



Keeper/Veterinary Technician 2 Job Description

Reports To: General Curator

Department: Animal Care

Salary: \$16.91/hr.

Job Status: Full Time/Non-Exempt

Union Status: Union

Position Scope: The Keeper/Veterinary Technician 2 works with the zoo's Attending Veterinarian and the Veterinary Program and Records Manager to provide general and veterinary animal care to a wide variety of collection animals including, sick and convalescing animals, and those in quarantine. Some keeper duties will be included as needed for scheduling purposes and assisting with animal areas.

Supervisory Responsibilities: The Keeper/Veterinary Technician 2 will assist with monitoring all animal conditions and treatments and bring concerns to the Zoo Veterinarian, Veterinary Program and Records Manager, and Animal Department Curators. This position will provide supervision to zoo staff outside of the department who may be assisting with ZIMS data entry.

Other Responsibilities:

- For maximum animal welfare and safety of animals, staff and visitors, the Keeper/Veterinary Technician 2 is responsible for assisting with the physical, manual and/or chemical restraint of animals for capture, restraint, shipment, transfer, or treatment as required.
- Conducts fecal examinations and follows the veterinarian's guidelines for routine parasite control. Performs other routine diagnostic lab tests and prepares and ships veterinary samples.
- Medicating and vaccinating animals as necessary.
- Proper disposal of outdated drugs, chemicals, medical supplies, and sharps.
- Assists the Attending Veterinarian as required in surgeries and other animal procedures.
- Completes data entry into ZIMS for each animal and maintains up to date medical records.
- Stays up to date on diet formulation, husbandry techniques and area protocols with the Attending Veterinarian, Veterinary Program and Records Manager, and Animal Department Curators.
- Monitors preventative and clinical animal medical programs and protocols.
- Participate in ongoing education programs as requested.
- Update and assist Attending Veterinarian on routine veterinary rounds.
- Ordering, inventory and maintaining medical supplies.
- All keeper levels are expected to maintain a high-performance level of general keeper duties including excellent animal care and guest interactions.
- Actively support and implement area policies, procedures, and protocols to ensure the highest standards of care for the collection and the safety of staff and guests with the willingness to provide constructive feedback.
- Participate in and support collaborative efforts pertaining to the care of the collection including training, enrichment, research, and education.

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- Represents the zoo to guests, donors, zoo community associates and the public; answer questions, give formal and informal talks and attend functions as requested.
- Adhere to and support all zoo policies and procedures of the zoo, including the Utica Zoo's conservation and research initiatives.
- Must be dependable and willing to work flexible hours, weekends, and holidays.
- This job description is not intended to be all-inclusive; therefore, the employee may be required to perform other reasonably related duties as assigned by management.

Education: Two-year or Four-year degree in Veterinary Technology, or related field is preferred; sufficient relevant experience will be considered.

Experience: A minimum of 2 years' veterinary technician experience as determined by Utica Zoo is required. Paid experience at an AZA accredited facility or other exotic animal veterinary experience is preferred. Exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

- A New York state LVT license must be achieved and maintained continuously.
- An enthusiasm for interacting with the public and a willingness to give regular talks to guests, special groups, etc. Must have strong written and oral communication skills.
- Experience with operant conditioning and enrichment techniques is preferred.
- Demonstrate computer proficiency to complete the functions of this position.
- Demonstrate the ability to use light power tools after suitable training.
- Must obtain and maintain a valid New York driver's license within six months of employment.

Physical Requirements: Must be able to work outdoors in all weather conditions and have the physical ability to perform strenuous work. Must be capable of lifting 50 lbs. or more.

Benefits:

- Employee assistance program
- Employee discount
- Flexible schedule
- Retirement plan

Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Policy: The Utica Zoo provides equal employment opportunities to all current employees and all applicants for employment and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any type without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, natural origin, disability status, genetics, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local laws.

Employee signature below indicates the employee's understanding of the requirements, essential functions, and duties of the position.

Employee Print _____ Date _____

Employee Signature _____

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