Laboratory Animal Technician

SERIES PURPOSE: The purpose of the Laboratory Animal Technician occupation is to maintain a basic program of animal care and perform custodial duties.

CLASS CONCEPT: The class works under general supervision and requires considerable knowledge of sanitation and feeding programs for animals in order to maintain a basic program of animal care and perform custodial duties. Incumbents maintain a record system for animals and supplies and assist supervisor, staff, and research workers with animal programs.

JOB DUTIES: Incumbents may perform some or all of these duties or other job-related duties as assigned.

Maintains basic program of animal care: feeds and waters animals; maintains equipment and housing systems; plans and supervises work schedules of student assistants; cleans cages and racks; etc. Performs miscellaneous custodial tasks related to animal care.

Observes, records, and reports data on animals and maintains record system for area; orders and receives supplies and equipment; may maintain budget records for area and filing.

Assists research workers, faculty, and veterinarian consultant with animal programs; may set up laboratories, repair instruments, issue chemicals, supplies, and equipment to students; cleans laboratory equipment; restrains animals; administers simple medication and collects specimens.

Assists faculty with surgical procedures in research experiments; cares for animals after surgery.

Breeds and maintains standard animal colonies and special animal models for research.

Supervises student assistants in care and maintenance of animals in Psychology Laboratory.

Performs other related duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:

Effective 04/12/2020
Knowledge of: inventory and supervisory processes and procedures*.

Skill in: use of personal computer.

Ability to: understand basic program of animal care; understand basic mathematic principles; complete routine forms and code items from one symbolic form to another; cooperate with coworkers on group projects.

(*) Developed after employment.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**: High School Diploma or GED: one year of experience in basic animal care and laboratory sanitation procedures.

**REQUIRED CERTIFICATIONS, TRAINING, AND/OR LICENSURES**: None

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**: In accordance with the U.S. Department of Labor physical demands strength ratings, this position will perform heavy work.

**HEAVY**: work involves exerting 50 to 100 pounds of force occasionally, or 25 pounds of force constantly to move objects.

**UNUSUAL WORKING CONDITIONS**: May be exposed to dangerous chemicals, materials, unpleasant odors, animal bites, and diseases; exposure to animal waste, odor, dust, water, and occasional steam; may work weekends to ensure animal care on 24-hour basis.