

Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium

Position Title: Hospital Veterinary Technician	Job Code:
Department: Animal Health	Job Grade:
Reports To: Head Veterinary Technician	FLSA Status: Full-time, Hourly

Purpose:

Under the direction of the Director of Animal Health, supervision of the Head Veterinary Technician, and in coordination with the Animal Health team, assists in the day to day operations of the Animal Health Department; implements clinical, preventative, quarantine, and post-mortem protocols; provides medical care for the entire zoological collection; and assists with the daily medical and husbandry care for quarantine and hospitalized animals at a level exceeding USDA standards, as required.

Essential Job Functions:

- Support veterinarians in completing daily schedule of examinations and treatments and assist with anesthetic and surgical procedures.
- Regularly use equipment such as digital radiograph machine, doppler, pulse oximeter, EKG, endoscopy, Tonopen, automated pill counter, Abaxis chem analyzer, iStat machine, etc.
- Conduct laboratory analyses, including manual hematology of mammalian, avian, reptilian, and elasmobranch species, chemistry, serology, cytology, parasitology, etc., and sample processing for reference laboratories, research projects, and storage.
- Perform emergency triage and treatment of animals under remote guidance of veterinarian, when necessary.
- Fill prescriptions for zoo collection and administer medications and other treatments to hospital patients and quarantine animals, as required.
- Competently use remote drug delivery equipment for routine treatments as well as emergency immobilizations.
- Clean and sterilize instruments and surgical equipment using gas and steam methods.
- Complete inventories of medical supplies and pharmaceuticals.
- Maintain clinical records, including hospital and quarantine patient logs, and enter data into ZIMS program.
- Communicate within and between Animal Health and other zoo departments to achieve best practices for animals in Zoo, Hospital, and quarantine.
- Administer hospital disinfection and pest control measures.
- Comply with feral wildlife protocol.
- Supervise undergraduate internship program and instruct veterinary externs and technician interns, as required.
- Lead hospital tours for a wide variety of visiting individuals and groups.
- Monitor and conduct the medical and husbandry care of quarantine animals and ICU patients, as required, following all applicable protocols including health monitoring, sanitation, and safety procedures when dealing with dangerous and/or venomous animals. Complete case histories, develop housing and enrichment plans, and coordinate incoming and outgoing transfers of animals from hospital/quarantine.
- Performs all other duties as assigned and directed.

Education/Experience/Knowledge/Skills:

- Associate or Bachelor's Degree in Veterinary Technology and graduation from an AVMA-accredited Veterinary Technology program.
- Licensed Veterinary Technician in good standing, currently registered through state and national boards, and licensure in the state of Pennsylvania within first 3 months of hire.
- Minimum 2 years of veterinary technician experience in a clinical setting, with experience with zoo/exotic/aquatic species preferred.
- Must obtain rabies vaccination and maintain titer; must provide proof of negative TB test within the last year.
- Ability to work a flexible schedule, including evenings, holidays and on-call as needed.
- PA driver's license within 3 months of hire (must be maintained).
- Thorough understanding of contagious and zoonotic disease transmission and quarantine procedures.
- Working knowledge of proper animal restraint methods during procedures and treatments.
- Working knowledge of digital imaging equipment, laparoscope, endoscope, electrocautery, gas and steam sterilizers, laboratory equipment (microscopes, centrifuge, blood analyzer), remote drug delivery equipment, etc.
- Good working knowledge of Microsoft Office programs (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access); ZIMS experience preferred.

Please visit www.pittsburghzoo.org/careers for further position information and how to apply.