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## POSITION DESCRIPTION

# Animal Technician

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Position Level	3
Faculty/Division	Division of Research & Enterprise
Position Number	ADMIN ONLY
Original document creation	January 2023

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### Position Summary

Animal Services is a centralised unit that is responsible for supplying animals and managing the majority of facilities used for animal research on UNSW's Kensington and Randwick campuses.

The unit has an overall objective and responsibility to deliver the highest standards of animal welfare and ethical conduct under conditions of current best practice and regulatory compliance while meeting the needs of UNSW researchers.

The major responsibilities of this position will encompass daily animal care and husbandry including environmental monitoring, enrichment, cleaning and maintenance. This position also provides support and technical assistance to researchers and students. The Animal Technician is required to undertake duties safely, ethically and in accordance with current legislation including the Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes. The role will report to the Animal Services Manager and will have no direct reports.

### Accountabilities

Specific accountabilities for this role include:

- Provide animal care and husbandry on a daily basis, including appropriate nutrition, health care, hygiene control, housing and environmental enrichment in accordance with standard operating procedures and ethical standards/legislation.
- Correctly identify animals as per legislative requirements, including maintenance of accurate computerised and manual records of animal movements, ethics approval numbers, housing density, sex, culling and/or other information as required.

- Monitor animal wellbeing on a daily basis, maintain accurate and precise individual animal and research records and report any adverse findings to supervisor
- Maintain PC2 areas of animal facilities including designated OGTR-certified areas, and assist with cage cleaning, cage preparation, general cleaning and sterilising duties as required.
- Coordinate with other team members involved in daily animal care and husbandry duties to ensure daily objectives are achieved; participation in a weekend and public holiday roster may be requested.
- Provide care and therapies to pre- and post-operative animals under care, and assist in the administration of veterinary support to animals as required or as directed.
- Provide assistance to other team members and research staff as required, undertaking any other duties as directed by the Senior Leadership Team
- Attend training as required to develop and maintain knowledge to ensure all duties are performed according to safe working procedures to safeguard the occupational health and safety of staff, students, contractors and other facility visitors and users, and to ensure all animal care duties are performed to standards required by animal research regulations and high ethical standards.
- Align with and actively demonstrate the [UNSW Values in Action: Our Behaviours](#) and the [UNSW Code of Conduct](#).
- Cooperate with all health and safety policies and procedures of the university and take all reasonable care to ensure that your actions or omissions do not impact on the health and safety of yourself or others.

## **Skills and Experience**

- Completion (or progress towards completion) of a TAFE Certificate, Associate Diploma or equivalent qualifications in Animal Studies or Animal Technology.
- Proven ability to work cooperatively with a diverse group of people by contributing positively in a team environment, as well as the ability to work independently with limited supervision from time to time.
- Demonstrated experience in animal husbandry of a wide range of species, particularly rodents, rabbits, guinea pigs, sheep and pigs.
- Proficient animal handling and animal therapy skills, including experience in administering basic medical treatment to animals (e.g. injections, oral and topical medications) is desirable, but not necessary for the role.
- Demonstrated manual and computerised records management experience with high level attention to detail and accuracy.
- Strong organisational skills and ability to use initiative and problem-solving skills in order to meet deadlines.
- Proficient computing skills, including use of databases and Microsoft Office.
- An understanding of and commitment to UNSW's aims, objectives and values in action, together with relevant policies and guidelines.
- Knowledge of health and safety responsibilities and commitment to attending relevant health and safety training

## **Pre-employment checks required for this position**

- Verification of qualifications

### **About this document**

This Position Description outlines the objectives, desired outcomes, key responsibilities, accountabilities, required skills, experience and desired behaviours required to successfully perform the role.

This template is not intended to limit the scope or accountabilities of the position. Characteristics of the position may be altered in accordance with the changing requirements of the role.