

VETERINARY TECHNICIAN JOB DESCRIPTION

- Under general supervision, assists veterinarians in the medical care of the animal collection including all species
- Under general supervision, assists veterinarians in training activities related to medical care
- Administers and monitors anesthesia under the direction of a veterinarian, and assists in surgery
- Supervises and performs cleaning, disinfection, and sterilization of surgical instruments, equipment, and hospital and operating areas, and related duties to maintain and operate zoo hospital safely and efficiently.
- Operates the diagnostic laboratory, including, but not limited to, hematology, biochemistry analysis, cytology, and parasitology, and prepares biological specimens for shipment
- Organizes and maintains pharmacy including rotating inventory, removing expired products, and ordering pharmaceuticals and supplies, under the direction of veterinarians.
- Operates and maintains radiographic equipment.
- Dispenses and administers medications and vaccinations as prescribed by veterinarians.
- Assist with post-mortem examinations through necropsies, cleaning, waste removal, or sample handling.
- Maintains accurate records, including computer entry for Tracks or similar programs.
- Assists with coordination of the activities of veterinary and veterinary technician students, volunteers, and other individuals as directed by zoo veterinarians.
- Must demonstrate knowledge of occupational hazards involved and the safe work practices to employ while in proximity of potentially dangerous animals or substances.
- Assist in educational and/or research programs, employee and volunteer training programs, and conduct tours as requested.
- Other duties as assigned.

Preference will be given to those individuals with a least one year of experience as a veterinary technician, preferably with exotic or zoo animals.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Ability to remain on feet for long periods of time, and traverse zoo grounds without a vehicle
- Ability to perform a variety of physical tasks that include but are not limited to climbing, bending, stooping, kneeling, twisting, reaching, crawling, and ability to regularly move 30 lbs., and occasionally 50lb, objects
- The employee will be regularly exposed to water, chemicals, and potentially loud noises.
- Ability to work in all weather conditions – including potentially adverse conditions
- Ability to wear requisite Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) that may include rubber/latex gloves, masks, eye goggles and airway protection
- No allergy related to plants or animals that may interfere with the ability to work
- No impairment of sight, smell, hearing, touch balance or ability of movement that may interfere with work ability
- Ability to maintain immune response to exposure to infectious and parasitic diseases

Available to work any of seven days of the week, special needs or events that may occur outside of regular work schedule, including evenings, weekends or holidays. Non-infectious tuberculosis status via intradermal skin test, thoracic radiographs, or treatment regimen. Current Rabies vaccinations as required by the department.

LICENSES AND CERTIFICATES

- Certified as a veterinary technician in the State of Illinois or similarly certified in another state and must obtain Illinois license within thirty (30) days from date of hire.
- Maintain said certification appropriately with continuing education and ethics.
- Valid IL driver's license and able to maintain a good driving record.