

The University of Texas at San Antonio

Job Description

Job Title: Animal Breeder/Veterinary Technician
Code: 14454
Salary Grade: 58
FLSA Status: Exempt
Department/Division: Laboratory Animal Resources Center (LARC)
Reports To: Quality Assurance & Training Coordinator

Summary

- Function: Perform highly technical veterinary skills in the care of animals within research facilities, provide breeding consultation services and assist in the documentation and triage of all laboratory animal health cases.
- Scope: Responsible for providing competence in the performance of technical and breeding duties for optimum animal care within the facility.

Duties

- Typical:
 1. Perform medical surveillance, diagnostic support and treatment of clinical cases, which include identification of sick animals, contacting investigators, following veterinary orders and documentation of cases.
 2. Coordinate sentinel testing program and animal health monitoring.
 3. Assist Quality Assurance with the import/export of research animals from other institutions, monitor/test and periodic treatment of animals in quarantine, rodent handling, rodent pain assessment and analgesics, LARC orientation, BSL2 orientation, injections, blood collection, ear tagging/notching, survival procedure techniques, euthanasia, tumor injections, suturing, aseptic technique, gavage and other procedures as needed.
 4. Provide veterinary support for research projects, pre- and post-surgical care, anesthesia and post-surgery treatments.
 5. Develop and maintain rodent breeding program in support of researcher's needs by developing mating schemes based on reproductive physiology specific for each species and maintaining founder and research colonies for LARC and/or research community.
 6. Assist with environmental and equipment monitoring to include water purity and chlorine levels at all facilities; microbial testing of cages, racks, wire tops, water bottles, autoclaves, cage washers and anything that comes in contact with animals; room sanitation; hoods certification; validation of

- LARC instrumentation; and Edstrom watering system.
7. Assist with weekly Quality Assurance inspections of LARC facilities and monthly/quarterly of PI maintained labs.
 8. Provide anesthesia equipment training, scheduling, maintenance and set up for PI use and assist in the coordination of the annual certification of gas anesthesia equipment of all researchers and LARC systems.
 9. Monitor surgeries in PI labs.
 10. Maintain protocol summary form for all animals under an IACUC approved protocol housed in the LARC facilities.
 11. Provide maintenance and restocking of LARC diagnostic/veterinary supplies, equipment and procedural rooms.
 12. Keep detailed and accurate records of health evaluations and surgical procedures within LARC facilities and PI labs.
 13. Perform routine veterinary technical skills including administration of various therapeutic measures by IV, IM, SQ, topical oral routes, various surgeries, etc.; proficient animal restraint techniques; tissue sampling; and other routine animal manipulations.
 14. Develop and implement lab animal enrichment programs.
 15. Assist in providing leadership, animal health training and guidance to other laboratory personnel.
 16. Demonstrate excellent organizational, time management and recordkeeping skills.
 17. Provide highly technical skills while maintaining highest level of accuracy.
 18. Maintain strong and frequent communication with researchers for a clear understanding of research protocols. Communicate efficiently and effectively both verbally and in written form with co-workers and research investigators and their staff.
 19. Assist in monitoring animal care and use program in regards to compliance with federal laws and regulations, university policies and the Guide for the Care and Use of Animals.
 20. Identify and report adverse events, potential problems and non-compliance concerns to the University Veterinarian and Quality Assurance.
 21. Perform other duties as assigned.

• Periodic:

1. Assist in animal care duties and animal transportation.

Education

Required	Preferred
Associate's Degree in Science from an accredited institution.	Bachelor's degree in Science from an accredited institution.

Other Requirements

Required	Preferred
At least one of the following: 1) Licensed as a registered Veterinary Technician (RVT) or 2) AALAS certification at the ALAT level and the ability to obtain certification at the LAT level within 18 months of hire date.	AALAS certification at the LAT level or higher.
Ability to perform highly technical veterinary skills while maintaining the highest level of accuracy.	
Demonstrate excellent organizational, time management and record keeping skills.	
Criminal Background Check (CBC)	

Experience

Required	Preferred
Two years of experience as a veterinary technician.	Similar experience in a laboratory environment or working with laboratory animals.

Equipment

Required	Possible
Operation of cage and rack washers, tunnel-type cage washers, conventional and pass-through autoclaves and other allied equipment.	Familiar with computer software programs that could assist in the development of online training programs.
Personal computer and other standard office equipment. Proficiency in Word and Excel.	Familiarity with biological safety cabinets, laminar flow hoods, autoclaves, and cage and rack washers.
Proficient at operating veterinary equipment such as microscope, anesthesia machines, physiological monitors, testing equipment, etc.	

Working Conditions

Usual	Special
Exposure to animal vivarium and other laboratories with animal or other biological hazards. Possibility of animal bites or scratches.	Occasional evening, weekend and holiday hours.

Supervision

Received	Given
Determines own work methods and solves problems utilizing technical and specialized	Indirect supervision and guidance given to lab technicians.

knowledge and experience, resulting in minimal supervision while work is in process.	
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Accuracy

Highest level of accuracy is critical in all phases of the duties performed. Must be precise in calculations for formulas and dosages.
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Security Sensitive

Specific job requirements or physical location of some positions allocated to this classification may render the position security sensitive, and thereby subject to the provisions of section 51.215 Texas Education Code.
