

Perth Zoo Youth Working Group Member – Role Description

Job Type	Voluntary Position	Location	Perth Zoo, South Perth
Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requires a 12-month commitment, with opportunity to continue beyond the 12 months.• Meetings take place on weekends or after school online during the school term and on weekdays over the school holidays at Perth Zoo. Members are asked to attend a minimum of 8 meetings and their allocated days during the Pilot of the Youth Program in September/October school holidays.• Optional online check-ins will also occur between meetings with times and dates informed by availability of the Group members.• Duration of the meetings will either be full day 9:30am-2:30pm, or half day 9:30am-12:30pm. Online meetings are 1.5 hours• Optional training and development days will also be offered but do not count towards meeting attendance.		

Purpose of the Role

The Youth Working Group at Perth Zoo will work in collaboration with the Community Education Coordinator to develop a NEW Youth Program for passionate young people aged 13-19 years who want to make a real difference to the conservation of wildlife and the environment.

As part of the Youth Program, participants will gain knowledge and experience on how Perth Zoo works to save wildlife and will have opportunities to contribute to real-world conservation work in the community. The program will focus on developing leadership, teamwork, communication and advocacy skills as well as practical experience in different areas of zoology and conservation science.

The purpose of the Youth Working Group is to bring youth voices to the forefront of shaping our Youth Program. As a member of the Group, you will work in a team to develop the activities and experiences that will form the Youth Program, with opportunities to deliver some of the activities to participants.

Please note: This program does not involve direct contact with any of our animals. If opportunities arise for any behind-the-scenes activities, please understand that Perth Zoo prioritises animal welfare and wellbeing, so participants will not be able to touch or hold any animals during this program.

Key Responsibilities

- Assist in the development of the Youth Program, contributing your ideas and recommendations on the structure of the program and the activities for participants
- Design and develop materials for the activities and experiences that participants of the Youth Program will take part in.
- Deliver activities to participants during the pilot of the Youth Program
- Assist with the design of promotional materials for the Youth Program
- Design the uniform for the Youth Program participants
- Consult on the name of the Youth Program
- Assist in the development of an evaluation framework of the youth program
- Assist in recruitment of participants for the Youth Program

Once the Youth Program has been established and delivered for the first time, members of the Youth Working Group will have the choice to stay on as Youth Program Leaders and continue their involvement by:

- making changes to the Youth Program based on feedback
- creating additional activities / ongoing program development
- training and mentoring new Youth Program Leaders
- assisting in the ongoing evaluation of the program
- delivering activities to participants during the next phase of the Youth Program.

Applicant Information

Essential requirements for applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants must be aged 13-19 years old to apply • Applicants must be available to attend the shortlist selection day and first meeting in person • Applicants must ensure they can attend at least 8 meetings outlined in the schedule below AND be available during the Pilot of the Youth Program in the September/October school holidays
Skills and attributes members will bring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passion for the conservation of wildlife and the environment • Ability to work well in a team • Good communication skills, both listening and expressing themselves to people of different levels • Innovative and creative approach to problem solving • Willingness to learn and develop their knowledge and skills
Skills and experience members will gain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be involved in a world-leading conservation organisation • Be part of a team of like-minded people • Opportunity to learn and develop skills in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication - Leadership - Conservation Education program writing - Project & time management skills • CV and Careers advice • Participate in conservation actions in the community • Networking with other Youth Advisory/Working Groups in Perth & Australia
Examples of training provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full induction into Perth Zoo including; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - organisational structure - role of zoos in conservation - introductions to the work of different areas across the organisation. • Ongoing training in areas of interest to members • Presentations and/or workshops delivered by expert staff • Participation in conservation projects such as habitat restoration and/or conservation research projects in the community
Support provided to members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every meeting will be facilitated by the Community Education Coordinator (CEC), who will provide ongoing support to each member throughout the program • The CEC will also be contactable and able to offer support and advice outside of meeting times • Free entry to Perth Zoo for each meeting, with opportunities to explore the zoo before/after the meetings • Complementary refreshments and lunch on full meeting days

Please note: if there is a barrier that is stopping you from applying for the Youth Working Group, please get in touch with us to see what we can do to support you. Applicants who are not chosen for the Youth Working Group are encouraged to apply for the Youth Program when it opens.

Youth Working Group Schedule

Dates are subject to change, and online check-ins and meeting dates and duration can be changed based on the availability of the group.

- Full day: 9:30am-2:30pm
- Half day: 9:30am-12:30pm
- Online: 1.5 hours at a time determined by the group
- Shaded cells represent school holidays

Saturday 21 March 2026	Shortlist selection day (compulsory)
Tuesday 14 April 2026	Meeting 1 – full day (compulsory)
Thursday 16 April 2026	Meeting 2 – full day
Thursday 14 May 2026	Online check in – optional
Saturday 16 June 2026	Meeting 3 – half day
Wednesday 8 July 2026	Optional training day
Thursday 9 July 2026	Meeting 4 – full day
Tuesday 14 July 2026	Conservation Action Day OFFSITE Full day
Thursday 16 July 2026	Meeting 5 – full day
Thursday 13 August 2026	Online check in – optional
Saturday 12 September	Meeting 6 – full day
Monday 28 September 2026	Meeting 7 – preparing to pilot the New Youth Program
Tuesday 29 September – Thursday 8 October 2026*	*Attendance days will be decided by the group. You will only be required to attend on your rostered days.
Friday 9 October 2026	Youth Working Group fun day!
Monday 9 November 2026	Meeting 8 – online
Monday 9 December 2026	Meeting 9 – online
Tuesday 5 January 2027	Meeting 10 – full day
Monday 11 January 2027	Round 2 of the Youth Program begins!