessary for each student's area of study, and any personal goals that the students have for the internship.

Student requirements

- Enrolled in, or recently graduated from, an animal sciences or general agricultural/equine educational program
- Minimum age 18 years
- Valid driver's license and clean driving record
- Willingness to take an on-entry and random drug test

Student selection will be based on:

- Student curriculum
- Work experience
- References

Duties and Schedule

- 6-day working week
- 50-75 hours per week
- Night shifts involved

Equine Reproduction (Supervisor - Jose Madera) - Spring and Summer

- Daily care of horses (feed, water, turnout, stall cleaning, grooming, etc.)
- Embryo transfer and recipient herd management
- After-hour treatments
- Assisting with general veterinary services and farrier care
- Assisting veterinarians with foaling
- Providing support with assisted reproductive techniques

Ambulatory Department (Supervisor –Nina Smith) - Spring only

- Responsible for veterinary vehicle: Inventory, restocking, cleaning
- Assisting ambulatory veterinarian with veterinary services
- Holding and restraining horses
- **Students must commit to working from mid-January to mid-June**

Hospital: Surgery, Medicine, and Sports Medicine (Supervisor – Nina Smith) - Spring only

- Holding and restraining horses for veterinary treatments and diagnostic procedures
- Patient care, including: feeding, stall cleaning, grooming, bathing, walking
- Assistance with lameness exams and scintigraphy
- Some after-hours assisting in neonatal foal nursing care and feeding
- Pharmacy stocking/inventory
- Assisting with critical care at nights

Compensation

- Accommodation provided in fully furnished house, dormitory style bedrooms, with laundry facilities
- Weekly salary of \$250.00 (net)