

Animal Care Technician

Salary: \$39,196-\$42,427

Type: Full Time

Benefits: Full Benefits

Date Posted: 7/24/2025

About ABCD

The Arts, Business, & Culture Department is responsible for fostering Salisbury's thriving economic climate through supporting business, expanding economic opportunity, promoting artistic expression, hosting unique experiences, and maintaining regional attractions such as the Salisbury Zoo and Poplar Hill Mansion. By producing signature events, facilitating business incentives, and collaborating with stakeholders, this department strives to make Salisbury a place where arts, business, and culture intersect and flourish.

Profile

Under the general supervision of the Collection Curator, the Animal Care Technician prepares food for the animals, cleans and disinfects animal exhibits, and implements behavioral enrichment to enhance the animals' lives; performs other duties as assigned.

Education

- High School Diploma or G.E.D.

Experience

- Three years related experience.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Three years of experience working with large animals; or equivalent training, education, and/or experience
- Ability to read, analyze and interpret complex documents.
- Ability to effectively communicate with the public courteously and tactfully at all times.
- Knowledge of safe animal handling procedures.

Requirements/Certifications

- Valid Driver's License
- CPR/First Aid Certification -must obtain within 60 days of hire

How to Apply

1 Visit salisbury.md/apply

2 Submit City application, cover letter, and resume

Studies have shown that women and people of color are less likely to apply for jobs unless they believe they can perform every job description task. We are most interested in finding the best candidate for the job, and that candidate may come from a less traditional background. The City may consider an equivalent combination of knowledge, skills, education, and experience to meet minimum qualifications. If you are interested in applying, we encourage you to think broadly about your background and skill set for the role. Jobs will be posted for a minimum of 2 weeks.

Classification Title: Animal Care Technician

Grade: 3

Department: Arts, Business and Culture Department (ABCD)

FLSA Status: Exempt

Date: 07/17/2025

Position Profile: Under the general supervision of the Lead Keeper/Animal Care Supervisor, prepares food for the animals, cleans and disinfects animal exhibits, and implements behavioral enrichment to enhance the animals' lives; performs other duties as assigned.

Duties and Responsibilities

Administration/Department Administration: Manage the overall animal care team and procedures while performing routine animal husbandry duties for living collections.

- Prepares appropriate diets for all animals.
- Cleans animals and maintains animal exhibits.
- Observes animals for odd behavior or illness.
- Assists the veterinarian in the treatment of animals with illnesses or injuries.
- keepers.
- Assists with facility maintenance.
- Help with general maintenance as needed.
- Performs and records animal observations.
- Handles and transports animals as needed. Both on and off site.

Skills Proficiency/Strategic Planning:

1. Working knowledge of City policies and procedures;
2. Knowledge of zoological policies and practices regarding animal care and exhibit maintenance;
3. Knowledge of animal diet requirements;
4. Knowledge of safe animal handling procedures;
5. Follow written and oral instructions;
6. Effectively prioritize and multitask with attention to detail; and
7. Pass a 6-hour shooting range course.

Leadership/Team Leader: Provides strong guidance and oversight. Instills confidence and inspires action while maintaining accountability.

- Act as a representative of the City of Salisbury to the public.
- Participate in all Salisbury Zoo and Human Resources trainings
- Ability to effectively communicate with the public courteously and tactfully at all times.

Stewardship/Financial: Prepares and manages portions of capital and operating budgets within established guidelines.

- Basic understanding of the zoo budget
- Institutional Records Keeping

Development/Leadership Development: Provides opportunities to engage in leadership development and learn about career advancement.

- Keeps informed on current Zoological and animal care practices by attending workshops and educational programs or reading specialized literature.
- Maintain and establishes essential training programs
- Generate individual annual performance goals that reflect institutional mission and strategic priorities.
- Works on improving customer service skills by attending relevant meetings and trainings.
- Effectively communicate with the public courteously and tactfully at all times;
- Effectively communicate and maintain effective working relationships with other staff members and members of the public.

Performance Expectations

- **Communication:** Articulates thoughts and ideas clearly and effectively to exchange information. Listens to others and provides useful feedback. Effectively communicate with the public courteously and tactfully at all times.
- **Work Ethic:** Demonstrates personal accountability, effective work habits, integrity and ethical behavior.
- **Teamwork:** Works well as a part of a team through respectful and collaborative relationships with colleagues, customers, affiliates and stakeholder groups.
- **Problem Solving:** Improves, designs, refines, finds and invents criteria in order to resolve problems. This combines creative and critical thinking.
- **Initiative:** Takes charge before others do and/or without being instructed.

Education and Experience

- High school diploma or G.E.D.
- Three years of experience working with large animals;
- Or equivalent training, education, and/or experience; and
- Valid State Driver's License
- Obtain CPR/first aid certification.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills. Ability to read, analyze and interpret complex documents.
- Capability to solve problems creatively, establish facts and draw valid conclusions.
- Knowledge of safe animal handling procedures.
- Working knowledge of City policies and procedures.

Physical Requirements

Work is performed in and around zoo facilities and involves exposure to extreme weather conditions, contact with exotic animals and considerable physical effort in the handling of materials up to 50 pounds and/or continual standing or walking 60% of the time.

The above job description is not intended as, nor should it be construed as, exhaustive of all responsibilities, skills, efforts, or working conditions associated with this job.

Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable qualified individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of this job.