

**BOARD OF REGENTS  
STATE OF IOWA  
REGENT MERIT SYSTEM**

**Class Title:** Veterinary Technician III

**Class Code:** 7603

**Pay Grade:** 416

**GENERAL CLASS DESCRIPTION:**

Under the direction and supervision of a licensed Veterinarian, provides and oversees specialized nursing care for ill and injured animal patients or animals used in a research or hospital setting. Instructs and demonstrates veterinary care, animal husbandry, and technical skills to students, Veterinary Technician I and II. Provides assistance to fourth-year veterinary students, Veterinarians, and investigative staff in their treatment of animals, teaching, or research functions. Exercises control over the continual work product of others within assigned service. Position operates independently in performing the full scope of specialized care. Provides mentorship and guidance to Veterinary Technician I and II.

**CHARACTERISTIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

1. Assists and has elevated responsibilities with the instruction and evaluation of veterinary and veterinary technology students, Veterinary Technician level I and II. In a clinical or classroom setting provides demonstrations of specialized skill level in areas such as proper medical record keeping, animal restraint, phlebotomy, intravenous and urinary catheterization, fluid therapy, aseptic technique, anesthetic monitoring of American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) physical status classification system, level I-V and postoperative care.
2. Responsible for providing specialized nursing care on ASA I-V patients which are considered to be healthy, have mild or severe systemic disease, including patients not expected to survive. Nursing care to include but not limited to: placing and maintaining intravenous, urinary, and arterial catheters, central lines, nasogastric tubes, and nasal oxygen; administering fluids and medications orally, parenterally, and enterally; utilizing blood products; performing mechanical ventilation, Vapotherm, plasmapheresis and other specialized treatments.

The tasks listed under the heading of Characteristic Duties and Responsibilities are examples of the variety and general nature of duties performed by employees in positions allocated in the class. The list is descriptive only and should be used for no other purpose. It is not intended that any position include every duty listed, nor is it intended that related duties cannot be required.

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3. Collects, analyzes, and processes samples for research, diagnostic, and clinical purposes.
4. Monitors the patient's condition and effectiveness of medications.
5. Performs specialized preparatory procedures on various animal species and assists staff members in surgical, medical and laboratory procedure preparation (such as adrenalectomy, ruptured bladder, septic abdomen, and chest tube thoracostomy, bone marrow aspiration, total hip replacement surgery etc.), including instrument and supply set up.
6. Administers anesthesia and monitors patient response through the recovery period for ASA I-V patients; maintains and utilizes anesthetic and mechanical monitoring equipment.
7. Maintains orderly and sanitary work areas for clinical, teaching, and research facilities.
8. Monitors effectiveness of autoclaves.
9. Stocks and organizes patient exam rooms, treatment areas, holding areas and operating rooms.
10. May determine and enter hospital charges and medical records into the computer to create accurate records for billing accounts and evaluate charges to ensure hospital costs are accurately captured.
11. Responsible for set up, inventory, maintenance, security, and repairs for equipment and instruments used in surgical procedures, emergencies and/or lab sessions. Monitors the effectiveness of environmental sanitation programs. Monitors and reports aberrations in environmental systems as they relate to animal and public health.
12. Creates drafts and evaluates reports of institutional programs (i.e., postoperative care, anesthesia monitoring, facility maintenance, etc.).
13. Utilizes ultrasound machines and x-rays, assist with MRI, or other related imaging equipment for patient diagnostics.

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:**

1. Demonstrates independence in performance of advanced and specialized technical skills of assigned department safely and with a high degree of success without coaching or prompting in the majority of situations.

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2. Knowledge of animal health and welfare - animal isolation, sample collection, medical treatment, nursing and monitoring, pre & post-surgical requirements including room and supply preparation.
3. Knowledge of pharmacology - dosage, calculations, and usage.
4. Knowledge of animal husbandry - animal feeding, watering, grooming, handling, safe transporting, and environmental requirements.
5. Knowledge of record maintenance - collecting and recording data.
6. Knowledge of trimming, clipping, or grooming animals.
7. Knowledge of teaching and/or demonstration of safe animal handling.
8. Knowledge of regulatory requirements (Animal Welfare Act, Public Health Service, etc.).
9. Ability to handle, restrain, move, load, and unload animals.
10. Ability to administer medication - topical, injectable, oral, and rectal.
11. Ability to check and interpret vital signs.
12. Ability to lift, carry, push, or pull up to 70 pounds.
13. Ability to instruct and demonstrate veterinary techniques in handling, grooming, and nursing animals.
14. Ability to interact in a professional capacity.
15. Ability to multi-task and work cooperatively with others.
16. Ability to prioritize daily tasks.
17. Ability to work in high stress environments.
18. Knowledge of computers, computerized medical record systems, and word processing software, such as Microsoft Word and Excel.

**MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:**

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1. Registered, licensed, or certified as a veterinary technician, and either
2. Associates degree in a veterinary technology program accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) or the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) and six years of experience with the care and treatment of animals in a veterinary teaching hospital, specialty and referral practice, laboratory animal medicine, or research enterprise, or
3. Bachelor's degree in a veterinary technology program accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) or the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) and five years of experience with the care and treatment of animals in a veterinary teaching hospital, specialty and referral practice, laboratory animal medicine, or research enterprise

**REVISION EFFECTIVE December 1, 2022**