



Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center

Animal Keeper

Wage: \$20/hr, DOE

Status: Full-time, year-round

FLSA Status: Non-exempt

Start date: ASAP

Reports To : Animal Curator, Assistant Curator

Under direct supervision of the Animal Curator, the Animal Care Keeper performs tasks requiring specialized skills in connection with the care and maintenance of the animal collection and exhibit facilities at the center.

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Works days and hours assigned by the Animal Curator; changes based on season. Requires late shifts until closing (8pm) during summer operating hours, as well as possible overnights during calving season.
- Provides water and food for animals and cleans exhibits in assigned area. Makes daily animal observations and reports any abnormal behavior or health concerns, exhibit security, and/or safety concerns to the on-duty supervisor immediately.
- Diet preparation and distribution following prescribed diet and feeding procedures. Records diet consumption daily and notifies supervisor of feeding behavior changes.
- Recommends improvements in animal care procedures and schedules, exhibit upkeep and employee and visitor safety.
- Carries out prescribed veterinary treatments as assigned by the contracted veterinary staff and Animal Care management. Assists in capture and crating/uncrating of animals.
- Performs routine maintenance and upkeep of walkways, zoo grounds and facilities as assigned. Reports repairs that are needed and checks and maintains equipment used.
- Acts as a liaison to the public by courteously answering questions and respectfully enforcing visitor expectations.
- Presents educational programs and tours when assigned.
- Research and preparation of information regarding zoo specimens for discussion with the public and other professionals.
- Represents the AWCC animal care department in a positive way during any filming operations the AWCC management decides to partake in; helping to promote the facility in a positive light and garner public support.
- Reports all departmental personnel concerns directly and immediately to the Animal Curator.
- Carries out the responsibilities of the position in a professional and appropriate manner.
- Other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Ability to work in a team environment to help achieve AWCC's goals and objectives.
- Strong communication skills, both written and oral.
- Excellent customer services skills.
- Exceptional work ethic, attention to detail and time management skills.
- Abilities to lift 80#, bend, reach, stand, crawl, and work in a drastically changing weather environment.
- Ability to compromise, listen, learn, understand, and follow instructions and directions.
- Skill in establishing and maintaining cooperative working relationships with other employees.
- Ability to work directly with the public, providing information and assistance as needed.
- Ability/willingness to learn and pass on to customers those areas of interest to visitors, such as local history, people, culture, geography, etc.
- Must be able to work a flexible schedule as needed.
- Efficient, organizational skills, time management and ability to multitask.
- Current on the following vaccinations: COVID-19, Tetanus, and Rabies series.

PREFERRED SKILLS

- A Bachelor of Science degree in the animal sciences field
- A minimum of 1 year of related experience.
- A positive attitude and strong work ethic.

BENEFITS

- \$20/hour pay rate, DOE
- 10 paid holidays including: New Years, Easter, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Day-after Thanksgiving, Christmas, Christmas Eve, and the employee's birthday
- Medical, dental and vision insurance, employer covers 100% of premium
- Sick Leave
- PTO package up to 2 weeks in first year of employment
- 403-b retirement option, matching 3% after 1 year of service
- Housing available on-site; bunkhouse and bunkbed style housing

DATE: _____

EMPLOYEE PRINTED NAME: _____

EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE: _____