Zoo Academy

Application Process

2021-2022
Who: Any OPS student

What: A half-day program (morning or afternoon) that allows students to explore careers relating to life sciences through two authentic STEM pathways at Omaha’s Henry Doorly Zoo & Aquarium Education Center. Credits earned count towards graduation.

Where: Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo Education Center. Transportation is the student’s responsibility – NO transportation is provided to or from Zoo Academy by Omaha Public Schools.

How to Apply:

Application: http://www.omahazoo.com/zooacademy

The entire application must be completed in order to be accepted. The entire application must be completed in one session, you can’t save and return later.

Application closes: November 20, 2020

BEFORE you start the application:

Have email addresses for three (3) references – 2 teachers and a third adult
Parent/Guardian consent and information (name, email, phone number)
Personal Information (address, student ID number, GPA, school issues student email address)
Counselor’s information (Home High School and/or Career Center Counselor)
List of any of the following:
  o School or Community activities
  o Honors/awards
  o Relevant / related coursework taken at school or through other organizations
  o Volunteering or special training
  o Career Interests

ESSAY Portions
Type out your essays before hand in a document you can save. Then you can copy and paste them into the application. You must answer both essay questions:
  • In 300-500 words, explain why you are applying for Zoo Academy and how participating in this program will benefit your future career plans.
  • In 300-500 words, identify and explain the conservation issue that is most important to you.

For more information:
Zoo Academy @ Omaha Henry Doorly Zoo

Zoo Academy

Two Pathways

1. Animal Science
2. Conservation Research

Animal Science Pathway – Science Courses

Science
- Zoology (grade 11/12)
- Animal Care Work Experience (backs Zoology)
- Comparative Anatomy & Physiology (grade 11/12)
- Veterinary Science (grade 11/12)
- Veterinary Science Work Experience (grade 11/12)

Science Electives
- Zoo Operations (grade 11) *required C day class
- Conservation Service Learning (12th Capstone)
- Zoo Independent Study (grade 11/12)

Workplace Learning (Shadowing) Experiences
- Veterinary Clinic Settings such as:
  - Ralston Vet Clinic
  - American Animal Hospital
  - Sirius Veterinary Orthopedics
- Behind the Scenes Job Shadowing on Zoo Grounds in areas such as
  - Zoo Animal Hospital
  - Hoofstock (giraffe / antelope)
  - Wild Kingdom Pavilion (small animals)

Early College Credit (Dual Enrollment)
TBD

Animal Science Pathway - Core Academic Courses

Social Studies
- International Relations / Diplomacy (grade 11/12)
- US Government (grade 11/12)
- Biogeography (grade 11/12)
- Behavioral Studies (Sociology / Psychology - 11/12)

English
- English 11 (5/6)
- Environmental English (12th grade)

Math
- Algebra 2 (grade 11/12)
- Pre Calc/Trig (grade 11/12)

College Majors
- Vet Tech
- Pre-Vet – Animal Science
- Animal Science
- Animal Behavior
- Nutrition Science
- Agricultural Science

Careers & Potential Earnings
- Veterinarian $50 – 75,000
- Veterinary Technician $30 – 45,000
- Nutritionist $60,000 – 80,000
- Agribusiness $60,000 – 80,000
- Zoo Keeper $30 – 50,000
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Conservation Research Pathway Courses

Science
- Introduction to Research (grade 11/12)
- Honors Research (grade 11/12)
- Environmental Science (grade 11/12)
- Genetics (grade 11/12)

Science Electives
- Zoo Operations (grade 11) *required C day class
- Conservation Service Learning (12th Capstone)
- Zoo Independent Study (grade 11/12)

Conservation Research Core Academic Courses

Social Studies
- International Relations / Diplomacy (grade 11/12)
- US Government (grade 11/12)
- Biogeography (grade 11/12)
- Behavioral Studies (Sociology/Psychology – 11/12)

English
- English 11 (5/6)
- Environmental English (12th grade)

Math
- Algebra 2 (grade 11/12)
- Pre Calc/Trig (grade 11/12)

Workplace Learning (Shadowing) Experiences
- Behind the Scenes Job Shadowing on Zoo Grounds in areas such as:
  - Center for Conservation and Research
  - Scott Aquarium
  - Lied Jungle
  - Butterfly and Insect Pavilion

College Credit (Dual Enrollment)
- TBD

College Majors
- Fisheries and Wildlife
- Ecology
- Zoology
- Marine Biology
- Biology

Careers & Potential Earnings
- National Park Service $40 – 70,000
- Environmental Law $50 – 100,000
- Wildlife / Marine / Field Biologist $40 – 60,000
- Research Professor $65 – 85,000