



Job Description for Associate Veterinarian

Job Title: Associate Veterinarian

Notes: New graduates welcome to apply!

Reports To: Medical Director

Locations Available: Monroe, LA 71203 (1 opening), San Antonio, TX area (4 openings – multiple clinics), Westminster, CO (3 openings)

Hours of Operation: Dependent on clinic applying to, please visit www.vitalpet.com to see our clinic specific details

Position Summary

The purpose of this position is to maintain animal health by diagnosing and treating diseases and injuries. The Associate Veterinarian works under the direct guidance and supervision of the owner doctor(s) and medical director of VitalPet's veterinary clinics and hospitals. The Associate Veterinarian is to make every effort to help improve the quality of care given to the patients of VitalPet's veterinary clinics and hospitals.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Examine animals to detect and determine the nature of diseases or injuries.
- Treat sick or injured animals by prescribing medication, setting bones, dressing wounds, performing surgery, or other therapies.
- Inoculate animals against various diseases.
- Collect body tissue, feces, blood, urine, or other body fluids for examination and analysis.
- Perform laboratory procedures and diagnostic tests, including parasitology, hematology and urinalysis.
- Operate diagnostic equipment, such as radiographic and ultrasound equipment, and interpret the resulting images.
- Administer anesthetics, perform surgery, and monitor patients during surgery and recovery with the assistance of the technical team.
- Follow discharge guidelines for hospitalized and post-surgery patients and treatment plan guidelines for clients to ensure proper patient treatment in the home environment including client follow up post hospitalization.
- Answer client questions and provide education on various aspects of animal care and treatment. Advise animal owners regarding sanitary measures, feeding, and general care necessary to promote health of their pets.



- Educate the public about diseases that can be spread from animals to humans.
- Call back/follow-up with clients; recommend medical progress visits when appropriate.
- Humanely euthanize animals when it has been mutually agreed upon by the patient's owner.
- Document actions by completing forms, reports, logs and patient records.
- Train and supervise team members who handle and care for animals; as needed.
- Deal with clients and employees in a manner that shows sensitivity, tact and professionalism.
- Provide guidance and leadership to the healthcare team that will positively influence the level of care and service provided to the clients and patients of VitalPet.
- Participate in business development as instructed by management and/or ownership.
- Attend monthly team meetings and other pertinent in-house training.
- Perform other duties assigned

Skills and Knowledge

- **Valid and in good standing licensed veterinarian within the state of the clinic/ hospital you are applying for.**
- **Privilege and DEA licenses.**
- Knowledge of principles, theories and practices of veterinary medicine and science. Knowledge of the procedures used for receiving, treating, and scheduling patients, for ordering medical supplies, and requesting laboratory tests.
- The associate must possess the mental and emotional health required for full utilization of his or her intellectual abilities, the exercise of good judgment, the prompt completion of all responsibilities and responsibilities attendant to the diagnosis and care of patients, and the development of mature, sensitive and effective relationships with clients and the health care team.
- Ability to read and interpret documents, including federal and state regulations, operating and maintenance instructions, and procedure manuals, medical texts.
- Ability to write reports and correspondences.
- Knowledge of the use, care, and storage of veterinary instruments, materials, and equipment including sterilization techniques for various instruments and materials.
- Medicine and Dentistry — Knowledge of the information and techniques needed to diagnose and treat injuries, diseases, and deformities. This includes symptoms, treatment alternatives, drug properties and interactions, and preventive health-care measures.



- Ability to function in a variety of clinical situations and to render a wide spectrum of patient care.
- Ability to speak with clients and to hear and observe patients in order to elicit information, describe changes in mood, activity and posture, and perceive nonverbal communications.
- Ability to communicate effectively, efficiently and sensitively with patients, owners, peers and team members showing compassion, integrity and concern for others. Communication includes speech, reading and writing.
- The ability to incorporate new information from peers, and medical literature in formulating diagnoses and plans.
- Good judgment in patient assessment, diagnostic and therapeutic planning; associate must be able to identify and communicate this knowledge to others when appropriate.
- Regular attendance and timeliness are an essential function in order to fulfill the requirements of this position.
- Ability to multi-task.
- Strong computer skills in order to obtain and enter client information, order laboratory and diagnostic tests, and receive and send messages.
- Commitment to practicing the highest standard of medicine, upholding the veterinary code of ethics.
- Commitment to the mission of VitalPet.

Controls Over Work

The associate veterinarian provides continuing or individual assignments to the healthcare team indicating generally what is to be done, limitations, quality and quantity expected in accordance with the hospital policies and procedures. The associate veterinarian uses initiative in carrying out recurring assignments independently without specific instructions, but refers deviations, problems, and unfamiliar situations not covered by instructions to the owner-doctor(s) or medical director for decision or help. Administrative supervision may be provided by the Office or Practice Manager.

Physical Demands

The physical demands 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.



Amount of Time Spent on Task

Task	None	Less than 1/3	1/3 to 2/3	More than 2/3
Stand				X
Walk				X
Sit			X	
Use hands to finger, handle, or feel				X
Climb or balance				X
Stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl				X
Talk or hear				X
Taste or smell			X	

The job requires the following lifting requirements and/or exerted force be performed on the job.

Amount of Time Spent on Lifting Amounts

Lifting Amount	None	Less than 1/3	1/3 to 2/3	More than 2/3
Up to 10 pounds				X
Up to 25 pounds				X
Up to 50 pounds				X
Up to 100 pounds			X (with assistance)	
More than 100 pounds			X (with assistance)	

This job description is not designed to cover or contain a comprehensive listing of activities, duties or responsibilities that are required of the employee.

Other duties, responsibilities and activities may change or be assigned at any time with or without notice.



Work Environment

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is exposed to hazards associated with aggressive patients; hazards associated with infected animals and controlled substances; exposure to unpleasant odors and noises; exposure to bites, scratches and animal wastes; possible exposure to contagious diseases.

Work is normally performed inside; some outside work is required.

Follow federal and state animal health laws and regulations including OSHA and DEA.

VitalPet is an equal opportunity employer. It is the policy of the practice to prohibit discrimination and harassment of any type and to afford equal employment opportunities to employees and applicants without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, gender identity or expression, or veteran status. The practice will conform to the spirit as well as the letter of all applicable laws and regulations.