



Sonoma Humane Society Job Description

Job Title:	Veterinarian	Location:	Santa Rosa
Department:	Shelter Medicine	Hours:	20 hrs/week
FLSA Classification:	Part-time, exempt	Reports To:	Director of Shelter Medicine

SUMMARY

The Shelter Veterinarian provides high quality medical care to patients in the shelter including foster and fospice animals, as well as outpatient management for special medical cases.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide high quality, high volume spay/neuter for shelter animals.
- Practice veterinary medicine within a high volume shelter setting, being mindful of limited resources while at the same time striving to provide the best possible care on both a herd health and individual level.
- Examinations of SHS animals and all care needed to prepare those animals for adoption.
- Provide emergency care for shelter animals on site or on call.
- Perform soft tissue surgeries as needed for shelter owned animals.
- Perform dentals on shelter animals.
- Assist in the establishment and maintenance of procedures and protocols such as disease control, intake, and quarantine.
- Perform euthanasia when needed.
- Coordinate, when needed, specialized surgeries and consultations with outside veterinarians.
- Ensure that all state and federal laws, state regulations, and accepted standards regarding clinic operations, the practice of veterinary medicine, drug control, and animal care and handling are adhered to.
- Maintain up-to-date knowledge of shelter animal health protocols, surgical procedures and companion animal health issues.
- Build effective relationships through positive interaction and communication with the community, volunteers and staff.
- Attend all staff meetings and training sessions.
- Advocate the humane treatment of animals and be able to transmit these values to others.
- Always strive to work with the 5 freedoms of animal welfare in mind:
 - Freedom from hunger or thirst** by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigor
 - Freedom from discomfort** by providing an appropriate environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area
 - Freedom from pain, injury or disease** by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment
 - Freedom to express (most) normal behavior** by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal's own kind
 - Freedom from fear and distress** by ensuring conditions and treatment which avoid mental suffering

Supervision: This position reports to the Director of Shelter Medicine and has no direct reports.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of:

- Best practices in the shelter medical field.
- Common diseases of shelter animals, including symptoms and care.
- Recordkeeping methods and office procedures.
- Safe and efficient handling of small animals.
- Characteristics of animal behavior.
- Principles of supervision, training, and work coordination.
- Overseeing a medical support staff.

Skills:

- Meticulous and methodical attention to recordkeeping and reporting.
- Must be skilled in conflict resolution.
- Experience, efficiency and ability to practice high quality veterinary medicine for a high caseload of patients.
- Experience, efficiency and competency working in a high quality, high volume spay/neuter setting (cats, dogs, and rabbits).
- Effective time management skills and ability to thrive in a high volume, high stress environment.

Ability to:

- Deal cheerfully and tactfully with the public, staff, adopters, donors and volunteers with a positive attitude.
- Handle stress in a professional and considerate manner.
- Work on-call during weekends and after hours as needed.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from an accredited college or university and one year of professional veterinary medical experience.
- Possession of a current license to practice veterinary medicine in the state of California.
- An interest in and willingness to support the mission, vision, and philosophy of the Sonoma Humane Society.
- At least one year experience working in a shelter setting or other high-volume setting.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT

The physical demands and work environment characteristics described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

- Must be able to interact with animals.
- Ability to operate, maneuver and/or provide simple but continuous adjustments on equipment such a surgical instruments, syringes, microscopes, diagnostic equipment, computer terminal, and/or materials used in performing essential functions.
- Ability to coordinate eyes, hands, feet and limbs in performing movements requiring skill and training, such as performing surgery and giving injections.
- Tasks involve the ability to exert moderate but not constant physical effort, typically involving some combination of stooping, kneeling, crouching, and lifting, carrying objects and animals of moderate weight.
- Vision abilities required include close vision, distance vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.

Work environment: The employee is working in a shelter veterinary hospital and will be exposed to environmental factors such as temperature variations, odors, toxic agents, bites, scratches, noise, wetness, and disease that can cause discomfort and where there is a risk of injury.

NOTES: Nothing in this job description restricts management’s right to assign or reassign duties and responsibilities to this job at any time and the employee is expected to adhere to all company policies. The above information is representative of the work performed in this position, however it is not all-inclusive. The omission of a specific duty or responsibility does not exclude it from the position if the work is similar or related to the essential duties and responsibilities.

I have read and understand this explanation and job description and am able to perform all duties contained herein.

Employee Name

Manager Name

Signature

Signature

Date

Date