

KERN COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
APPROVED MARCH 2026
RANGE: 37.0
CLASSIFIED
CODE: 7

ANIMAL KEEPER II – HOSPITAL/WILDLIFE REHABILITATION

DEFINITION

Under the direct supervision of the Veterinarian, is responsible for the daily husbandry and care of the animals in the Hospital and CALM's Wildlife Rehabilitation Center (CWRC), monitoring animal health, keeping accurate records, supporting in medical care, maintaining the condition of animal enclosures, and interaction with the public on all aspects of wildlife rehabilitation.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

Perform intake, examination, and treatment of CALM Animals, filling out all paperwork completely, initial set up of animal (including hydration, feeding and initial medical care), and working with the public bring in the animal in a positive manner;

feed all animals according to dietary guidelines and feeding schedules;

make daily diets for a variety of animals according to their treatment plans;

clean and maintain all animal enclosures;

monitor health of animals and report observations to veterinary staff;

medicate sick or injured animals;

keep patient treatment boards current with case information/treatment/feeding;

complete facility and enclosure maintenance and landscaping as required, including repairs, mowing, weed eating etc.;

maintain an in-depth knowledge of CWRC/CALM policies and protocols;

assist in training volunteers and interns on the proper handling and care of animals at CWRC/CALM;

mentor volunteers and interns being sure the quality of care given is up to CWRC/CALM standards;

work directly with the curator and veterinary care team to establish quality of life for a variety of species;

perform animal releases of a variety of species in appropriate locations;

maintain safe and professional work environment at all times;

transport animal to offsite veterinary visits as needed;

maintain a calm and proactive demeanor during animal emergencies;

assist with maintaining inventory for wildlife care including maintaining food supplies, supplements and other necessary supplies for cleaning, and maintaining cage and facility upkeep;

participate in special events and educational programs on caring for wildlife in captivity and wildlife rehabilitation;

answer questions and educate the public on all aspects of CWRC/CALM including inquiries on injured, orphaned, nuisance or abandoned animals;

assist in medical procedures as directed;

perform overnight and at-home animal care of a variety of species when necessary;

perform other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Proper techniques in handling and restraining wildlife;

medical terminology as it pertains to medication administration and dosing;

biosecurity and quarantine procedures as it pertains to wildlife care practices.

local wildlife including their natural environment, life stages, and behavior throughout the year;

identifying a wide variety of animals including birds, mammals, reptiles, and other species to ensure proper and safe handling.

Ability to:

Assess the treatment needs of a variety of wildlife species;

handle live animals for the purpose of feeding wildlife animals;

work independently or as a member of a team;

work positively with volunteers, interns, and members of the public;

lift 50lbs often and team lift 125lbs occasionally;

read, speak, and write English;

weigh and measure accurately;

work outside in inclement weather conditions, including dust, heat, rain, and pollen;

see, hear, reach, bend, kneel, run and walk on rough terrain;

work weekends, holidays, and special events.

Experience:

One (1) year paid experience in veterinary hospital or clinic, working directly with animals.

Veterinary assistant certification preferred.

One year experience working with wildlife preferred.

Education:

High School graduate.

AA or BS degree in Zoology, Biology, Wildlife Management, or related discipline preferred

Conditions of employment:

Passage of pre-employment medical assessment.

Some positions may require proof of privately owned automobile insurance and possession of a valid California Motor Vehicle operator's license which must be maintained for the duration of the assignment.

Fingerprint clearance by both the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the California Department of Justice is a condition of appointment after all other required job conditions have been met.

Must present verification of completion of Child Abuse Mandated Reporter training or obtain verification within six (6) weeks of hire and annually thereafter, as required by the California Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act.

This position has a probationary period of six months or 130 days, whichever is longer.

CP: ra

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