



Animal Rescue Team: Veterinary Assistance 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	Support the work of the on-site veterinarians by applying licensed, certified/registered veterinary technician skills to assist the animals in temporary shelters
Volunteer Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical support during initial and subsequent veterinary examination(s) including animal restraint and record keeping • Administer vaccinations and other treatments as prescribed • Assess vitals of sheltered animals and make recommendations to supervisor regarding needed emergent or follow-up examinations • Serve as a team lead for shelter veterinarian or HSUS staff member in charge of the sheltered animals
Level of Difficulty 1=easy/5=demanding (physical, mental, emotional)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical difficulty is rated level 4; requires hands-on animal restraint and possible heavy lifting • Mental difficulty is rated level 5; requires veterinary technician skills and knowledge • 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"> • Best practices in shelter and herd health management, specifically in large-scale issues • Case management • Develop or strengthen team-building skills
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to meet the requirements specified in the Essential Capabilities document with or without reasonable accommodation • Highly organized and detail-oriented

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensed RVT, CVT or LVT preferred
Restrictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be able to learn and follow guidelines and policies of The HSUS and follow directions given by staff • 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)	Additional outerwear as dictated by geography/weather; all necessary supplies including muzzles and slip leads provided on site unless otherwise specified
Optional Tools/Equipment	Stethoscope, nail trimmers, hemostats, bandage scissors, thermometer, basic animal first aid kit
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.
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