



The Blank Park Zoo in Des Moines, Iowa is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide the highest standards of animal healthcare and welfare while collaborating with the zoo community to cultivate and share our knowledge. The zoo is home to more than 2,800 animals representing nearly 240 species of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish, and is fully accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. In March of 2016, in collaboration with Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine, the 15,000 square foot Blank Park Zoo's Animal Health Center was opened. The hospital includes a treatment/triage facility, surgical suite, pharmacy, laboratory, necropsy along with a 6 stall hospital. The hospital is equipped with ultrasonic, laparoscopic, and endoscopic capabilities, along with a new digital radiography system.

POSITION SUMMARY

Under the direction of the Hospital Manager/Senior Technician, while collaborating with the Senior Veterinarian, the position of Veterinary Technician has a key role in the implementation of preventive medicine programs. The Veterinary Services Team along with the Animal Care Staff, strive to maintain a hospital culture that is based on high quality patient care and welfare. The ideal candidate should emphasize collaborative and teamwork behaviors but have the ability to take initiative and work independently. This person must have good organizational skills and be able to handle multiple responsibilities during routine and/or under emergency conditions.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Preparing for and performing technical duties during medical and surgical procedures.
- Performing sample collection and evaluation, including fecal parasite examinations, urinalysis, and other laboratory tests including preparing samples for shipment.
- Assisting in administration of medications and treatments for animals.
- Maintain complete and current computerized medical records as well as performing data entry into ZIMS medical system.
- Maintain hospital standards of cleanliness including but not limited to sweeping, mopping, removing trash, disinfecting, and when necessary, performing animal husbandry duties.
- Follows all protocols to maintain safe conditions for staff and animals.
- Supervise, direct, and mentor senior veterinary students and veterinary technician students.

REQUIREMENTS/QUALIFICATIONS

- Graduate from a AVMA-accredited Veterinary Technology Program
- 3-5 years of professional work experience in the veterinary field.
- A minimum of one year clinical experience at a zoological facility is preferred.
- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively, both verbally and in writing
- Eligible to obtain an Iowa driver's license
- A negative TB test is required
- A current rabies titer is preferred
- Ability to react calmly and objectively in emergency situations and under adverse conditions

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

This position requires a variable amount of time spent walking, standing, running, sitting, climbing, stooping, kneeling, twisting, crouching, and or crawling. Lifting up to 50lbs. The use of all senses (vision, hearing, taste, touch, smell) on a daily basis to evaluate animals. Full use of arms and hands. Ability to operate a vehicle both on and off-site and perform all tasks in variable weather conditions.

TO APPLY

To apply, please complete the online application located at: <https://www.blankparkzoo.com/contact-us/jobs/> and attach a curriculum vitae that includes a cover letter and references. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.