



Position Title: **Veterinary Technician**

Department: Veterinary Services

Direct Report: Vice President of Veterinary Services

Position Summary:

The veterinary technician is responsible for supporting the veterinary services department to provide health care for the entire collection of animals at Mississippi Aquarium. It is essential that the technician be able to work independently, efficiently, and collaborate with all other departments at the aquarium. The ideal candidate will represent Mississippi Aquarium in a positive light and be enthusiastic and committed to all aspects of the job.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Maintain diagnostic equipment in hospital, necropsy, and laboratory areas
- Perform hematology, biochemistry, parasitology, urinalysis, and cytology analysis
- Schedule routine and sick examinations
- Collect diagnostic samples on all collection animals at direction of veterinarian
- Prepare and ship out diagnostic samples as needed
- Prepare for and assist in large procedures (medical and surgical)
- Complete medical treatments at direction of veterinarian
- Maintain supply and medication inventory
- Assist with and/or independently perform necropsy examinations
- Perform radiology procedures
- Fill and dispense prescriptions
- Care for animals under quarantine
- Maintain animal records
- Process research samples
- Maintain standard operating procedures (SOPs) for veterinary department
- Mentor and assist with training of less experienced staff
- Work with other departments as needed
- Give presentations for aquarium staff and at professional meetings
- Other duties as assigned
- Provide technician services at the aquarium as well as at off-site facilities



Requirements:

- At minimum an Associate of Applied Science from an AVMA-accredited veterinary technology OR 5+ years' experience working as a veterinary assistant in zoos/aquariums
- Experience with laboratory diagnostics
- Experience with aquatic species and/or exotic and zoo species
- Lift, push, pull at least 50 pounds
- Computer skills
- Strong written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to follow written standard operating procedures and verbal directives independently
- Knowledge or ability to train on proper use of protection gear
- Comfortable working around water, chemicals, medications, and animals
- Able to work indoors and outdoors in all weather conditions
- Flexible schedule to allow for working various shifts/hours including some nights, weekends, and holidays
- Able to be on call to respond for emergencies
- Hold valid state driver's license

Desired qualifications:

- LVT, CVT, or RVT or ability to become licensed within 1 year of hire
- Experience with ZIMS/Species 360 record keeping system
- Experience performing necropsy examinations
- Interest in rehabilitation of animals

Note: This position will involve exposure to inclement weather, dust, potentially dangerous and unpredictable animals, potentially dangerous machinery, restraint devices, toxic chemicals and/or drugs, and zoonotic diseases. Occasional use of protective clothing or equipment will be required. For example, goggles, mask, gloves, gowns, and other items as necessary.

This job description is not designed to cover or contain a comprehensive listing of activities, duties or responsibilities that are required of the employee for this job. Duties, responsibilities, and activities may change at any time with or without notice.

Will be required to provide 2 written letters of recommendation if asked to interview

TEAM REQUIREMENTS

- **Safety & Security** - All Team Members are required to adhere to all Mississippi Aquarium safety and security standards.
- **Attendance & Appearance** - To maximize the guest's experience, all Team Members are required to adhere to Mississippi Aquarium standard operating procedures regarding attendance and dress code policies as it relates to individual job functionality. Tattoos and piercings must be appropriate and in keeping with a professional image. Depending on the work area, management reserves the right to determine that tattoos will need to be covered during your shift.
- **Sales & Guest Services** - Our forward-thinking business model requires listening and understanding the needs of our guests both internal and external. To that end, we must always be focused on the guest experience which is the key driver for return guest visitation and increased sales.
- **Team Partnership** - All Team Members are focused on supporting each other to complete the guest experience. Therefore, supporting, facilitating, and participating in activities that promote team effectiveness is vital to our Organization.

Physical Demands & Work Environment:

The physical demands and work environment 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. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is occasionally required to stand; walk; sit; use hands to finger, handle, or feel objects, tools or controls; reach with hands and arms; climb stairs; balance; stoop, kneel, crouch or crawl; talk or hear; taste or smell. The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 60 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by the job include close vision, distance vision, color and peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is exposed to weather conditions prevalent at the time. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate.