

LABORATORY ANIMAL TECHNICIAN

Required Physical Abilities and Attributes

Please note that this is not a position description.

Animal Technicians may be involved in general animal husbandry duties, including maintaining accurate animal care, breeding and compliance records, undertaking animal care, maintaining animals stock, and cage preparation. These tasks involve frequently pushing, pulling, lifting and carrying cages of up to 5kg and occasionally lifting equipment of up to 15kg. This position is evaluated to be of a medium physical demand level.

Physical

- Repetitive handling of cages for up to 3 hours at a time, with a posture break and change of task for at least 5 minutes every hour.
- Pull, push, lift and carry up to 5 kg cages multiple times over 3 hours from ground to above shoulder height.
- Floor to waist lifting of up to 15kg (e.g. animal feed bags, cages, water bottles).
- Push and pull a large trolley loaded with cages.
- Dexterity (e.g. handling laboratory animals, removing and replacing cages from shelving).
- Coordination – eye hand (e.g. using bar code readers, using a computer, performing experimental procedures).
- Work with speed.
- Walking and standing and for up to 3 hours at a time.
- Ability to wear specific clothing, including a sterile uniform, hair net, mask, gloves, gown and shoes, for the majority of the working day.
- Ability to perform repetitive tasks daily.

Interpersonal

- Work under instruction autonomously or alongside one to two co-workers.
- Work co-operatively in a team and relate effectively with co-workers.
- Accept feedback and constructive criticism.
- Interact effectively and confidently with researchers, medical staff, academic staff, students and the general public.
- Advise and assist junior technical staff and students.

Attributes

- Presentation – attention to personal hygiene/grooming.
- Punctual.
- Patience
- Eagerness to learn.
- Demonstrate responsibility to take scheduled breaks, maintain a safe work area, follow instructions and safety procedures.
- Adaptability to quickly change from one task to another.
- The confidence and know how to ask for assistance when required.