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Silver Spring, MD 20910
(301) 448-1407

Primate Sanctuary Veterinary Technician

Born Free Primate Sanctuary, Cotulla, TX 78014

Position Description:

The Born Free Primate Sanctuary's aim is to provide nonhuman primates a lifelong home and a high standard of care without being needlessly intrusive. The 175-acre sanctuary located 90 miles south of San Antonio, Texas, is home to more than 450 monkeys, many of whom were rescued from abusive or exploitative situations. The focus of animal care is to provide conditions in which the captive populations of macaques, baboons, and vervets are allowed to live out the remainder of their lives with extensive freedom of movement, choice of food, and choice of companions, in accordance with their social nature. The sanctuary is not open to the public and we do not display animals for educational or entertainment purposes.

Born Free's mission is to end the suffering of wild animals in captivity, rescue individual animals in need, protect wildlife - including endangered species - in their natural habitats, and encourage compassionate conservation globally. Inspired by the iconic film *Born Free*, we work locally, nationally and internationally to end wild animal cruelty and suffering, protect threatened wildlife, and keep wildlife in the wild where they rightfully belong.

The Veterinary Technician will provide vital support to the Staff Veterinarian in all aspects of animal healthcare as part of the sanctuary's preventative and curative veterinary program. This role reports directly to the Staff Veterinarian and works closely with the wider caregiving team. Tasks include:

- Maintaining the clinic in good working order, including restocking of supplies, equipment maintenance, and general housekeeping.
- Triageing patients and assisting Staff Veterinarian with examinations, procedures, recovery and development of treatment plans.
- Inventory and restocking of medications and nutritional supplements.
- Maintaining medical records in database and carrying out data entry for relevant information, including clinic visit records, external testing results, medical histories and related information.
- Administering medication to patients and supporting caregiving staff in medication preparation and administration.
- Collecting, preparing, and shipping laboratory samples and performing in-house diagnostics as prescribed by Staff Veterinarian.
- Maintaining proper controlled substance records in line with federal requirements.
- Managing sharps and controlled substance disposal systems in line with federal requirements.
- Standing in as first-point of call for veterinary-related issues and emergencies in the absence of the Staff Veterinarian.

- Participating in chemical immobilization of animals (darting) when bringing them in for health checks or procedures, or for relocation.
- Participating in discussions relating to euthanasia and end-of-life care.
- Providing out-of-hours cover as required.
- Occasionally participating in animal husbandry shifts.
- Other tasks as required.

Qualifications/Experience/Skills:

Essential

- A bachelor's degree and/or a Veterinarian Technician certification and/or four years equivalent experience in a veterinary clinic in the role of Veterinary Technician.
- Experience in: Record-keeping, blood collection and processing, anesthetic monitoring, parasite screening, urinalysis, care of surgical instruments, fluid and drug administration to anesthetized patients, anesthetic equipment maintenance, hematology equipment maintenance.

Desirable

- Experience working with wild animals in a sanctuary setting, ideally with primates.
- Experience in: Cytology, chemical immobilization (darting), dental cleaning, assistance during surgeries and necropsies.

Person Specification:

- Respect for, and commitment to, the sanctuary and parent organization's aims, objectives, and ethos.
- Excellent organizational skills.
- The ability to perform calmly, humanely, and effectively under pressure and in medical emergencies.
- A team player with the ability to interact positively and work with people from different backgrounds, cultures, or personalities.
- A demonstrable commitment to animal welfare.
- Willingness and flexibility to work various shifts including regular weekends and holidays.
- Commitment to follow all safety procedures and animal care protocols.

Salary and Benefits:

Starting wage is \$13-\$15 an hour dependent on experience.

We also offer health insurance, paid time off, and a 401(K) plan with employer matching. Free on-site housing is available.

Other information:

Working day is generally 7am – 4pm with out of hours cover as required.

Holidays and weekends are normal working days.

Accommodation, if needed, is in shared housing (private bedroom with shared communal living/kitchen/bathroom space).

Application Deadline:

Open until suitable candidate is hired

How to Apply:

Please send resume and cover letter to liz@bornfreeusa.org

Cover letter should include:

- What attracted you to the role and what you feel you could bring to the sanctuary if successful.
- How you feel your views align with those of Born Free USA, in particular relating to: Zoos, Exotic Pet Trade, and Animal use in research.
- Details on how you feel you meet the Qualifications/Experience and Skills requirements and the Person Specification.
- Any other details you would like to share with us that you would like us to take into consideration.

Additional Information:

Background check will be conducted following acceptance of employment offer.

Newly hired employees must provide proof of a negative TB test taken within the last 12 months.

Contact Information:

Liz Tyson, Sanctuary Director

Born Free USA
1042 E FM 469
Cotulla, TX 78014

Telephone Number: 830-965-2813

E-mail Address: liz@bornfreeusa.org