

ZOO KEEPER AIDE

DEFINITION

Under immediate supervision, performs routine animal keeping maintenance work to maintain exhibits at the Santa Ana Zoo in Prentice Park.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO

Cleans animal exhibits and holding areas. Assists keepers in preparing animal diets, feeding and watering animals in accordance with a predetermined and approved diet and schedule. Performs light ground maintenance work such as hosing, raking, and sweeping around exhibits and viewing areas. Uses a computer to maintain routine records and prepare simple reports. May operate various vehicles and equipment. May lift and carry items weighing up to 50 lbs. Performs other related functions as assigned.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS

This entry-level class involves basic zoo keeping maintenance work. This class is distinguished from the next higher classification of Zoo Keeper I by the performance of the more routine tasks and duties, which require less skill and experience and have minimal animal contact.

MINIMUM BASIC QUALIFICATIONS

Six months of experience working with animals or any equivalent combination of training and experience that provides the knowledge and abilities listed below. Coursework in biology, zoology, animal husbandry or related field may be used in combination with experience to provide the following knowledge, skills and abilities:

DESIRABLE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of: common varieties of wild and domestic animals, and basic principles and practices of their behavior and care; tools and equipment used in basic maintenance, particularly of animal cages and exhibit grounds; safe work practices.

Ability to: understand and follow oral and written instructions; keep routine records and write simple reports; lift and carry up to 50 lbs.; interact in a tactful and courteous manner with the public; perform routine and light maintenance work requiring physical stamina; perform basic first aid; establish and maintain effective working relationships with coworkers, supervisors, and the general public.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Physical stamina to lift moderately heavy tools, machinery or equipment, and to stand, bend or stoop for prolonged periods of time. Possession and retention of a valid California Class "C" Driver's License is a condition of continued employment.

SPECIAL WORKING CONDITIONS

Must be willing and able to work any shift, including weekends, evenings, and holidays on a regular basis and nights on an emergency or as-needed basis.

Must be willing and able to work outside in a variety of weather conditions.

CHARACTERISTICS OF SUCCESSFUL PERFORMERS

Successful performers are highly reliable individuals that have a strong work ethic and take pride in performing thorough, high-quality animal keeping maintenance work. These growth-oriented individuals are energetic, well-coordinated and fast learners.

Class title established per Council Resolution No. 96-011,
effective 2-1-96

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