



## Internship • SURGERY/ANESTHESIA/AMBULATORY

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### Type of Practice

100% Equine Practice. Ambulatory practice and full-service surgical referral hospital. Internship has equal focus on surgery, anesthesia and ambulatory practice. If practice demands allow, accommodations will be made for those interns desiring a more intensive experience in one of the areas.

### Number of Intern Positions

3

### Staffing

2 Board-certified Surgeons, 7 General Practitioners, 1 Intern, 2 Veterinary Technicians (full-time), 6 Veterinary Assistants (full-time), 2 Veterinary Assistants (part-time), 2 Barn Staff/Attendants (full-time), 7 Office Staff (full-time).

### Facilities

New state-of-the-art clinic and surgical hospital built in 2002. Facilities include: two large treatment/outpatient examination areas, spacious operating room with overhead hoist/monorail system, 2 padded induction/recovery stalls, 4 intensive care stalls, 6 stalls in elective/orthopedic wing, diagnostic imaging suite, full-service in-house laboratory, extensive pharmacy, etc. Equipment includes: 300 mA radiology set-up, Eklin Digital radiography, Biosound Megas ultrasound system, Pentax videoendoscopy-videogastroscopy, complete ASIF (Synthes) orthopedic instrumentation and implants, Storz videoarthroscopy and laparoscopy with the full array of accessories/instruments, Nd: YAG surgical laser, Mallard anesthesia system, focused HMT extracorporeal shock wave unit, Pico ultrasound unit, etc.

### Case Load

A large proportion of our ambulatory (farm call) work involves Thoroughbred breeding stock (broodmares and stallions), juveniles (neonates, weanlings, yearlings, 2-year-olds), and horses in race training or on lay-up. We also service several quality Standardbred operations. The remainder of the ambulatory caseload is composed of high-caliber show/sport horses of various breeds and disciplines, as well as numerous pleasure horses and family horses. The hospital

caseload is derived from patients within our practice as well as referral cases from other practices in the region and several surrounding states (and this includes racehorses from many of the tracks in the Northeast).

### Types of Cases

The hospital caseload can roughly be broken down as follows: In-patients - 85%, outpatients - 15%. Of the in-patients, 80-90% are elective, and 10-20% are emergencies. Of the elective cases, approximately 50% are orthopedic, 25% are soft tissue, and 25% are respiratory/other. The emergency caseload consists primarily of colics, but also wounds/lacerations, synovial infections, fractures, dystocias, and others. Theriogenology and neonatology cases make up a significant portion of the ambulatory work during the breeding season. Our sport horse practice includes a large percentage of lameness work, evaluation of horses with the full gamut of non-lameness performance problems, and prepurchase examinations. The ambulatory staff provides a very high quality of equine internal medicine with the usual spectrum of cases seen by a busy general practice. There is also a full health maintenance service (i.e. vaccinations, deworming, and dentistry) provided.

### Estimated Breakdown of Daily or Weekly Workload

The hospital sees elective patients Monday-Friday, and is open for surgical emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. During busy periods, we typically perform 4-12 elective surgeries a week, and see 2-4 surgical emergencies. During slower winter periods elective surgeries range from 2-6 a week, and surgical emergencies 1-2 weekly. Depending on the week and time of year, outpatient cases range from 2-8 per week. The ambulatory clinicians typically have 4-10 farm calls scheduled each day, with as few as 1, to as many as 40 or more horses seen at each, depending on the time of year and type of farm. Ambulatory emergencies are common, and we may see several on a given day.

### Philosophy and Goals of the Internship

The goal of the internship is to provide new and recent graduate veterinarians with aspirations for a career in equine medicine and surgery an opportunity for an



intense year of clinical experience in a private equine practice with a surgical referral hospital. The primary focus of the hospital is surgery (we currently admit few primary internal medicine cases) and therefore, individuals with a desire to explore their interest in pursuing a surgical residency while desiring to have a well rounded equine private practice experience would be particularly good candidates. The practice is committed to providing the interns with a rewarding clinical educational experience. The scope and depth of any hands-on experience will vary with the maturity, aptitude, clinical skills, and “common sense” of each intern. The intern’s primary responsibilities will involve rotating through surgery, anesthesia, and ambulatory field service on a monthly basis. While in the surgery rotation, the intern will be responsible for assisting the surgeon and technicians with the evaluation, management, and care of hospital patients. Interns will be directly assisting in surgery (i.e. “scrubbed in”) much of the time, and will be responsible for the administration of treatments, application of bandages, and assisting in other tasks in the hospital. During the anesthesia rotation, the intern will have an opportunity to learn about equine anesthesia alongside an experienced veterinarian or veterinary technician, and as skills progress, will be responsible for the anesthesia of elective and emergency hospital patients. During the ambulatory field service rotations, the interns will become familiar and comfortable with routine health care, theriogenology, and lameness evaluations as they travel with experienced field veterinarians. Independent work will be encouraged when confidence and skill level are sufficient. This internship will provide excellent preparation for individuals preparing for surgical or medical residency programs, or seeking to be well prepared for a career in general equine practice. Every effort will be made to accommodate the special interests of each intern.



**Prerequisites of Application and Internship**

All applicants must be senior veterinary students in good academic standing at an accredited college of veterinary medicine OR a graduate of an accredited college of veterinary medicine. Students are expected to graduate on time and have obtained the DVM/ VMD degree by the start of their internship. All candidates must be eligible for licensure in the State of New York, and must successfully pass the licensing examination prior to, or within 6 months of the start of employment. Interested applicants should submit (by e-mail or standard post) a brief letter of intent, curriculum vitae, and a list of at least 3 persons, along with contact information, who can act as professional references. Preference will be given to those students who have completed an externship at the practice.



**Notification of Acceptance**

Successful applicants will be notified no later than mid-April.



**Employee Benefits**

Professional liability insurance, full medical insurance (with optional dental coverage), free housing in the spacious clinic apartment, two weeks paid vacation, continuing education expenses (1 meeting), etc.

**Employment Contract**

A standard contract of employment will be offered for the 1 year internship.

**Externship Available**

Yes, and recommended.

**List of Internship Duties in the Practice**

The intern’s primary responsibilities will change depending on the rotation that they are in. However, a 7 day work week is the norm, and interns will be called upon to perform some after hours treatments and observation of hospitalized patients as needed. In addition, attendance during emergencies will be required in many cases. However, we want this to be an enjoyable experience, and ample time will be given for R&R during unusually busy weeks. It would not be uncommon for the clinician and staff to take the intern out for dinner and cold beverages on occasion.

**Emergency Duty Requirements**

The intern will be expected to be available to assist the surgeon and other staff with all emergencies. However, it is not our desire to see a new graduate become “burned out”, and we will be aware of fatigue levels and do our best to provide appropriate time off when necessary.

**Amount of Supervision**

The intern will have as much supervision and instruction/mentoring available to them as they desire. We recognize that this is an important year for learning and development. With time, however, we will also expect the intern to function independently particularly in monitoring and managing hospitalized patients. The degree of independence and supervision will vary with the intern. We will never “throw a new graduate to the wolves” or leave them in a situation where they are over their head.

**Internship Salary**

\$25,000/year, plus benefits and housing.

**Term of Employment**

1 year (generally June-June)  
6 month (January to June) internship may also be arranged in some cases

**Living Quarters**

We have a large apartment for the interns in the clinic building.

*Please see AAEP Avenues Intern – Externship Listings for further details.*