



# SENIOR ANIMAL TECHNOLOGIST

DEPARTMENT/UNIT	Monash Animal Research Platform
FACULTY/DIVISION	Medicine Nursing and Health Sciences
CLASSIFICATION	HEW Level 5
DESIGNATED CAMPUS OR LOCATION	Clayton campus

## ORGANISATIONAL CONTEXT

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Monash is a university of transformation, progress and optimism. Our people are our most valued asset, with our academics among the best in the world and our professional staff revolutionising the way we operate as an organisation. For more information about our University and our exciting future, please visit [www.monash.edu](http://www.monash.edu).

The **Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences**, is the largest faculty at Monash University, and offers the most comprehensive suite of professional health training in Victoria. We consistently rank 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. Through academic health centres, other translational models and by educating the healthcare workforce of the future, our staff, students and alumni directly improve quality of life.

Setting the global health care agenda, the Faculty aspires to lead in all areas of research activity and influence local, national and international policy to improve health and social outcomes and health inequalities. We've made a major impact in the world of medical research and become globally recognised for our quality education of over 41,000 doctors, nurses, and allied health professionals.

We are ambitious and aim to maintain our position as a leading international medical research university. We're recognised for the breadth and depth of our research, for our commitment to translational research, for the quality and scale of our research capability, and as a thriving biotechnology hub.

To learn more about the Faculty, please visit [www.monash.edu/medicine](http://www.monash.edu/medicine).

**Monash Animal Research Platform (MARP)** is the platform within the Faculty charged with responsibility for providing laboratory animals, housing and technical services to the Faculty's research base. MARP is comprised of eight animal facility locations, which all report to the General Manager, MARP. MARP employs approximately 100 staff in predominantly technical positions.

MARP provide a range of services to researchers at Monash and for over 250 departments and external institutions Australia wide. Servicing over 2,000 researchers and over 3,000 research projects, totalling in excess of \$200M, MARP is providing an integral service to the Australian research community.

## POSITION PURPOSE

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The Senior Animal Technologist is responsible for the day-to-day running of a designated unit and promotes animal welfare with respect to animal production, care and experimentation. The Senior Animal Technologist provides a professional, efficient service to researchers by supplying quality animals, actively participating in and supporting research projects and regularly liaising with researchers to ensure their specific needs are met.

**Reporting Line:** The position reports to the Facility Manager under general direction

**Supervisory Responsibilities:** This position provides direct supervision to Animal Technologists and Animal Technicians

**Financial Delegation:** Not applicable

**Budgetary Responsibilities:** Not applicable

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

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1. Provide high quality laboratory animals to the biomedical research community and oversee team members in appropriate animal husbandry, care and welfare of laboratory animals including: close monitoring of animal records and techniques used to ensure SOPs and ethical standards being followed, monitoring conditions to maintain animals' health status, maintaining high standards of genetic integrity within colonies, maintaining specific breeding colonies by applying, monitoring and reporting on breeding regimes for specific animals and taking steps to maintain colony numbers and enable forward projection on colony performance
2. Regularly monitor animal records, analyse data, raise issues and make recommendations to maintain the availability of animals as required by researchers
3. Supervise and train individuals within the designated work unit, including planning and prioritising work, delegating tasks, resolving operational issues, reporting and acting upon any issues, monitoring quality and assisting with resource planning
4. Provide high quality of customer service in meeting researchers' requirements, including liaising with clients to ascertain needs, maintaining appropriate supply and demand and overseeing the provision of animals to researchers as required
5. Recommend and implement improvements in relation to animal welfare, environmental enrichment, health and safety, hygiene/cleanliness and procedural efficiencies including developing and updating SOPs
6. Undertake all animal related duties and responsibilities to the highest of ethical standards and in compliance with legislation, regulatory requirements and departmental procedures, providing associated reporting/documentation as required and informing the supervisor of any suspected breaches
7. Maintain open and effective channels of communication with colleagues, clients and other stakeholders to facilitate efficient and compliant processes
8. Perform technical services in required animals, including but not limited to, collections (blood, tissue, organs), injections, identification, vaccinations, administration of drugs, handling & restraining, euthanasia, or any other basic or advanced technique required
9. Provide information to trades personnel in relation to renovations and maintenance, and coordination of administrative tasks such as inductions, rosters, vaccination requirements
10. Other duties as directed from time to time

## KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

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### Education/Qualifications

1. The appointee will have:

- A Diploma of Applied Science (Animal Technology) or progression towards the completion of Diploma in Animal Technology with relevant work experience in a laboratory animal facility environment; or
- an equivalent combination of relevant knowledge, training and/or experience in an animal facility environment.

### **Knowledge and Skills**

2. Sound knowledge and extensive practical experience with laboratory animal breeding systems, laboratory animal husbandry systems and laboratory animal techniques such as blood collection, injections, euthanasia, anaesthetic and drug administration and laboratory animal diseases
3. Demonstrated experience in performing laboratory animal techniques including, blood collection, injections, euthanasia, administering of anaesthetics, administering of drugs
4. Knowledge of and ability 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
5. Clear understanding of animal facility SOPs including the ability to develop and update documentation as required
6. Demonstrated well-developed organisational and time management skills, including the ability to set priorities, manage time and plan work to meet deadlines and standards
7. Demonstrated team leadership and supervisory experience, including the ability to work as an effective member of a team as well as independently
8. High-level of interpersonal and communication skills, including the ability to liaise positively with a diverse range of colleagues, students and researchers
9. Strong administrative skills, including computer literacy, laboratory animal record keeping experience and attention to detail

### **OTHER JOB RELATED INFORMATION**

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- 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
- 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

### **GOVERNANCE**

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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.