



Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital

Veterinary Student Externship Program

3695 Kipling Street · Wheat Ridge, CO 80033 · 303-424-3325 · www.wheatridgeanimal.com

Please contact us at wrahinternship@wrah.com for more information.

Thank you for your interest in our externship program! We feel that we have an outstanding staff and hospital; this will help you understand how you would participate in our daily activities if you do an externship here.

As you can easily glean from the web site above, Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital is a busy hospital with three separate practices under one roof: a general practice, a specialty referral practice and also a 24/7 emergency & critical care practice. There are a total of 25 veterinarians currently employed here including specialists in internal medicine, oncology, surgery, critical care, radiology and an ABVP Diplomate. For the 2011/2012 year we have eight rotating interns that have matched through VIRMP. Our hospital has a total staff of about 100, including over 30 certified veterinary technicians that handle all the patient care, treatments, assisting, etc. for the hospital. The general practice was started in 1954 and became AAHA accredited in 1961. Our current facility was built in 1996, but the basement was remodeled in 2004 to include three new surgery suites, kennel space, new digital radiography and a spiral CT suite.

We encourage and have students visiting our practice from all over the country (and abroad as well!). We particularly encourage visits from highly motivated students who are seriously considering applying for a post graduate, small animal internship and believe Wheat Ridge Veterinary Specialists might be a serious option. We believe such a visit not only gives us a chance to meet you, but that it gives you a chance to fully evaluate our work environment. A visit will enable you to talk first hand to any and all of our clinicians (including our current interns), our technicians and other staff members. Student externs may visit for up to two weeks at a time; graded externships are possible with advance notification and submission of all required paperwork from your school.

Our externship program is perhaps different from others in that it is more observational than hands on – students will actively participate in daily hospital rounds, case discussions, outpatient receiving, emergency case management, hospital treatments, diagnostics and client communications, but you will *not* be doing surgery, receiving patients or have the responsibility of treatments on your own (you could assist technicians or clinicians when an extra hand might be needed). We want to hear your thoughts and questions about cases, treatments and the various diagnostics that you encounter; we are happy to share our experiences and practice philosophy with you. We have a very good library on site which allows students to delve into the literature, to answer questions that arise during their visit... and bring this new information to all of us at a subsequent rounds session.

We feel that an externship here is an opportunity for you to “show us your stuff”, to see our “family” and to learn how a busy, multi-faceted, private practice functions. If you have an interest in applying for an internship after graduation in a high quality, private specialty practice we hope you will come visit us in beautiful Colorado! Please fill out an application which can be found on our website, www.wheatridgeanimal.com, (indicate desired length of externship and preferred dates) and email it to wrahinternship@wrah.com. There are no costs or fees charged and no stipend is provided. We neither require nor provide insurance (liability, health, workman’s compensation) for visiting students; students are required to provide these should you desire or if your college requires them. Unfortunately, we do not have housing available on site, but can provide you with a list of housing that is close by or on occasion help by asking whether some of the staff might be able to provide short-term housing.

Please feel free to contact us if you have additional questions or want to set up a time for a visit or externship.