
Student Technician Assistant Job Description

Job Title: Student Technician Assistant
Reports To: Practice Manager and Ward Department Supervisor
Effective Date: February 6th, 2024

SUMMARY

Student technician assistants conduct a variety of small animal health care tasks and maintains a safe, hygienic and orderly hospital and hospital grounds at the Amherst Animal Hospital.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES include the following. Other duties may be assigned. All duties are to be performed following established protocols or as directed by a veterinarian, the practice manager or ward department supervisor.

Exercises, feeds and cleans all hospitalized animals, as directed by the veterinarians and/or staff.

Records patients' behaviors, eating habits, defecations and urinations. Reports any changes in patient's status to doctor(s) and/or technician(s).

Learns to: administer subcutaneous fluids, assisted feedings, warm or cool compresses, limited physical therapy, taking temperatures etc... under supervision of veterinarian. Learns to set up fecal, urine and microscope slide samples. Learns to restrain patients for doctor to examine.

Cleans and bathes animals, as needed, prior to release from the hospital.

Cleans all hospital wards and common areas such as the reception, lab and kitchen. The cleaning includes: scrubbing and disinfecting all cage surfaces, vacuuming and mopping floors, dusting, washing walls and vents, bathrooms, glass surfaces and woodwork.

Assists receptionists, veterinary technicians and veterinarians in admitting new patients to the hospital.

Maintains an accurate daily hospital census.

Washes, dries and replenishes laundry items. Receives, stocks and monitors supplies including pet food stored in the basement and in hospital wards.

Performs daily cleaning of all patient and client areas and other locations as directed by hospital manager, ward manager or veterinarians.

Performs on a rotating basis among other ward employees, a daily evaluation of the parking lots, walkways and animal exercise areas and clears these areas of all debris including trash, animal droppings, snow and ice (walkways only). Applies salt and sand to walkways and parking lots as directed by the ward department supervisor, office manager or veterinarians.

QUALIFICATIONS

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. Student technician assistants must be at least 16 years old and must be able to work independently. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill and / or ability required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

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EDUCATION and / or EXPERIENCE

Must be currently attending high school or college and prior animal handling or volunteer experience preferred.

LANGUAGE and MATHEMATICAL SKILLS

Effective oral and written communication skills are essential. Use of professional and courteous language during all discourse is mandatory. Verifying accuracy of medication dosage amounts may be required and can be determined with the use of the computer or calculator.

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.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to stand, walk and reach with hands and arms. The employee regularly is required to stoop, kneel or crouch, speak and hear. The employee must regularly lift and / or move up to 60 pounds. Any animal or item over 60 pounds must be lifted by 2 or more employees to avoid back injury. The employee is also regularly required to carry food and other items both up and down the stairs. The employee must regularly walk and restrain large and boisterous dogs. The employee is often expected to handle fractious cats for cage cleaning and medication administration.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is occasionally exposed to moving mechanical parts, fumes, airborne particles, toxic or caustic chemicals and risk of radiation. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate to high.

DRESS CODE

The employee is required to be dressed properly. Earrings and other piercings must be small and not dangling. Shoes must be closed-toe, comfortable with low heels and good traction. Sneakers are preferred. Work boots are permitted in the winter/spring months. Shirts must be plain with no logos or prints. Pants must be clean, neat and of the appropriate size and length (neither too short or too long). Jeans, skirts, capri/cropped pants or shorts are not acceptable. Employees may opt to wear coordinating scrubs.

Approval of attire is at the discretion of the ward department supervisor, practice manager or hospital owner. Lab coats are available to be worn over clothing.

RABIES VACCINATION

Students are not required to undergo rabies vaccination, but it is recommended if the student is planning to pursue a career in veterinary medicine. (The rabies vaccination would be administered by their own primary care physician or occupational health facility.) The Hospital does not reimburse for rabies vaccinations for Students. The student's parents or legal guardian must sign a waiver, acknowledging that they are aware of the vaccination recommendation but still choose not to get their son/daughter vaccinated. If they opt to not get vaccinated for rabies it is the student's responsibility to make sure they never handle any unvaccinated animals.

Received by:

Printed name

Signature and Date