

POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION TITLE: Veterinary Intern

CREATED: January 2012

SUPERVISOR'S TITLE: Veterinarian

FLSA STATUS: Exempt

POSITION PURPOSE

The Veterinary Intern is an educational position that works along with the Veterinarian to provide medical and surgical care for the zoo's animal collection. This is a one-year position intended to provide clinically focused experience in all aspects of zoological medicine. This position also contributes to positive guest experiences and performs other duties as required.

POSITION ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- ▶▶ Assists with implementing the zoo's preventive medicine program by performing routine physicals, diagnostics, dental cleaning, vaccinations, etc., for the zoo's animal collection; obtains second opinions when needed (e.g., from dentists, surgeons, ophthalmologists, etc.).
- ▶▶ Assists with veterinary care during animal emergencies of all kinds.
- ▶▶ Assists with pre-shipment and quarantine testing for animals being transferred between institutions.
- ▶▶ Assists with evaluating and implementing the zoo's animal nutrition program, helping to ensure that the animals' diets are meeting their nutritional needs.
- ▶▶ Assists with the zoo's animal reproduction program, institutes and reverses contraception in animals as needed, and investigates causes of unsuccessful reproduction and corrects them as necessary.
- ▶▶ Assists with hand-rearing of animals when necessary.
- ▶▶ Provides emergency veterinary services on nights, weekends, days off, and holidays as needed.
- ▶▶ Minimizes risk of transmission of zoonotic diseases from collection animals to the public, employees, and volunteers (and vice versa).
- ▶▶ Maintains up-to-date zoo medical records and conforms to all applicable regulations.
- ▶▶ Communicates updates relating to veterinary care to appropriate veterinary staff and animal care staff.
- ▶▶ Maintains an active veterinary license (includes acquiring necessary continuing education credits), a DEA license, and USDA accreditation.

OTHER FUNCTIONS

- ▶▶ Provides presentations to zoo staff, local schools, universities, and other groups as needed.
- ▶▶ Provides a teaching role for veterinary students, veterinary technician students, keeper interns, and other volunteers.
- ▶▶ Designs and executes research projects relevant to zoo/exotic animal health.
- ▶▶ Publishes papers on applicable research projects or case reports.
- ▶▶ Assists with special projects and helps other zoo employees as needed.
- ▶▶ Participates in veterinary topic rounds and journal rounds where appropriate.

EDUCATION AND/OR EXPERIENCE

To perform this job successfully, an individual must have the following education and/or experience.

- ▶▶ Doctor of veterinary medicine degree from an AVMA-accredited veterinary school is required.
- ▶▶ One year of veterinary experience or completion of a veterinary internship is preferred.
- ▶▶ Valid Indiana veterinary license is required.
- ▶▶ Valid driver's license is required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skills, and/or abilities required to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

- ▶▶ Advanced knowledge of animal care and handling.
- ▶▶ Knowledge of principles, practices, and procedures of veterinary medicine at a zoological institution.
- ▶▶ Ability to endure high-stress situations such as examining, restraining, or treating animals.
- ▶▶ Demonstrated knowledge of zoo policies, standards, operations, cleaning, and maintenance techniques.
- ▶▶ Ability to precisely follow and enforce instructions and safety regulations.
- ▶▶ Ability to deal tactfully and politely with visitor questions and misbehavior.
- ▶▶ Ability to serve in every respect and at all times as a goodwill ambassador for the Fort Wayne Zoological Society and the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo in contacts with zoo visitors and the general public.
- ▶▶ Ability to maintain effective working relationships with supervisors and subordinates.
- ▶▶ Ability to effectively and proactively train and supervise employees.
- ▶▶ Ability to arrive to work on time and maintain a positive attendance record.
- ▶▶ Ability to work a highly flexible schedule—weekend, evening, holiday, and irregular hours will be required.
- ▶▶ Excellent ability to think logically in order to troubleshoot, analyze situations, and make sound business decisions.
- ▶▶ Excellent ability to make independent decisions and delegate responsibility and duties.
- ▶▶ Ability to handle multiple tasks simultaneously.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

- ▶▶ Ability to stand and sit for periods of time and to move intermittently throughout the workday.
- ▶▶ Good speaking and listening skills.
- ▶▶ Strong sensory skills, such as good eyesight, good hearing, and dexterity.
- ▶▶ Ability to perform focused work with close attention to detail.
- ▶▶ Ability to operate office equipment, including computers, copiers, fax machines, and phones.
- ▶▶ Ability to work both indoors and outdoors, with exposure to extreme temperatures and inclement weather conditions; the environment may include wet, icy, or muddy conditions.
- ▶▶ Ability to interact with others, both in person and through phone, e-mail, and written correspondence.
- ▶▶ Ability to routinely carry 50 pounds for 100 feet without assistance.
- ▶▶ This position may include exposure to animals, hazardous materials, fumes/odors, dirt, and dust.