

The University of Akron  
**Classification Specification**

<b>Job Title:</b>	Vivarium Technician	<b>Job Code:</b>	81300
<b>Job Function:</b>	Staff	<b>Grade:</b>	116
<b>Job Family:</b>	Bargaining Unit	<b>FLSA:</b>	Non-Exempt
<b>SOC Description:</b>	8000 Academic Services Division	<b>Date:</b>	9/18;4/14

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**Job Summary:**

With minimal supervision from Vivarium Manager, maintain animal care, veterinary, and facility programs, including overseeing, performing, and assigning tasks in the routine care and husbandry of animals used in research and teaching. Conduct work according to departmental SOPs, IACUC policies, and federal regulations, including the Animal Welfare Act and the Public Health Service regulations. Train and supervise student employees. Train and monitor facility users. Perform research, surgical, and veterinary procedures as directed by the Attending Veterinarian or supervisor. Assist with developing and implementing SOPs, training programs, processes and procedures. Animal care is a 7-day per week, year-round, job; must be able to work weekends and holidays to ensure appropriate coverage in the facility.

**Essential Functions:**

60% Manage daily operations of the facility as directed by and/or in the absence of the Supervisor. Independently conduct daily rounds and examine, evaluate, treat, and document health issues for multiple species of laboratory animals per facility policy. Collect biological samples from animals and administer medical treatments under the supervision of Veterinarian and/or UARV Manager. Maintain records of animal colonies; document related service charges; and communicate findings about animal health. Receive animal shipments and monitor during quarantine period. Maintain and manage supply inventory. Maintain the organization, cleanliness, and sanitization of Vivarium facilities.

20% Under the direction of the Veterinarian and/or facility Manager, provides hands-on training to researchers (including PIs, post-docs, visiting scientists, graduate students) and students; provide technical assistance when necessary. With Manager, provide basic training and education of Vivarium users in proper use and care of lab animals. Train and supervise student assistants. Monitor all facility users. Assist Manager with development of educational programs and/or workshops.

20% Prepare, maintain, and clean surgical suite and anesthesia equipment in accordance with established policies and regulations. Provide surgical support and medical treatment for multiple species of laboratory animals. Assist in pre-op, intra-op, and post-op procedures (including prep of equipment and supplies when required). Monitor condition of post-operative animal. Extract, collect and process animal tissue and blood samples. Handle disposal of biological waste.

**Education:**

Requires 18 months of education or training beyond high school.

**Licenses/Certifications/Requirements:**

CITI required within 60 days (period of time) after hire date. AALAS certification preferred (ALAT, LAT, or LATG).

**Experience:**

Requires a minimum of 2 years' experience working within a USDA approved and/or AAALAC accredited animal research facility, or a combination of relevant experience and education. Requires knowledge of governmental regulations, policies, and procedures regarding the operation of a research vivarium. Requires critical thinking skills, decisive judgment, and the ability to work with minimal supervision. Ability to handle animals, work in a research environment, and take appropriate action. Ability to comprehend written and spoken English terms used in a biomedical research environment. Ability to comprehend and follow SOPs, research protocols, and written/oral instructions from veterinary, supervisory, and research staff. Ability to communicate (in writing and verbally) medical issues and document in medical records and via email. A conscientious attitude, concern for quality and animal welfare. Ability to complete tasks to fulfill guidelines according to regulations. Proficiency at in vivo research techniques and veterinary techniques including rodent surgical models, animal anesthesia, surgical preparation, blood collection, and dosing. Ability to work with people from diverse cultures and backgrounds required. Basic computer skills (including spreadsheet and word processing) required.

**Leadership:**

Responsible for directing and monitoring the work of student and/or temporary workers.

**Physical Requirements:**

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The intent of this classification specification is to provide a representative summary of the types of duties and responsibilities that will be required of positions given this title and shall not be construed as a declaration of the specific duties and responsibilities of any particular position. Employees may be requested to perform job-related tasks other than those specifically presented in this description. The University requires that all University employees whose assigned duties include some involvement with The University of Akron's intercollegiate athletics program, comply with all relevant NCAA Bylaws in performing their work.

Moderate physical effort required involving long periods of standing, walking on rough surfaces, bending and/or stooping; periodic lifting of moderately heavy items (over 25 lbs. -- 50 lbs.).

**Working Conditions:**

Frequent or prolonged exposure to extreme levels of temperature, air pollution, noise, radiation, chemicals, contagious diseases, gasses and substances, heights, moving parts, or electrical hazards.

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