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Position#: (PTAA) (NE) 7978
Developed by:.....SG;DLJ
Reviewed by:.....CG
Approved by:.....LK
Date:..12/93;05/06;10/16

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

Position Description

TITLE: Animal Technician
DIVISION: Research and Economic Development
REPORTS TO: Animal Technician II and Attending Veterinarian
GRADE: 3
SUPERVISES: Support staff

BASIC FUNCTION:

Work with laboratory and/or farm animals, and be responsible for basic laboratory sanitation, including feeding, watering, and cage cleaning.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Assist supervisor, attending veterinarian and investigators animal care.

Maintain adequate levels of animal feed, supplies and stocks. Adjust supply levels as needed to accommodate changing animal population.

Clean cages, feed/water animals and mix special diets.

Remain alert to changes in animals' behavior or condition. Notify supervisor, investigator and/or veterinarian as appropriate.

Handle animals injected with radioactive materials. Collect urine and feces, using metabolism cages. Clean and decontaminate the radioactive animal cages according to instructions provided by investigators.

OTHER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Perform record-keeping functions to assist supervisor, such as counting and recording daily animal census.

Assist supervisor/investigators with procedures (e.g., record animal weights; collection of blood, urine, feces specimens; take blood pressures of rats; injection of animals with drugs; anesthetizing animals; dissection and collection of different organs and tissues).

Perform other duties as required.

LICENSES, TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT:

Relevant laboratory equipment. Personal computers, printers, and word processing software. Certification by American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) as an Assistant Laboratory Animal Technician (ALAT) within two years of employment (AALAS requires one year experience prior to sitting for ALAT certification exam); Ability to lift 25 lbs.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS:

The potential exists where there is exposure to unpleasant odors, chemicals, drugs, radioactive isotopes, animal waste and the possibility of animal bites. This position is subject to both inside and outside work and extreme cold and hot temperatures can be encountered.

QUALIFICATIONS:

REQUIRED: High school diploma or GED; Demonstrated ability to obtain certification by American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) as an Assistant Laboratory Animal Technician (ALAT) within two years of employment (AALAS requires one year experience prior to sitting for ALAT certification exam); Willingness to work in animal care areas and associated laboratories where there is the possibility of animal bites and exposure to unpleasant odors, chemicals, drugs, and animal waste; Demonstrated ability to lift animal cages and heavy supplies (approximately 25 lbs.); Demonstrated strong interpersonal and verbal communication skills; Demonstrated proficiency in written communication skills; and, Demonstrated ability to work with diverse groups/populations.

ALL REQUIREMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE MODIFICATION TO REASONABLY ACCOMMODATE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.