

Seal Rescue Ireland: Community Engagement Internship



Seal Rescue Ireland (SRI) is a charity organisation which operates a busy marine animal rescue and rehabilitation centre located in Courtown, Co. Wexford. As the only facility that fully rehabilitates seals within the Republic of Ireland, SRI responds to strandings nationwide. Most reports are for young grey seal (*Halichoerus grypus*) and common seal (*Phoca vitulina*) pups found sick, injured or orphaned across the Irish coastline. In addition, SRI pursues understanding and public engagement of ocean conservation and sustainability through education, community outreach and research programmes.

SRI is currently accepting applications for their dual focus Community Engagement Internship, which will develop a broad set of skills with a focus on education and fundraising. This high paced, full-time position is for a minimum of 12 weeks, but longer time commitments are encouraged. After completion of initial training, interns who excel may be invited to stay longer and offered higher levels of responsibility.

Reports to: Community Engagement Manager

Job Summary: This unique position will provide the intern with work experience in many different aspects of a rescue and rehabilitation centre with a primary focus on fundraising and planning outreach events. The intern will be expected to assist with developing the fundraising program, plan/attend events, source other types of funding, and promote ocean conservation and sustainability while representing SRI. We seek to have two events per week planned offsite (seal releases, beach cleans, information tables at shopping centers, markets, festivals, etc.) to raise awareness and donations, and this role will help us to achieve that goal. When not attending events the intern will work on site assisting with educational tours and administration duties. The applicant will also get the opportunity to be trained on and be involved with assisting in the husbandry care and maintenance of rehabilitation animals if desired.

Requirements: Applicants are desired to have previous experience in fundraising and/or work in nonprofit organisations. A degree or pursuit of a degree in business management, event planning, marketing, public relations, fundraising, or similar fields are preferred. Applicants must be organised, personable, show initiative and have ability to independently plan events. Background knowledge of marine mammals and ocean ecology is preferred. Having good people skills, being comfortable around children and the ability to speak to a crowd is a must. Applicants must possess the ability to adapt to an ever-changing work environment, and be available to work nights, weekends and holidays. Applicants must be fluent in English, since this role involves a lot of communicating with the public. For

non-native English speakers coming from European countries, we require a C1 level of English.

Duties Include:

- Educate the public on ocean conservation via events, tours and presentations.
- Plan and carry out fundraisers and outreach events.
- Establish and maintain professional correspondences with venue representatives.
- Oversee and develop the adoptions and membership programmes.
- Assist in the care and maintenance of the Center's rehabilitation animals (if desired).
- Provide assistance to the managers and rehabilitation staff as needed.
- Perform other duties relating to the Center's goals and mission statement as required.
- Coordinate transport of stranded animals, and keep records of strandings.

This is an unpaid position. Intern housing may be offered to successful applicants for 90 Euro/week (including food). Interns are responsible for their own travel expenses.

Please visit our website at (<http://www.sealrescueireland.org/internships/>) to download the application form. Then send completed with your resume, cover letter, and two reference letters to: intern@sealrescueireland.org

Attention: Community Engagement Internship