

ANIMAL CARE TECHNICIAN INFORMATION SHEET

The Animal Care Technician class has provided many people with a good opportunity to enter the City of Los Angeles employment. The Animal Care Technician job has many accompanying fringe benefits as well as a good starting salary.

Animal Care Technicians often work independently. The work of caring for animals provides a setting that requires the use of sound judgment and initiative for satisfactory Animal Care Technician job performance.

All Animal Care Technicians must perform the full range of duties in a variety of work settings as described below. Many of these duties and work settings may not be considered desirable; however, if you are prepared to perform all aspects of the job, the work of an Animal Care Technician can be rewarding.

Therefore, the following information is provided to Animal Care Technician candidates in order to better prepare them for certain aspects of the job.

PHYSICAL NATURE OF THE WORK

The work of Animal Care Technicians requires that they:

1. Crawl into cages in order to clean them;
2. Lift cages, lift and control animals which may be unruly and vicious, and/or lift food (feed sacks) which may weigh between 50 and 100 pounds;
3. Stand, bend and/or stoop frequently for long periods of time;
4. Clean shelter grounds and facilities of fecal matter, urine, blood, and animal carcasses;
5. Bathe sick and/or parasite and insect-infested animals;
6. Work outside in all types of weather;
7. Work with chemicals and other hazardous materials;
8. Possible exposure to zoonotic diseases;

OTHER WORK CONDITIONS

Animal Care Technicians must provide exceptional customer service via phone and/or counter interaction. This may include dealing with customers who might be difficult, irate, or emotional. An Animal Care Technician must be available for any assignment to various shifts including weekends and holidays and to any one of the several animal shelters located throughout the City of Los Angeles. At times, an Animal Care Technician may be the only staff member at a shelter.