

Classification and Qualification



STANDARDS

The California State University System

Animal Health Technician

Class Code 0670

Date Established 11-01-82

Occupation Index Reference A-3

DEFINITION:

Under general supervision, the Animal Health Technician operates or supervises the operation of the veterinary clinic and pharmacy; acts as an assistant to a veterinarian; performs a variety of clinical laboratory tests; performs radiology services; does veterinary nursing; and maintains inventory control of supplies and equipment.

Examples of Typical Activities:

The Animal Health Technician plans, organizes and directs daily activities of the veterinary clinic which require a licensed technician and typically include assisting in surgical procedures, anesthesia, monitoring, handling, restraint and safety procedures in working with large animals; administering medications; giving treatments and drawing blood; performing laboratory procedures, operating a pharmacy, providing inventory control, taking and developing X-rays and maintaining records.

The clinical laboratory tests performed include chemical, microscopic, microbiological, cytological and other laboratory diagnostic tests. The Technician collects specimens; performs culture tests; prepares and reads antibiotic sensitivity tests; processes blood samples and performs various counts and other tests. The Technician assists in routine autopsy and tissue sample collection and prepares samples for shipment to outside laboratories. The Technician maintains and operates laboratory instruments and equipment including sterilizing, autoclaving and calibrating as well as maintaining the total laboratory in an orderly condition.

Laboratory tasks include preparing solutions, maintaining adequate supplies to meet operating needs.

Purchasing duties require locating vendors, determining availability and prices, preparing requisitions, receiving, and maintaining inventory records and controls for supplies and equipment as well as pharmaceuticals.

The Technician follows prescribed State of California and international health regulations and procedures related to the treatment and reporting of animal diseases and deaths.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Knowledge and Abilities:

Knowledge of the practices and procedures related to veterinary medicine and the clinic treatment of large animals; knowledge of the principles, practice and methods of animal health technology; knowledge of the methods and procedures for moving, restraining and handling large animals; knowledge of clinical laboratory test procedures and techniques; ability to operate clinical laboratory equipment; ability to work as an assistant to a veterinarian; ability to follow prescribed treatment protocol and procedures; ability to administer prescribed medications and draw blood of farm animals; ability to operate a clinic to provide a full range of animal health services and care; ability to gather purchasing information; ability to do record keeping and write simple reports.

and

Experience:

Equivalent to two years of progressively responsible experience as an Animal Health Technician for large farm animals and including responsibility for radiology and clinical laboratory tests.

and

License:

Possession of a California State Certificate as an Animal Health Technician with an endorsement in Radiology.

Work Week Group: 4B

Premium O/T: No

Shift Differential: No

Employee Category: 1