

## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

### **Veterinary Anesthesia Intern**

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of a veterinary anesthesia internship is to provide ongoing mentorship and build a strong foundation of both clinical and theoretical anesthesia knowledge under the supervision of board-certified anesthesia specialists. A successful internship year will enhance the veterinarian's ability to pursue an ACVAA or ECVAA residency and provide a seamless transition to this next stage.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Veterinary Interns must meet requirements for either special or full licensure in Texas. These requirements include being either a graduate of veterinary institution accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) or having certification by the AVMA's Education Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) or the Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education (PAVE) equivalence.

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:** The veterinary anesthesia intern will rotate primarily between the small and large animal anesthesia services. Training will take place under the supervision of senior faculty members who are board-certified in anesthesiology. Veterinary anesthesia interns will hone their skills in pre-anesthetic evaluations, patient monitoring, equipment trouble-shooting, perioperative anesthesia management, anesthesia and co-morbidities, locoregional techniques, catheter placement, endotracheal intubation, and pain assessment and management in a variety of species. A small portion (<8%) of the intern's time will require time through the emergency critical care and exotics services which will provide additional experiences that are important in the development of an anesthesiologist.

The intern is expected to participate in topic and anesthesia patient rounds. They will be asked to prepare and deliver one high quality seminar to colleagues in their academic department. The intern is highly encouraged to become involved in research as opportunities and interests allow.

### **TRAINING OBJECTIVES:**

The training objectives provide the intern with in-depth postgraduate training in veterinary anesthesiology through participation in the clinical management of anesthesia in veterinary patients of all domestic and many laboratory and exotic species, research, clinical and didactic teaching, clinical seminars and formal lectures, and interactions with the clinical and basic science faculty. The following objectives allow the intern to become proficient in the areas included in the scope of veterinary anesthesiology:

- A. To improve the intern's understanding of normal physiology and pathophysiology in domestic and exotic species and how co-morbidities effect anesthetic management.
- B. Basic understanding of anesthesia delivery systems, monitoring equipment, and ventilators.
- C. To develop a strong foundation of clinical anesthetic pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, and pharmacodynamics.
- D. To improve the intern's technical skills related to catheter placement, endotracheal and nasal intubation, locoregional techniques, and patient handling in a variety of species.

- E. To introduce advanced anesthesia techniques such as neuromuscular blockade and monitoring, nerve stimulator or ultrasound guided nerve blocks, locoregional techniques, one-lung ventilation, total intravenous anesthesia, partial intravenous anesthesia, and respiratory recruitment maneuvers.
- F. To learn how to assess signs of pain in common domestic species.
- G. To understand how to diagnose and manage fluid, electrolyte, and metabolic disturbances during the perioperative period.
- H. To effectively diagnose, treat, and prevent cardiac, respiratory, musculoskeletal, gastrointestinal, endocrine, and neurological complications during the perioperative period.
- I. To review and understand the latest cardiopulmonary cerebral resuscitation and euthanasia guidelines.
- J. To learn how to recover a variety of species following anesthesia.
- K. To prepare the intern to exchange information with others in a concise professional manner in seminars, lectures, conferences, laboratories, rounds, and on the clinical floor.
- L. To present opportunities for the intern to develop teaching skills in the medical field.
- M. To allow the intern to develop communication skills with professional colleagues, technical staff members, clients, and the general public.
- N. To introduce the intern to the scientific method, research approaches, scientific publication and scientific presentation processes.

**PROGRESSION IN AN INTERNSHIP:** The anesthesia intern will be given meaningful feedback every two weeks during the 12 month internship.

**COMPLETION OF AN INTERNSHIP:** Satisfactory completion of the anesthesia internship is documented by a certificate that recognizes the successful participation of the individual in the internship program. Satisfactorily completing an internship is one of the steps toward achieving a high quality position in a residency program.

**MENTORING TEAM:** The anesthesia intern will be given a mentoring team which includes a member of the anesthesia faculty and a faculty member from another outside service. This allows the intern a way to express concerns or issues in a trusted comfortable environment.

**SELECTION:** Veterinary anesthesia interns are selected competitively through the Veterinary Internship and Residency Matching Program (VIRMP) of the American Association of Veterinary Clinicians (AAVC). Criteria for ranking and selection of intern candidates include academic performance in veterinary school, evaluations from at least three individuals who assess each candidate's academic record, clinical aptitude and interpersonal skills, and the candidate's statement of professional goals. The ranked individuals are submitted to the VIRMP and based on *candidate program ranking* and the *program candidate ranking*, a selection is made.