

## ANIMAL TECHNICIAN I

### NATURE OF WORK

This is technical work in the care of laboratory research animals.

Work involves caring for laboratory animals in accordance with specific directions received from a superior and includes the preparation of special foods, administering medicines, and breeding, weaning and sexing of some species of animals. Employees of this class receive in service training, are expected to undertake courses in laboratory animal technology and remain in this class until they receive certification. Work is performed under general supervision and is reviewed through observation of the animals and cleanliness of the cages, rooms and adjacent areas.

### ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK

Cares for a variety of laboratory animals required for experimental, medical and biological tests and research purposes.

Observes animals for medical reactions and administers medicines and injections according to prescribed instructions; collects blood and other samples as required.

Breeds some species of animals; weans and sexes newborn animals; quarantines newly-received animals.

Feeds and waters animals in accordance with specific instructions; cleans cages, rooms and adjacent areas; separates dead animals from live animals; disposes of animal refuse and dead animals.

Operates technical equipment; performs routine and minor repairs on cages, racks, feeders and other equipment and apparatus.

Maintains a variety of clerical records.

Performs related work as required.

### REQUIREMENTS OF WORK

Experience in feeding and caring for laboratory animals; graduation from high school supplemented by courses in animal husbandry; OR graduation from high school supplemented by the successful completion of the University training program; or any equivalent combination of experience and training which provides the following knowledge, abilities and skills:

Knowledge of the techniques involved in handling, breeding, observing and caring for a variety of laboratory animals.

Knowledge of common symptoms of illness or abnormality in laboratory animals.

Ability to perform tasks in the care and feeding of animals.

Ability to perform custodial tasks related to sanitation and cleanliness of cages and premises.

Ability to read, understand and interpret written and oral instructions.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with subordinates, officials, faculty and other employees.

Skill in handling and caring for laboratory animals.

Possession of a valid Province of Newfoundland and Labrador driver's license.

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**Confirmed: 2004.01.05**