

ANIMAL TECHNICIAN

DEPARTMENT/UNIT	Monash Animal Research Platform
FACULTY/DIVISION	Faculty of Medicine Nursing and Health Sciences
CLASSIFICATION	HEW Level 3
DESIGNATED CAMPUS OR LOCATION	Clayton campus

ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT

At [Monash](#), work feels different. There's a sense of belonging, from contributing to something ground-breaking – a place where great things happen. You know you're part of something special and purposeful because, like Monash, your ambitions drive you to make change.

We have a clear purpose to deliver ground-breaking intensive research; a world-class education; a global ecosystem of enterprise – and we activate these to address some of the [challenges](#) of the age, Climate Change, Thriving Communities and Geopolitical Security.

We welcome and value difference and [diversity](#). When you come to work, you can be yourself, be a change-maker and develop your career in exciting ways with curious, energetic, inspiring and committed people and teams driven to make an impact – just like you.

We champion an [inclusive workplace culture](#) for our staff regardless of ethnicity or cultural background. We have also worked to improve [gender equality](#) for more than 30 years. Join the pursuit of our purpose to build a better future for ourselves and our communities – [#ChangeIt](#) with us.

The Faculty of **Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences** is the largest faculty at Monash University, a global university with campuses across Victoria and international locations in Indonesia, Malaysia, China, India and Italy.

Our Faculty offers the most comprehensive suite of professional health training in Victoria, consistently ranked in the top 40 universities worldwide for clinical, pre-clinical and health sciences.

We want to improve the human condition. That is our vision - it has no expiration date. By educating the current and future healthcare workforce, and undertaking medical research, both discovery and clinical, our students, staff and alumni all work to directly improve people's quality of life, reduce health inequality and promote greater health and social outcomes.

We're globally recognised for our quality education of over 63,000 doctors, nurses, and allied health professionals and health researchers. The future health of our communities is underpinned by the sustained excellence of our education and research capabilities.

We are ambitious and committed to maintaining our position as a leading international medical research and teaching university. We're recognised for the quality of our graduates, the scale and depth of our research, our commitment to translational research, and as a thriving biotechnology hub. To learn more about the Faculty, please visit www.monash.edu/medicine.

Our Faculty includes four Sub-Faculties: Health Sciences, Clinical and Molecular Medicine, Biomedical Medicines, and Translational Medicine and Public Health.

Monash Animal Research Platform (MARP) is responsible for providing laboratory animals, housing and a variety of technical services to the biomedical research community. We have animal facilities in multiple locations throughout Melbourne with over 100 employees in predominantly technical positions. MARP prides itself in a combined knowledge and experience in animal husbandry, breeding, techniques, health and welfare for a range of species.

Providing a diverse range of services to Monash University researchers and external institutions Australia wide, our mission is to achieve excellence in the support of biomedical research by the provision of world standard animal services. MARP achieves this by following best practice in animal care.

POSITION PURPOSE

The Animal Technician performs a range of duties to maintain and breed laboratory animals in accordance with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the ethical care of animals. The position is also responsible for compiling accurate, timely records for researchers and providing optimum animal welfare conditions at all times. In performing these tasks, the Animal Technician plays a key role in enabling MARP to deliver services to its many clients.

Reporting Line: The position reports to the Senior Animal Technologist under routine supervision

Supervisory Responsibilities: Animal Attendants and casual/work placement students

Financial Delegation: Not applicable

Budgetary Responsibilities: Not applicable

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Maintain the status of laboratory animals in accordance with the SOPs, including; maintaining optimum levels of hygiene for the animals and the workspace, general husbandry (feeding, water, cleaning), providing for animals' environmental enrichment, monitoring animals' health, performing animal technical services and ensuring the availability of adequate animal consumable supplies
2. Assist with determining suitable mating pairs, weaning animals, determining sex of neonates and observing animals for any signs of illness
3. Undertake accurate record maintenance, including in relation to breeder data, births and deaths, the animals' physical environment and dispatch information and providing weekly reports to the supervisor/researchers as required
4. Provide high levels of customer service to researchers by providing animals according to breed and agistment requirements and prepare animals for dispatch
5. Report any concerns to the supervisor (e.g. animal illness/health, abnormalities, breaches) and where requested, participate in further investigations and implement improvements

6. Undertake all animal related duties and responsibilities to the highest of ethical standards and in compliance with legislation relating to laboratory animal practices
7. Maintain open and effective channels of communication with staff, clients and other stakeholders
8. Ensure that all animal related work is conducted to the highest of ethical standards and in compliance with the legislation relevant to laboratory animal practices. Where an employee is concerned that a breach of these acts of regulations has occurred or is imminent, they should immediately notify their supervisor of their concern for clarification or action as appropriate
9. Willingness to learn procedures and techniques involving animals
10. Working in the service area ensuring animal supplies are prepared in a timely manner and in accordance with the SOP's, including animal caging (scraping, washing, sterilising), water bottles and environmental enrichment (wash, prepare, sterilise), and any other consumables barrier personnel require
11. Other duties as directed from time to time

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

Education/Qualifications

1. The appointee will have:
 - Completion of a trades certificate or Certificate III; or
 - completion of Year 12 or a Certificate II, with relevant work experience; or
 - an equivalent combination of relevant experience and/or education/training.

Knowledge and Skills

2. Basic knowledge of husbandry, handling, housing and breeding requirements of laboratory animals
3. A strong commitment to animal welfare and willingness to comply with:
 - Victorian legislation: Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986 Vic and Regulations 2019
 - Regulatory bodies protocol and procedures: Office of the Genetic Technology Regulator (OGTR) and DAWE (Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment)
 - Industry standards: Code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes
 - Pest Animal Species Permit
4. Good organisational and time management skills, including the ability to perform high-volume tasks to meet deadlines and maintain accuracy and consistency
5. Ability to work as an effective member of a team as well as independently under routine supervision
6. Good interpersonal and communication skills, including the ability to liaise positively with customers and colleagues
7. Sound administrative skills, including computer literacy, record keeping experience and attention to detail
8. Ability and motivation to develop new skills and learn new procedures

OTHER JOB RELATED INFORMATION

- Travel to other campuses of the University may be required
- There may be a requirement to work additional hours from time to time
- There may be peak periods of work during which taking of leave may be restricted
- A current satisfactory Working with Children Check is required

GOVERNANCE

Monash University expects staff to appropriately balance risk and reward in a manner that is sustainable to its long-term future, contribute to a culture of honesty and integrity, and provide an environment that is safe, secure and inclusive. Ensure you are aware of and adhere to University policies relevant to the duties undertaken and the values of the University. This is a standard which the University sees as the benchmark for all of its activities in Australia and internationally.