NhRP Public Policy Advocacy Internship

Focus of the internship:

Public Policy Advocacy interns will learn about the NhRP’s work to gain fundamental rights for nonhuman animals through litigation, public policy, and legislative advocacy while gaining practical experience and knowledge through hands-on campaigns. One intern will work with the NhRP’s Director of Public Affairs and Government Relations; one intern will work with the NhRP’s Campaigns Director.

Learning Opportunities:

• Learn about effective approaches to further progress for nonhuman animals through public policy and legislation
• Gain a deeper understanding of nonhuman rights advocacy and how it intersects with public policy, litigation, animal protection, and animal welfare
• Develop experience in the field of animal rights while addressing real-world issues that directly impact animals' lives
• Strengthen critical thinking, public speaking, and leadership skills by practicing media interviews, attending committee hearings, and conducting presentations
• Strengthen writing, strategic planning, and advocacy skills in conjunction with study of the legislative system
• Strengthen networking, data compilation, effective communication, research, and coalition-building skills
• Develop a structured mentor/mentee relationship
• Practice organizational and time management skills such as how to prioritize assignments and multi-task
• Understand how to work in a remote team environment to make progress for nonhuman animals
Intern Responsibilities:

- Prepare factsheets and other documents for diverse audiences, including legislative committees and campaign stakeholders
- Perform research for legislation and public policy priorities; gather, analyze, and organize findings
- Track and report on pending legislation
- Make phone calls to NhRP members in support of legislation and new public policies
- Canvass voters (for policy purposes, not fundraising)
- Read relevant articles and scientific white papers to gain knowledge of effective advocacy and various animal rights issues
- Assist in drafting letters to the editor and opinion-editorial pieces
- Provide weekly progress reports to supervisor on assigned projects
- Conduct research, provide outreach, and build support for state legislation
- Work directly with on-the-ground volunteers to organize and help achieve campaign goals
- Represent the NhRP at events, conferences, and other tabling opportunities
- Join NhRP leadership for regular conference calls to discuss campaign strategy

Qualifications/Requirements for Intern Applicants:

- Strong communication and reading skills, as well as excellent research skills
- Must have strong interpersonal skills and the ability to maintain professionalism in attitude and appearance on the telephone and in person with staff, legislative offices we work with, media, and members of the public
- Attentive to detail with a commitment to accuracy
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office suite (Outlook, Word, and Excel), strong familiarity with the Internet and online research tools, and general knowledge of social media including Facebook and Twitter
- Possess problem-solving capability and ability to think creatively and in solution-oriented ways
- Basic knowledge of animal rights and welfare issues
- Able to use discretion, keeping in mind the confidential nature of some aspects of the work
- Maintain enthusiasm and critical thinking to help shape the campaign
- Demonstrate flexibility and an eagerness to take initiative on a variety of projects
- Able to work well independently and use good judgment
• Must be a currently enrolled undergraduate student or have already earned a BA or BS

**Internship Start Date:**

• Two internships are open for Spring/Summer/Fall semesters
• Official start date is flexible

**Internship Time Commitment:**

• 25-30 hours per week for approximately 12 to 16 weeks

**Internship Location:**

• The internships will be remote positions; however, preference will be given to applicants located in either New York City or Washington, D.C., where the Campaigns Director and Director of Public Affairs and Government Relations are located, respectively

**Internship Scheduling Guidelines:**

• Monday-Friday between the hours of 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM
• If weekend or weeknight work is needed, equivalent time off will be arranged between intern and supervisor

**Compensation:**

• Course credit is available upon agreement with intern’s school university
• As an alternative to course credit, compensation is available at a rate to be determined at the time the internship offer is made

**To Apply:**

• Please send an application packet, combined into a single PDF, to mdominguez@nonhumanrights.org and ltrainwater@nonhumanrights.org. The packet should include each of these documents in the following order: a cover letter, resume/CV, and a list of at least three professional references. Please include “Public Policy Advocacy Internship” in the subject line of your email. Only applicants selected for interviews will be contacted. No phone calls please.
The Nonhuman Rights Project is an equal opportunity employer that strictly prohibits discrimination against any employee, intern, independent contractor, volunteer, or applicant for any position because of an individual’s race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, age, disability, veteran’s status, or any other characteristic protected by law.