

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY – Position description

POSITION TITLE: Veterinary Technician

REPORTS TO: Senior Veterinarian

DIRECTLY SUPERVISES: Veterinary Technician Students and Volunteers

POSITION OBJECTIVE: Based at the Bronx Zoo's Wildlife Health Center, assist veterinarians in providing healthcare to animals in the WCS collections and to assist in training professionals, students and volunteers, as part of the health care team.

EDUCATION: Veterinary technician degree; Associates or Bachelors of Science degree; and New York State Veterinary Technician license required.

EXPERIENCE: 3 years working full time as a veterinary technician, preferably in a zoo or an exotic animal setting.

SKILLS/CHARACTERISTICS: Ability to work in a complex healthcare environment with animals of diverse taxa and with multiple veterinarians and veterinary technicians; ability to provide daily oversight of technicians; ability to read, write and communicate effectively in English; some knowledge of computer databases desirable; able to work flexible schedule; ability to lift 50 lbs.

PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Perform treatments on and monitor hospitalized animals. This includes preparation and administration of daily medications, record keeping, as well as set up, maintenance, and ability to troubleshoot intravenous catheters, fluids, and constant rate infusions. It also includes feeding and cleaning enclosures of hospitalized animals when necessary.
2. Prepare for, assist during, and clean up after any anesthetic procedures (including surgical procedures) on collection animals and occasional wildlife animals in the hospital and on zoo grounds. This includes providing anesthetic induction, intubation, monitoring, and recovery of animals as part of the routine medical management of the WCS collection.
3. Operate digital based radiology system, including portable and stationary equipment. Have ability to position animals for radiographs; ability to accurately configure, label, and archive radiographs. Operate Dental Radiography system.
4. Assist with maintenance of inventory of hospital medicines and supplies. Oversee re-stocking of medications and supplies in all clinical areas of the health center. Assist with record keeping of controlled substances.
5. Maintenance of Preventative Medicine Program via coordination of dispensing monthly preventative medications and administration of yearly vaccines to collection animals within guidelines provided by Veterinarians.
6. Perform clinical pathology testing including, manual and automated Complete Blood Count, urinalysis, fecal exams, cytology, point of care biochemical tests, STAT biochemical tests, water coliform testing, and other lab diagnostics as required in a zoo laboratory setting.
7. Oversee maintenance of hospital equipment.
8. Assist in training the hospital volunteers.
9. Assist in training new employees as required.
10. Perform related tasks and duties as required.
11. Contribute to and uphold the Society's policies toward Equal Employment Opportunities for women, minorities, veterans, the handicapped and other designated groups.