Internship at the OIE

Introduction

The OIE, the World Organisation for Animal Health, is able to accept a limited number of selected interns wishing to participate in mentored activities of 1-6 months duration at the OIE Headquarters or at the OIE Regional Representations in subjects relevant to their career aspirations and compatible with the objectives of the OIE. This heading has been designed to assist potential candidates and their sponsoring institutions in the procedures to be followed and the responsibilities involved.

Eligibility

Candidates should be advanced veterinary students or recent veterinary or science graduates with special interest and aptitude in the field of epidemiology, microbiology, laboratory technology, information technology, animal welfare or food safety. They should have an excellent command of at least one of the three official languages of the OIE, i.e. English, French or Spanish, and ideally some working knowledge of a second official language. Each application is considered on its own merits with respect to the chosen field of study but the final decision rests on the Director General of the OIE.

Sponsorship

The OIE does not charge for the support services but does not provide any financial assistance either. Candidates should be endorsed by the OIE Delegate (generally the Chief Veterinary Officer) of the country in which he or she is resident, or by an OIE Reference Laboratory or Collaborating Centre (list available on the OIE Web site) and produce evidence of sponsorship for their whole stay in France or in the country hosting the Regional Representation.

Report/Publication

Candidates are expected to produce a technical report covering their activities at the OIE, at the end of their internship. Any scientific paper based on the work performed at the OIE may only be published with the authorisation of the OIE.

Liability

The OIE is not responsible for any liability occurring during the internship period either at the OIE or elsewhere. Candidates should therefore ensure adequate insurance cover for any unforeseen event during their internship.

Applications

Completed application forms (attached) should be addressed by post or fax or e-mail to the:

Head of Administrative & Financial Dept
OIE Headquarters
12 rue de Prony, 75017 Paris, FRANCE
Fax: 33 (0)1 42 67 09 87
E-mail: oie@oie.int

Current internship opportunities:

Communication Unit

Internship in Communication

Duration of the internship: 3 to 6 months

Requirements:

- Degree in Information and Communication Sciences (or final year student).
- High level of spoken and written French/English. Knowledge of Spanish and a personal interest in the animal world and life sciences would be an advantage.
- Software: Knowledge of Photoshop and basic DTP would be an asset.
The internship would be mainly oriented on the following tasks:

- Maintenance and updating of the OIE PR database,
- Active research of information pertinent to the OIE,
- Press review,
- Preparation of press files,
- Support in the writing (and translation) of press releases and their publication on the Web site,
- Support in compiling files of technical information on the various current issues relevant to the OIE (avian influenza docet),
- Support in the development of communication tools and in all communication activities.

Scientific and Technical Department

a) Review of the description of major animal diseases

Additional requirements:

- Veterinary graduates with a solid background of medicine and/or veterinary epidemiology.
- Experience in literature review of animal diseases
- Excellent writing ability in one of the official languages of the OIE
- Experience in editing of scientific literature may be an advantage

b) Design of Web sites for OIE Specialist Commissions/Working Groups:

Additional requirements:

- Senior veterinary students or veterinary graduates or veterinarians employed by veterinary administrations, with a sound knowledge of terrestrial or aquatic animal diseases, laboratory diagnosis and control of animal diseases, animal disease information systems and veterinary certifications.
- Good work experience in informatics/Web site technology

International Trade Department

a) Animal production food safety involving hazards arising from animals prior to slaughter and first transformation of their products.

b) Animal Welfare- animal transportation, humane slaughter of food animals, killing of animals for disease control purposes

c) Animal health standards for international trade

Additional requirements:

- Strong interest in one of the above fields

d) Documentation Internship: Information retrieval on the organisms providing training and research in veterinary medicine with a view to updating a relational database for the OIE.

Additional requirements:

- Student in the 2nd or 3rd year of university in information/documentation, preferably in the scientific field,
- Good knowledge of desk research procedures,
- Good knowledge of French and English,
- Interest in international cooperation.

Animal Health Information Department:

a) Analysis/improvement of the OIE Web pages on Animal Health Information.

b) Improvement of the follow-up tools for the OIE Animal Health Information System

Additional requirements:

- Good work experience in informatics, Web site technology/epidemiology
Regional Activities Department:

a) Creation and expansion of the Web site of the OIE Regional Representation for Eastern Europe

Additional requirements:

- Experience in the creation and implementation of the Web site
- Good experience of the veterinary sector
- Fluent in Russian and a high standard of English or French

or

- Fluent in English or French and a high standard of Russian.

Regional Representation for the Americas (Buenos-Aires)

a) Drafting a list of experts in the region

b) Drafting a list of diagnostic and investigation laboratories in the region and evaluate their capacity

c) Drafting a list of veterinary schools and/or faculties in the region

d) Web pages of the Regional Representation Web site in English, Spanish and Portuguese.