

Postgraduate Internships (12 months)

The rotating internship programme at Goulburn Valley Equine Hospital has been running for many years and has provided a large number of recent graduates with significant exposure, training and experience in all areas of equine internal medicine, surgery and reproduction.

The hospital is dynamic and busy, with the caseload split equally between first opinion and referral cases. During the season, the clinic admits 75-100 foals for intensive care. The reproduction centre performs assisted breeding (embryo transfer, fresh and frozen artificial insemination), stallion breeding management and undertakes routine stud work. GVEH is a University of Melbourne training centre, with all final year veterinary students rotating through the hospital from January to October each year.

Interns primarily assist specialists, senior clinicians and residents perform consultations, triage emergencies, manage hospital or reproduction in-patients and undertake various duties in the breeding barn.

Interns employed for yearlong rotating internships start in February or July, concluding 12-13 months later. Interns rotate fortnightly through anaesthesia, medicine, surgery, reproduction and, during the peak breeding season, night duty. In the final 3-6 months of the internship, additional opportunities are provided to undertake first opinion ambulatory consultations under supervision.

Yearlong interns are encouraged to either participate in ongoing research projects or produce a case report during their tenure. Regular opportunities are also provided to participate in journal club or tutorials with the students during the quieter months.

Overall, the rotating internship provides the recent graduate with detailed post graduate training in most aspects of modern equine practice. We aim to produce veterinarians with the skill and competency to be immediately useful to first opinion equine ambulatory practices. Many interns have gone onto successfully complete specialist residency training in Australia and overseas, in both private and academic institutions in the fields of medicine, emergency and critical care, surgery and reproduction.

When on call, interns are expected to remain within 10 minutes of the hospital and have access to the intern on call phone at all times. Interns are expected to work hard during their internship. The afterhours on call rota is 1 in 2 nights and 1 in 2 weekends. Typically, during the season, 2-4 interns are 'on call' each night or weekend to help distribute the workload.

Eligibility to work in Australia

Interns must possess a veterinary degree registrable with the Veterinary Practitioners Board of Victoria, Australia. International interns accepting a 6-month position will need to obtain a working holiday visa prior to starting at GVEH. Yearlong interns will receive assistance from the hospital for their visa application.

Closing dates for internship applications

Six month internship - August start: Applications are accepted until January 31st of the internship year. Interviews are conducted as applications are received.

We recommend potential interns applying for the program visit the hospital. Given internship applications close 6-months prior to the start date, it is recommended applicants visit GVEH before submitting their application. It is also recommended to get in touch well before the application closing date to ensure you are considered for the above positions.

For more information or to forward an application please email the practice manager, Robert Ralston on robert.ralston@gvequine.com.au or Dr Stacey Sullivan on stacey.sullivan@gvequine.com.au