



Animal Rescue Team: Animal Sheltering/Direct Care Volunteer

Nothing in this position description restricts management's right to assign or reassign duties and responsibilities to this position at any time.

Work Location	Various deployment locations around the country
Position Grade	2 ; background check includes Criminal Background, Social Security Number Verification and Sex Offender Registry
Purpose of the Position	Provide care to animals in our temporary shelters, including cleaning cages and enclosures, feeding, watering, restocking supplies, washing dishes, walking dogs, or socializing animals as directed
Volunteer Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare emergency shelter and facility for animals • Provide daily care, including feeding, watering, and cleaning animal enclosures, for rescued animals • Maintain daily care logs on animals in our care • Effectively communicate observations and/or animal needs to the shelter manager
Level of Difficulty 1=easy/5=demanding (physical, mental, emotional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical difficulty is rated level 4; involves cleaning and maintaining enclosures; requires ability to stand, bend, and squat and requires a high level of manual dexterity • Mental difficulty is rated level 3; requires training in protocols and procedures with the expectation that they'll be followed; involves working with little supervision and problem solving as needed • Emotional difficulty is rated level 5; requires ability to cope with a highly emotionally-charged environment with animals who are homeless, abandoned and/or abused; requires reacting calmly under stress
Expected Environmental Conditions	Conditions vary by deployment and time of year. Volunteers can expect challenging environmental conditions and accommodations on deployments.
How Often Volunteers Work On-site	All work is performed on site
Orientation/Training	Volunteers must undergo training through FEMA and HSUS training courses before being deployed. All volunteers will be oriented to Animal Rescue Team specifics by staff at the time of deployment, if not before. Initial deployment serves as additional training during which each volunteer will be evaluated for further consideration as a volunteer.
Learning Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop or strengthen team-building skills • Animal handling/restraint • Basic animal health and herd management
Position Start Date	Ongoing
Initial Minimum Commitment	Volunteers have an initial commitment of one year and are requested to participate in at least one deployment per year. Volunteers typically work shifts no longer than 8-10 hours per day during deployments.
Scheduling Guidelines	Varies by deployment
Qualifications/Requirements for Volunteer Applicants	Able to meet the requirements specified in the Essential Capabilities document with or without reasonable accommodation
Restrictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be able to learn and follow guidelines and policies of The HSUS and

	<p>follow directions given by staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must submit the required paperwork and pass a background check before being assigned • Must be at least 18 years of age • Must have a United States or Canadian address to be considered for deployments • Must have Tetanus immunization • Must wear the mandatory uniform: standard Animal Rescue Team t-shirt (that is not cut, tied or modified in any way), long pants and closed-toe shoes, that protect and cover the whole foot • Must pass a working interview/evaluation on the first deployment
Tools/Equipment Provided (including Personal Protective Equipment)	Gloves, kneepads, additional outerwear as dictated by geography/weather; all necessary supplies provided on site unless otherwise specified
Optional Tools/Equipment	Gloves, kneepads, accessory belt
Supervisor(s)	Volunteers respond in the field to their incident commander and on-site supervisor, which will vary by deployment. The headquarters contact is the Manager, Animal Rescue Volunteer Program.
Number of Concurrent Volunteer Openings	Varies by deployment
Additional Information	Volunteers will be reimbursed for the use of their personal vehicles and other deployment-related expenses such as food, travel and lodging. Volunteers will be provided with reimbursement guidelines prior to joining the program.
Updated	12/17/2014