

POSITION: VETERINARY TECHNICIAN
LEVEL: GRADE 6 \$13.39hr - \$19.12hr
DEPARTMENT: ZOO

FUNCTION: Assists with all tasks related to veterinary care. Implements veterinary duties and assists other Zoo staff with veterinary care as prescribed by the Zoo Veterinarian and the Director of Zoological Services (DZS). May assist Zoo Caretakers with the care of the Zoo's animal collection.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Works under the direction of the Zoo Veterinarian and DZS as it relates to animal care and husbandry

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: May be required to supervise volunteers and interns.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Basic daily care (feeding, watering, cleaning, housing) of animals (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, invertebrates) housed in the animal care complex.

Provides appropriate medical care, as directed by the Zoo Veterinarian or DZS to injured or ill animals (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, and invertebrates) housed in the animal care complex.

Stocks and maintains a pharmacy as directed by the Zoo Veterinarian. Administers medication to animals in the animal care complex and dispenses medications to keepers to administer. May assist Zoo Caretakers in the administration of medication to animals under the Zoo Caretakers' care as directed by the Zoo Veterinarian or DZS. May be required to reconstitute and calculate dosages for medications. Maintains animal health records including ZIMS software and daily reports as directed by the Zoo Veterinarian and the DZS.

Maintains and implements a program of animal health maintenance including, but not limited to, the scheduling of annual physicals and annual vaccinations.

Maintains a program of parasite control for the Zoo's animal collection that includes routine fecal collection, examination and the appropriate dispensing of de-wormer medicines.

Collects or requests Zoo Caretakers to collect appropriate biological specimens (urine, fecal material, blood, etc.) and analyzes specimens using appropriate laboratory procedures in clinical pathology and histopathology. Prepares and ships biological specimens to appropriate labs when necessary.

Assists in veterinary procedures (including chemical or physical restraint of animals). Monitors physiological signs of animals during chemical immobilization. Monitors patient vital parameters during anesthetic procedures. Provides assistance during surgical procedures. Maintains surgical instrumentation and equipment.

Will be a member of the Dangerous Animal Response Team, which will include preparation of

and use of firearms and darting equipment.

Radiographs animals and develops radiographs for viewing. Must be familiar with radiograph equipment and animal anatomy. Assists in post-mortem necropsy examinations.

Performs daily housekeeping and maintenance for the animal hospital complex (offices, animal and examination areas). Certain areas must be maintained in aseptic conditions (lab, examination room, surgical room).

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE: Graduation from a regionally accredited program in veterinary technology or four years' experience as a veterinary technician in a veterinary hospital, zoo or similar facility; or any equivalent combination of education and experience.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Possession of a valid Massachusetts driver's license with good driving record. Operates motor vehicle on a regular basis. Must have a Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) check, mandatory by MGL Chapter 6 Sec. 172C. Must have or be able to obtain and FID card.

PHYSICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS: Frequent periods spent in non-office environments with regular periods spent outside, requiring exposure to weather conditions. Frequent periods spent standing and walking. Occasional requirement to climb or sustain uncomfortable physical positions. May spend sustained periods at terminal or on telephone. Occasional exposure to chemical and biological hazards, requiring exercise of proper safety precautions. May need to lift up to fifty-pound animals.

SELECTION GUIDELINES: Formal application; rating of education and experience; oral interview and reference check; job-related tests may be required.

The duties listed above are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.

The job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and employee and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.