

DoveLewis Internship Program



About DoveLewis

Established in 1973, DoveLewis is the only nonprofit emergency and critical care animal hospital in the Northwest. DoveLewis has an annual operating budget of about \$30 million and employs more than 200 dedicated staff members. DoveLewis employees are dedicated to our cause because we practice the highest standard of veterinary medicine, encourage and support continuing education, and cultivate community programs that support the human-animal bond. Our donor-funded community programs include:

- An in-house animal blood bank
- A Stray Animal & Wildlife Program
- A financial assistance fund for low-income clients
- A fund for abused animals
- Pet loss support
- · Animal-assisted therapy
- Educational services for veterinary professionals

Our Mission

We care for every animal and every person who cares for them. Always.

Our Facility

DoveLewis currently operates in a 22,000 sq. foot facility that handles over 30,000 cases annually, and is VECCS certified as a Level 1 full-service, 24-hour emergency and critical care facility. DoveLewis is also AAHA certified as a multi-specialty facility and has one of the highest ER caseloads in the country. Our physical space exemplifies our focus on emergency and critical care as the emergency room and ICU are the center of the hospital. In February of 2023, DoveLewis broke ground on an additional 30,000 sq. feet of hospital space across the street from the current facility that will transform the landscape of veterinary care in our region.



Internship Program

During the internship program, interns have primary case responsibility while working in the ER and ICU. While in the ICU, they work alongside a senior staff doctor or criticalist while managing their cases. Interns typically work a 4-day work week and may be on call one day a week, with two dedicated days off a week. Staff veterinarians are scheduled alongside of the interns and a critical care specialist overlaps the majority of daytime shifts. The interns experience three months each of ER and ICU spread out in one-month blocks, one-month rotations through Internal Medicine, Surgery, Neurology, two-week rotations in Radiology, Cardiology, Exotics, and week-long rotations in Urgent Care, Hospice, and Pain Management. There are 6-8 weeks of open rotation time where the intern can either repeat weeks in the hospital or travel to outside facilities to broaden their experience and exposure. Primary surgical experience is gained through procedures performed in the ER including: laceration repairs, feline unblocking, enucleation, tail/toe amputations, wound care, etc. Additional surgery experience is gained throughout the year while doing on-call shifts and assisting the boarded surgeons during their specialty rotation, however there is no primary surgical OR case responsibility.

Schedule

We have three areas of our hospital: ICU, ER, and Specialty Services. These areas have dedicated doctors, so our interns are never scheduled to work in ICU and ER at the same time. There is also an overlap between staff Doctors and Interns so our interns are never working alone for the entirety of each shift. There are 4 boarded Criticalists who overlap with interns and staff doctors 7 days a week, including weekends. Interns work most holidays. Below is an example of the schedule, however this is subject to change based on overall intern numbers.

Anticipated Intern Schedule

	MON	TUES	WEDS	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
ICU	ICU 6am-6pm	ICU 6am-6pm	OC 8am-8pm	OFF	OFF	ICU 6am-6pm	ICU 6am-6pm
ICU	OFF	OFF	ICU 6am-6pm	ICU 6am-6pm	ICU 6am-6pm	OC 8am-8pm	OFF
ER	ER 12pm-12am	ER 12pm-12am	OFF	OFF	OC 8am-8pm	ER 8am-8pm	ER 12pm-12am
ER	OFF	OC 8am-8pm	ER 12pm-12am	ER 12pm-12am	ER 12pm-12am	ER 12pm-12am	OFF
Specialty	Specialty 8am-5pm	Specialty 8am-5pm	Specialty 8am-5pm	Specialty 8am-5pm	Specialty 8am-5pm	OFF	OFF

These are the five core intern rotations with each standard rotation lasting 4 weeks. There will be repetition throughout the year. The ICU shifts are worked alongside a senior staff doctor or critical care specialist. Our interns have primary ICU case responsibility on this shift. This includes all of the medical and procedural decision making and communications with the client. This is a wonderful opportunity to



Quotes From Recent Interns

"The mentorship at DoveLewis was the most valuable part of the internship. I was able to formulate my own treatment plan and have primary communication with the clients, but always had a seasoned clinician by my side to support and give new insight to my decisions. Being in downtown Portland, I appreciated the diversity of the clients and patients. Unlike the university setting where the gold standard is a must, I enjoyed the challenge of presenting a variety of treatment options that both benefitted the patient, and was feasible for the client."

— SARAH TAUBER DVM AND FORMER DOVELEWIS INTERN

"The DoveLewis internship program was ideal for my needs in that the high volume and diverse case load provided me invaluable experience and confidence as primary doctor on all my ER and ICU cases. There is always a specialist or staff doctor available 24 hours/day for advice and to answer any questions, so I always felt supported."

— JENNIFER GORMAN

DVM AND FORMER DOVELEWIS INTERN

learn about advanced critical care medicine. On the ER side, the shift is a set swing shift to give broad exposure to referral and walk in patients.

We staff our ER according to trends in patient load, therefore the weekends have the most support staff scheduled. A few things to remember about this schedule:

- On call shifts occur once weekly and cover a 12-hour period, with a maximum of 12 hours working
 time during the shift. The priority for on call is to assist with emergency surgeries, however interns
 may also be asked to help in the ER, ICU, or to run anesthesia. On call shifts are only scheduled
 when the intern is working ER or ICU.
- Although shifts are scheduled as 12 hours, the paperwork and call backs and procedures can turn it into a 16-hour day!
- Attendance at Weekly Didactic Rounds is mandatory even when it is your day off (unless on vacation)
- The schedule is subject to change.
- There is occasionally an opportunity to work extra shifts for additional pay in lieu of on call shifts.

Staff Doctors

We currently have 14 staff doctors, 3 board-certified surgeons, 4 boarded Criticalists, 1 boarded radiologist, 1 boarded neurologist, and 1 boarded internist. The fewest number of doctors (interns included) in ICU and ER combined at one time is 3 (in rare cases, it may be 2). The most is on the weekend (when it's the busiest). There can be up to 4 doctors working at one time. One of our staff doctors is certified in veterinary acupuncture and can provide in-patient and out-patient services. We additionally have a hospice service in-house available for consultation and referral. Our urgent care department houses many experienced clinicians allowing 7-day-a-week services in addition to the ER.

Specialty Rotations

In addition to the core ER and ICU rotations, you will spend 6 months in specialty rotations, including 4 weeks each of Internal Medicine, Neurology, and Surgery, 2 weeks of Cardiology, Diagnostic Imaging, and Exotics, 1 week of Urgent care, Pain Management, and Hospice, and 1 week of vacation. Time on specialty rotations will involve participation in specialty appointments, scrubbing in / observing procedures (surgical, endoscopy, ultrasound, echocardiogram, etc), and involvement in treatment planning for patients when present.

Didactic Rounds

There are didactic rounds once a week. This includes journal club, M&M rounds, and grand rounds which the intern will be asked to present on a rotational basis as well as specialty rounds given by specialists. There are monthly rounds dedicated to wellness as an intern support group with our Veterinary Well-being Program director. There are also monthly CE opportunities both through PVMA and DoveLewis to fulfill your yearly CE requirement. There is no intern project or research requirements during the year.

Surgery

DoveLewis has 3 board-certified surgeons who are on call for our surgical emergencies and for consults during the day, night and weekends. They are a wonderful asset to our staff. The interns rotate being on call to assist for surgeries as well as have a month on a surgical elective working directly with the surgeons in appointments and scrubbing in on procedures. The majority of the interns' surgical experience will occur through on-call shifts and performing out-patient procedures in the ER. There are no primary intra-abdominal surgical responsibilities, however, there are opportunities for employee spay and neuter services throughout the year.

Benefits

- Annual salary of \$80,000
- Qualification for PSLF loan forgiveness
- Student loan repayment of up to \$250 per month directly to loan servicer
- Affordable full medical, dental, vision, long-term & short-term disability, and life insurance
- Access to atdove.org services
- 5 pairs of scrubs

- 1 week of vacation
- Employee pet ward on site
- Paid professional dues with local and national Veterinary organizations including AVMA, and Veterinary Information Network (VIN)
- Discounts for employee pet medical care
- Each intern will have supporting staff doctors working in conjunction with their shifts, on the treatment floor, so there will always be a staff doctor available for any questions