



SANCCOB

Chick rearing internship



The Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds (SANCCOB) was established in 1968 and is a non-profit organisation whose primary objective is to reverse the decline of seabird populations through the rescue, rehabilitation, and release of ill, injured, abandoned and oiled seabirds – especially endangered seabirds like the African penguin. In almost 50 years, SANCCOB has treated more than **95 000** seabirds and independent research confirms that SANCCOB's oil spill response actions alone have increased the African population by **19%**. In a non-spill year, SANCCOB treats up to **2 500 seabirds**, of which approximately **1 500 are African penguins**.

Programme description

The Seabird chick rearing internship has been developed to equip you with chick husbandry skills and egg management skills for a career in captive breeding or seabird chick rearing.

The Seabird Chick rearing internship is not as physically demanding as the other Seabird internship programmes, however, you need to be focussed, self-motivated, compassionate, and highly observant. Be aware that the environment you will work in is quiet and solitary by nature.

Length: 6 months (minimum)

Hours of work: Shifts (morning 05:30 - 14:30 or afternoon 13:30 - 21:30), 5 days per week (including every second weekend)

Reporting to: Chick rearing unit supervisor

Intern job description

- Maintaining a high level of hygiene and cleanliness within the Chick rearing unit
- Weigh chicks and calculate feeds based on weight
- Calculating and updating medication amounts for individual birds under supervision of the Veterinarian
- Record keeping for individual birds
- Handling and feeding African penguin chicks (all ages)
- Admit and monitor eggs during incubation and hatching (weighing, candling, measuring and egg buddy)

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- Work independently as well as part of a team in the Chick rearing unit
- Basic training of other Chick rearing Unit interns
- Identifying behaviour in chicks to determine health status
- Temperature control
- Identify problem areas and report them immediately

Characteristics required

- Trustworthy
- Have a systematic approach
- Attention to detail
- Strong sense of initiative
- Excellent communication skills
- Good problem-solving skills
- Compassionate, gentle and caring
- Ability to follow SANCCOB's protocols
- Ability to multi-task and perform tasks in order of importance and priority
- Work under pressure
- Previous experience working with birds desirable though not essential
- Ability to direct other interns and delegate tasks

Each intern will receive a training plan that will include an outline of the internship, with goals, action dates to complete these goals and action points to be completed over the six months; this will be done with the support of the CRU supervisor who will be your mentor; and the Volunteer Coordinator.

To apply for one of our internships, download the application form and send it, along with your CV and motivational letter, to volunteers@sanccob.co.za.

If you have any further queries or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

We look forward to welcoming you to SANCCOB.

Warm regards,

Angela Wilmot
SANCCOB Volunteer Coordinator

Email: volunteers@sanccob.co.za

SANCCOB is a non-profit organization (Registration No. 2001/026273/08, Non-profit Number: 003-134 NPO).