



ABOUT PALS

People & Animal Learning Services, Inc. (PALS) is a nonprofit in Bloomington, Indiana. The PALS mission is to provide comprehensive individualized therapeutic equine programs designed by professionals to intentionally develop and restore functional skills, enhance well-being and improve quality of life. PALS programs include therapeutic horseback riding & unmounted sessions, various educational programs, veteran services and camp opportunities designed to improve the lives of hundreds of children, adults, and seniors in the Indiana community ages three and up.

PALS relies heavily on the support of volunteers and interns to provide beneficial programs to those in need. PALS interns have the opportunity to contribute to our organization in a meaningful way, and benefit from a variety of hands-on experiences at a small, but mighty, nonprofit.

INTERNSHIP GUIDELINES

Internships are offered at the PALS Facility, located at 7644 W Elwren Rd on the west side of Bloomington, and are designed to provide students and recent graduates with experience related to the field of recreational therapy, public health, child development, family studies, psychology, social work, or a related field.

General Information: Interns are expected to work a minimum of 10 hours a week during an 8 to 12 week internship period. Timelines can be flexible to accommodate a student's special circumstances with permission.

Internships are offered during the Spring, Summer and Fall semesters. Interns may receive academic credit if an agreement is made between People and Animal Learning Services (PALS) and the intern's college or university.

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Program Internship Description:

The PALS Program Intern will experience several aspects related to the implementation of a variety of therapeutic equine programs at a Professional Association for Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl) Premiere Accredited Center. The Program Intern will work directly under PALS Head Instructor. Primary tasks include assisting with program planning, client assessment, client documentation, client data input, program evaluation, program marketing, client recruitment and survey distribution/data collection. Additional tasks may include, but are not limited to assisting with direct program implementation/facilitation, equine evaluation, equine care, volunteer training, and volunteer management.

Interns who hold the "Instructor-in-Training" status with PATH Intl. **may** be eligible to complete teaching hours towards their instructor certification, with special permissions. Additional qualifications and requirements must be met.

Qualifications: Recreational Therapy, Outdoor Recreation, Public Health, Human Development/Family Studies, Psychology, Social Work, Special Education or other human service majors preferred, but not required. The ideal candidate must have strong organizational, written, and verbal communications skills. Must be proficient with

Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel and PowerPoint). Attention to detail and the ability to work in a fast-paced, collaborative environment are critical. A successful candidate will be able to meet project deadlines and correspond with members of the PALS Board of Directors, Program and Administrative Staff in an efficient and effective manner. Experience working with individuals with disabilities and/or horses is not required. Students must be in their sophomore year or beyond in their respective college or academic institution. Exceptions may be made on a case-to-case basis.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Interested applicants must complete the following before being considered for an internship at PALS:

1. Submit application form, cover letter & resume including 2 references to headinstructor@palstherapy.org with subject line: **“PALS Internship Application”**
2. Submit all internship requirements designated by educational institution or program of study & other information related to internship as appropriate (Hours to be completed, goals, expectations...etc.)
3. Complete an interview with appropriate PALS staff members.*

**Interviews will be scheduled following the submission of the above materials, subject to organizational needs and applicant qualifications.*