

Class Code: 0958P-Rev
Position #: (PTAA).....(NE)
Developed by:.....
Reviewed by:...GB, LK
Approved by:.....LK.
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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
Position Description

TITLE: Technician I (Laboratory Animal Care)
DIVISION: Research and Economic Development
REPORTS TO: Technician II, Attending Veterinarian
GRADE: 7
SUPERVISES: N/A

BASIC FUNCTION:

Responsible for basic sanitation/disinfection and maintenance of an animal laboratory, and for daily record-keeping and operation of major laboratory equipment. Support researchers and perform general husbandry for laboratory animals.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Remain alert to changes in animals' behavior and/or condition. Assist in identifying causes of any changes and take appropriate action according to established policies and procedures. Notify supervisor, investigator and/or veterinarian as appropriate.

Provide animals with enrichment, and address maladaptive behaviors with the use of different types of enrichment products, where appropriate and permissible. Be familiar with subtle difference between different rodent strains.

Assist with cleaning cages (standard, ventilated, disposable, and metabolic), feeding of the animals, and mixing special diets.

Maintain adequate and appropriate levels of feed, supplies, and stock.

Perform daily census counts and maintain records.

Perform husbandry to maintain breeding colonies of small lab animals, including transgenic rodents. Correctly identify the sexes of rodents and separate weanlings when appropriate.

Perform different methods of animal identification.

Assist investigators with dosing, injections, blood withdrawals, surgeries and necropsies. Collect urine and feces using metabolism cages and other technical procedures.

Assist with setting up and cleaning up before and after procedures.

OTHER DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Assist supervisor with paperwork and recordkeeping.

Attend animal care meetings and other meetings as required.

Work with supervisor and investigators to review and revise policies and procedures. Keep investigators updated with new changes in Federal and University regulations.

Assist in training new animal users and students regarding laboratory policies and procedures.

Perform other duties as required.

LICENSES, TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT:

Relevant laboratory equipment. Personal computers, printers, and word processing software; driver's license.

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: Bachelor's degree in a science-related field, or high school diploma with a minimum of 3 years' experience working in a laboratory animal facility; Demonstrated evidence of current Assistant Laboratory Animal Technician (ALAT) certification as well as the ability to obtain a Laboratory Animal Technician (LAT) certification within one year of employment; Must have knowledge of laboratory animal behavior and physiology; Demonstrated experience with rodent breeding and colony maintenance; Demonstrated familiarity with the guidelines set forth by the federal government for the care and use of laboratory animals; Demonstrated ability to lift animal cages and heavy supplies; Demonstrated ability to measure food and mix solutions for special diets; Demonstrated ability to evaluate changes in animal behavior; Demonstrated organizational skills; Demonstrated ability to coordinate; Demonstrated strong interpersonal and verbal communication skills; Demonstrated proficiency in written communication skills; Must be able 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. Must have demonstrated ability to work with diverse groups; Must be able to work a flexible schedule and weekends and holidays when scheduled.

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