

Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine
Department of Large Animal Clinical Sciences

EQUINE FIELD SERVICE INTERNSHIP

General Information

These are 12.5-month (54 weeks) internships in the Large Animal Equine Field Service Section of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital (VTH). The programs are designed to provide the intern with the training and experience to compete for high quality positions in private practice or advanced training programs. The majority of the intern's time will be spent in the Equine Field Services of the VTH. During this time, the interns will be part of a team consisting of two faculty clinicians, a large animal resident and senior students. Interns are actively involved in the management of patients presented to the respective services, and participate in the instruction and evaluation of veterinary students, in daily rounds, case conferences, and journal club. Approximately 12 weeks of the intern's time will be tailored to the intern's interests (e.g., rotations through other services of the hospital, external rotations). Interns are required to purchase their own health insurance. Ten days are allowed for annual leave and 5 days for continuing education. A certificate of internship is awarded for satisfactory completion of the program.

The large animal in-house caseload is approximately 1,000 per year. The majority of cases are horses (90%) and the minority of the cases are alpacas, cattle, sheep, goats, and pigs. The majority of large animal patients presented to the VTH are referred by practitioners in Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina and West Virginia. The large animal area VTH is a state-of-the-art facility with two operating rooms, a large animal isolation unit, neonatal intensive care unit and equipment including video-endoscopy, ultrasonography, nuclear scintigraphy and computed tomography.

The Equine Field Service examines approximately 3,000 horses per year. The Service has three fully equipped ambulatory vehicles and provides routine and comprehensive diagnostic services including digital radiography, ultrasonography, thermography and endoscopy to horses within the 35-mile practice radius. The senior clinicians with the EFS group are board certified in theriogenology, practitioner boards (ABVP, equine practice), surgery and internal medicine. Additionally, some clinicians also provide podiatry, chiropractic and acupuncture care. We perform preventative health care, reproductive services, performance horse evaluations, neurologic exams and sick horse care as well as all the services previously mentioned to a wide range of clients/patients including broodmare, stallions, performance horse care, foal and geriatric horses. Please visit our website for additional information on the EFS group.