



2017/2018 Junior Zookeepers Program

What is the Junior Zookeepers program?

The Junior Zookeepers (JZ) program is for young adults in grades 7 through 12 that have a strong interest in science and conservation. Cosley Zoo provides JZs with comprehensive training in animal care, education, and visitor services, diverse opportunities to use that training, and chances to visit other facilities, speak with people in animal and conservation-based careers, and meet other teens with similar interests. In return, the JZs support Cosley Zoo by volunteering to help with special events, animal care, and educational programs. Aside from being a lot of fun, the Junior Zookeepers program also helps to build life skills, including leadership, responsibility, time management, and teamwork.

What's the Commitment?

The Junior Zookeepers program is a year-round commitment that runs from September through August. As a Junior Zookeeper, you can expect to contribute at least 60 hours per year. The program is broken into quarters:

- Quarter 1: September-November (14 hours required)
- Quarter 2: December-February (12 hours required)
- Quarter 3: March-May (10 hours required)
- Quarter 4: June-August (24 hours required)

How do I earn hours?

Required hours can be earned by attending JZ meetings, signing up for casual interpretation shifts, volunteering for zoo events and programs, participating in the Summer Incentives program (if eligible), animal handling (if eligible), conducting animal observations, and more! During the school year most activities take place on the weekends. Meetings are held October-March on the second Saturday of each month from 10am-12pm.

What does it cost?

The fee for the 2017/2018 year is \$200. This includes a JZ T-shirt, name tag, and program materials. Additional fees may apply for the JZ day trip which will take place in the summer of 2018. Do not submit the fee with your application; all accepted JZs will be notified of the fee due date.

Participant Selection

Selection will be based on your application, interview, and any past involvement at Cosley Zoo.

How do I apply?

We are currently accepting applications for the 2017/2018 Junior Zookeepers program. Applications are due by Wednesday, August 9th and are available for pick up in the Wild Side Gift Shop. Applications can also be downloaded from Cosley Zoo's website. Completed applications can be turned in at Cosley Zoo or mailed to: Cosley Zoo • Attn: Jackie Karnstedt • 1356 N. Gary Ave. • Wheaton, IL 60187. Questions about the Junior Zookeepers program can be emailed to Jackie at jkarnstedt@wheatonparks.org.



Cosley Zoo Junior Zookeeper Application

Applications are due **August 9, 2017**.

Applications can be turned in at Cosley Zoo or mailed to:
Cosley Zoo • Attn: Jackie Karnstedt • 1356 Gary Ave. • Wheaton, IL 60187

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone: (____) _____ Gender: M F

E-mail: _____ Grade in school as of Sept. 2017: _____

Have you participated in Cosley Zoo's Summer Camp? Y N

Are you a returning member of the Junior Zookeeper program? Y N

Have you applied to the Junior Zookeeper program before? Y N

I have read and understand the commitment of the JZ program as described on the Junior Zookeeper webpage (cosleyzoo.org/programs/junior-zookeepers/)? Y N

Applicants will be required to attend a casual group interview. Please check any of the following interview times you would be able to attend.

August 19th: ___ 9-9:30A ___ 10-10:30A ___ 11-11:30A

August 26th: ___ 1-1:30P ___ 2-2:30P ___ 3-3:30P

All accepted applicants will be notified by August 31st and must attend an orientation session. Please check any of the following sessions you could attend. **Parents/guardians must be able to attend.**

___ Saturday, September 16th, 9:30-11A

___ Saturday, September 23rd, 1-2:30P

Please type your answers to the following short-answer questions and return with your application.

1. Please tell us a little bit about yourself.
2. What has been your most rewarding accomplishment?
3. If you could travel anywhere in the world where would you go and what would you do there?
4. What is your favorite part about nature or the outdoors? Why?
5. What do you hope to gain by being a part of the Junior Zookeepers program?
6. How did you hear about the Junior Zookeepers program?

Signature of applicant

Signature of applicant's parent/guardian