**Internship in Shelter Medicine**

**University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine** 2015 SW 16th Ave  
P.O. Box 100125  
Gainesville, Florida 32610  
United States  
352-273-8723 (V)  
352-392-6125 (F)  
[Website](http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu/)

1 Position Available

**Program Categories**  
Shelter Medicine

**Authorized Administrative Official:**   
**Inclusive Dates of Program:** 6/18/2018 to 6/24/2019

**Employment Information**

**Salary:** $31,000

**Professional Development:** $500.00

**Benefits:** An elaborate benefit package is provided to the intern. This employer-paid package includes a multitude of coverages including; medical, dental, vision, life, accidental death & dismemberment, disability, pet, legal, cancer, long term disability, and accident (out of pocket) insurance. If the intern suffers a work related injury, the intern is generally covered under the workers' compensation program of the University provided the intern complies with the requirements of the worker's compensation program.

**Vacation:** 10 annual leave days (Monday through Friday)

**Is a contract required?** No

**Is a non-compete clause required?** No

**Is a State license required?** No

**Is a DEA license required?** No

**Is USDA accreditation required?** No

**Caseload**

**Veterinary practices in several Florida animal shelters will provide the intern’s patient caseload.** The following information represents the collective shelter cases in direct support of this program:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Total No. Annual Cases** | **Average Daily No. Cases Presented to Hospital** | **Average No. Cases Treated Daily as Outpatients** | **Average No. of Inpatients Each Day** | **Average No. Daily Surgeries Performed** | **Average No. of Emergency Cases Seen Daily** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 68,000 | 10 to 50 | 10 to 25 | 25 to 50 | 5 to 20 | 1 to 5 |

**Number of Faculty/Clinicians in Direct Support of Program:** 6  
**Number of Shelter Veterinarians in Direct Support of Program:** 18

**Diplomates in Direct Support of Internship**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Full Time** | **Part Time/Consultant** |  | **Full Time** | **Part Time/Consultant** |
| ABVP | 1 | 4 | ABVT |  |  |
| ACLAM |  |  | ACPV |  |  |
| ACT |  |  | ACVA |  |  |
| ACVB |  | 1 | ACVCP |  |  |
| ACVD |  |  | ACVECC |  |  |
| ACVIM/CARD |  |  | ACVIM/INTMED | 1 | 1 |
| ACVIM/LA |  |  | ACVIM/NEUR |  |  |
| ACVIM/ONC |  |  | ACVM |  |  |
| ACVN |  |  | ACVO |  |  |
| ACVP |  |  | ACVPM |  | 2 |
| ACVR |  |  | ACVR/ONC |  |  |
| ACVS |  |  | ACVSMR |  |  |
| ACZM |  |  | AVDC |  |  |

**Registered/Licensed/Certified Veterinary Technicians**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **In Direct Support of Program** | **Assigned to the Emergency Service per shift** | **Assigned to the Intensive Care Unit per shift** |
| NA | NA | NA |

**Outcomes Assessment**

Average number of interns who started this program *per year* for the past 5 years:  1

Average number of interns who completed this program *per year* for the past 5 years:  1

Number of interns from this program who applied for a residency in the past 5 years:  1

Number of interns from this program who accepted a residency in the past 5 years:  0

**Prerequisites other than being a Graduate of a College of Veterinary Medicine**

The candidate must have a DVM degree (or equivalent). Preference will be given to candidates that have demonstrated interest in shelter medicine, either through didactic training, externships, or working in a shelter. Must be fluent in English (although not required, it may be helpful for graduates of veterinary schools in countries for which English is not the primary language to provide some evidence of fluency (e.g. TOEFL scores or equivalent measures, etc.)

**Requirements for Application**

* Veterinary School Official Transcript from University Registrar
* Personal Statement
* Curriculum Vitae
* Names, affiliations, email addresses, and phone numbers for three professional references

**Additional information for graduates of universities outside of the United States and Canada**

In order to determine work eligibility applicants should be prepared to answer the following questions:

* Are you authorized to work in the United States?
* Do you now or will you in the future need an employer to sponsor you for a VISA to work in the United States?

**Visa Sponsorship**

If you will require visa sponsoring or are unsure about your work status, please review the [Information for Foreign Applicants](https://www.virmp.org/Home/VIRMPInfo?page=9) page and contact this program **prior to applying**. Please be aware that some programs listed in the VIRMP accept applications ONLY from citizens of the United States (or Canada if a Canadian program) or from applicants who possess permanent residency status at the time of application.

**Clinical Experience and Responsibilities**

1. https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Yes https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark-blank.gif No

Does the intern have primary case care responsibility for [first-opinion](https://www.virmp.org/Home/VIRMPInfo?page=6#primaryCare) and emergency/critical care cases?

1. https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Yes  No

Is the intern the primary surgeon on a broad range of elective and entry-level procedures?

1. https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Yes https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark-blank.gif No

Does the intern have primary case care responsibility for complex cases with supervision by a boarded specialist? **The in-shelter supervision is provided by advanced shelter medicine veterinarians, some of which are boarded in Shelter Practice (ABVP)**

1. https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Yes https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark-blank.gif No

Are patient rounds held daily with a boarded specialist in attendance? **The in-shelter rounds include advanced shelter medicine veterinarians, some of which are boarded in Shelter Practice (ABVP)**

1. 100%

What is the percentage of time the intern will be directly supervised?

**Didactic Training**

1. https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Yes https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark-blank.gif No

Are teaching rounds held weekly?

1. https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Yes https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark-blank.gif No

Does the intern deliver a professional presentation or seminar to senior clinicians and peers?

1. https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Yes https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark-blank.gif No

Does the intern have an opportunity to attend a professional meeting?

1. https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Yes https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark-blank.gif No

Is financial support provided to attend a professional meeting?

1. Yes https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark-blank.gifhttps://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif No

Is the intern required to complete/submit a publication? **The intern is required to complete a case report or project.**

**Facilities**

1. https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Yes https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark-blank.gif No

Does the intern have access to current medical textbooks?

1. https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Yes https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark-blank.gif No

Is a computer with internet access provided?

1. https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Yes https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark-blank.gif No

Does the intern have access to search engines for scientific literature and online journals?

1. Yes https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark-blank.gifhttps://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif No

Does the primary hospital have an intensive care unit?

**Equipment**

1. Do interns have access to the following equipment/technology, either on-site or outsourced?  
   * Arthroscopy
   * https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Basic clinical laboratory equipment
   * Blood Gas Analysis
   * https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Blood Pressure Monitoring
   * Bone Plating Equipment
   * CT Scan
   * https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Diagnostic Laboratory
   * https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Digital Radiography
   * https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Echocardiography
   * https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Electrocardiography
   * https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Endoscopy
   * Laparoscopy
   * MRI
   * Nuclear Medicine
   * Physical Therapy Equipment
   * https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Ultrasound

**Scheduling**

These percentages may not be cumulative

1. 10%

Percentage of program intern is assigned to daytime primary emergency. **This represents the time assigned to emergency cases while on rotations in Florida shelters.**

1. 0%

Percentage of program intern is assigned to overnight primary emergency

1. 90%

Percentage of program intern is assigned to [first opinion (primary care)](https://www.virmp.org/Home/VIRMPInfo?page=6#primaryCare) clinics. **This represents the time assigned to primary medical, surgical, and behavioral cases while on rotations in Florida shelters**

1. 10%

Percentage of program intern is provided elective time

1. 55%

Percentage of program intern is required to work at a secondary (satellite) clinic. **This represents the proportion of total program time spent on clinical rotations in Florida shelters.**

**Orientation/Supervision/Mentoring**

1. https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Yes https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark-blank.gif No

Is a formal orientation program required?

1. https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Yes https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark-blank.gif No

Does the intern have a mentor who is a veterinarian in the practice?

1. https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Yes https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark-blank.gif No

Are written performance evaluations provided?

1. https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark.gif Yes https://www.virmp.org/Content/assets/checkmark-blank.gif No

Is an internship orientation manual provided?

**Additional Information about Program**

The University of Florida Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Program offers a Shelter Medicine Intern position. This one-year position is designed to produce a skilled practitioner well-equipped for shelter practice or to be competitive for a residency program in Shelter Medicine. The specific objectives of the Shelter Medicine Internship Program are:

1. Implement physical and behavioral health programs that optimize well-being for individual animals within the resource limitations of various shelter models.
2. Diagnose and treat medical, surgical, and behavioral conditions that commonly occur in shelter populations.
3. Demonstrate competency in pediatric spay/neuter and high-quality/high-volume spay/neuter.
4. Analyze shelter population metrics, conduct rounds, and implement effective management protocols for shelter populations
5. Recognize and respond to instances of disease outbreaks, threats to animal welfare, and disasters.
6. Utilize effective teaching and communication skills with veterinary students, veterinarians, and shelter staff.
7. Demonstrate skills in scientific writing, critical evaluation of published literature, and professional presentations.
8. Complete the Certificate in Shelter Medicine and Fear Free Practitioner certification.

# Overview of the Internship Program

# Keeping homeless animals in shelters healthy is paramount to their placement in homes. There is a critical shortage of veterinarians with special expertise in the multi-faceted discipline of Shelter Medicine focused on protection of the health and welfare of animals in shelters. Shelter Medicine differs from traditional small animal private practice in that it blends individual patient care with population health management. In addition to a solid foundation in clinical veterinary practice, the Shelter Medicine practitioner must have expertise in strategies for protection of physical and behavioral health; principles of population medicine; infectious disease recognition and response; animal husbandry (appropriate housing, nutrition, sanitation); population management; forensic techniques for investigation of animal cruelty and abuse; and surgery.

# To help address the shortage of skilled shelter practitioners, the Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Internship offers a one-year program consisting of intensive hands-on training in both individual and population health. Interns will provide primary medical, surgical, and behavioral care of patients during clinical rotations in a variety of shelter types with high performing veterinary medical teams. Interns will participate in didactic courses and workshops in behavioral health of shelter animals, veterinary forensics, shelter consultations, diagnosis and management of disease outbreaks in shelters, large-scale field responses to disasters involving animals, and including mass seizures of abused or neglected animals.

# Clinical knowledge, critical thinking skills, and communication skills will be enhanced by teaching veterinary students in shelter medicine externships, clerkships, and the forensics course, participation in the hospital resident/intern seminar series, shelter medicine journal club, national shelter medicine rounds, and consultations with shelters. Each intern is expected to complete a scholarly case report or project in a relevant shelter medicine topic.

# The internship program includes completion of several online shelter medicine courses that supplement the clinical training phase, including certification as a Fear Free Practitioner and FEMA certification necessary for assisting with animal disasters or emergencies at both the state and federal level.

# For more information about the Maddie’s Shelter Medicine Program at the University of Florida see [www.UFShelterMedicine.edu](http://www.UFShelterMedicine.edu)

# Individuals interested in this position should contact Dr. Julie Levy via e-mail at levyjk@ufl.edu. In person interviews are not required however phone/skype interviews may be arranged for interested candidates.

**Faculty in Direct Support of the Program**

Cynda Crawford, DVM, PhD, Internship Coordinator

Julie Levy, DVM, PhD, DACVIM, DAVBP (Shelter Medicine Practice)

Brenda Griffin, DVM, MS, DACVIM

Sarah Kirk, DVM, MS

Maria Serrano, DVM, PhD

Sara Bennett, DVM, MS, DACVB

**Internship Clinical and Academic Training (approximate)**

1. **Shelter Medicine clinical rotations** (28 weeks)
2. Medical, surgical, and behavioral care of animals 26 weeks

in Florida animal shelters and spay/neuter clinics

1. Elective shelter rotation 2 weeks
2. **Shelter Medicine-related training** (19 weeks)
3. Integrating Vet Med in Shelter Systems online course 3 weeks (June to Aug)
4. Shelter Animal Physical Health online course 3 weeks (Aug to Dec)
5. Shelter Animal Behavior and Welfare online course 3 weeks (Jan to May)
6. Veterinary Forensics Medicine course 2 weeks
7. Compassion Fatigue online course 1 week
8. Veterinary Response to Animal Disasters online course 1 week
9. Humane Alliance HQHVSN Training Facility 1 week
10. Shelter consultations 4 weeks
11. Shelter Medicine Track at a national conference 1 week
12. **Other requirements** (2 weeks)
13. National shelter medicine rounds 2 hr/month
14. Shelter medicine journal club 2 hr/month
15. UF Small Animal Hospital Resident/Intern seminars 2 hr/month
16. Presentation of one seminar for Resident/Intern Seminar series
17. Preparation of one shelter medicine case report or project
18. **Supplemental training opportunities** (variable)
19. Disease investigations in shelters, including diagnosis and development of intervention and prevention strategies
20. Large-scale field responses to disasters, including mass animal seizures (ASPCA)
21. Operation Catnip, a monthly TNR clinic for feral cats
22. **Vacation (**2 weeks)
23. This is equivalent to 10 annual leave days (Monday through Friday)

**Shelter Medicine/Surgery Rotations and Training Programs**

A core component of the internship is primary medical, behavioral, and surgical care of patients in different Florida shelters. The Florida shelters include a mix of open-admission municipal shelters and limited-admission adoption-guarantee shelters with advanced shelter medicine programs led by full-time shelter veterinarians, most of whom are alumni of the UF Shelter Medicine Program. These in-shelter rotations provide training in protocols for protection and monitoring of animal health and welfare, principles of population medicine and management, infectious disease recognition and response, cruelty investigations, and surgery. Advanced training in anesthesia and spay/neuter techniques for pediatric patients and in high quality/high volume shelters and spay/neuter clinics is provided by a 1-week training course at the ASPCA Humane Alliance Center in Asheville NC, or alternative spay/neuter program. In addition, the intern will gain surgical proficiency through performing hundreds of spay/neuter surgeries on dogs, cats, and rabbits in the shelter rotations. Other opportunities for surgery include the monthly Operation Catnip TNR clinic for feral cats at UF.

**Teaching**

Teaching skills are developed by mentoring veterinary students in Shelter Practice or Spay/Neuter externships or clerkships in the Florida shelters that are hosting the intern. The intern will also give presentations relevant to Shelter Medicine issues to staff in these shelters. The resident/intern seminar series is designed to provide residents and interns an opportunity to review and present clinical and pathophysiological material to a specialty audience. Each intern will present one seminar on a Shelter Medicine topic.

**Research**

To supplement scholarly training, the intern is required to prepare a case report or project relevant to Shelter Medicine principles and best practices. The case report may be presented at a local or national meeting. The project may be incorporated into educational trainings for shelter veterinarians and staff.

**Evaluation**

The intern will maintain a medical, behavioral, and surgical case log for all patients cared for during clinical rotations in shelters and clerkships. The intern will maintain a participation log for didactic courses/workshops, remote and on-site shelter consultations, forensic investigations, and professional development activities. Following a written self-evaluation of progress relative to the internship guidelines, the intern will meet with the Shelter Medicine faculty at 6-month intervals for review of the logs and a written review of performance. Failure to maintain adequate progress or violation of CVM policies may result in disciplinary action or termination of the intern’s participation in the program. The intern will provide written evaluation of the program and its faculty at the end of the program.