

## VETERINARY TECHNICIAN (DIAGNOSTIC PATHOLOGY) SERIES

<u>Code No.</u>	<u>Class Title</u>	<u>Occ. Area</u>	<u>Work Area</u>	<u>Prob. Period</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
4679(4082)	Veterinary Technician I (Diagnostic Pathology)	02	445	6 mo.	04/13/88
4680(4082)	Veterinary Technician II (Diagnostic Pathology)	02	445	6 mo.	04/13/88

### *Promotional Line: 304*

#### Series Narrative

Employees in this series provide technical, teaching, and research support for the laboratories of diagnostic medicine. They provide standard paramedical support for faculty assigned to the necropsy laboratory. This support includes processing and distribution of materials received by the laboratories, preparation and trimming of fresh and fixed tissue samples, assistance with animal prosections, and specimen photography. Support is provided for faculty involved in the instruction of pathology graduate students, residents/interns, and senior and sophomore veterinary students. In addition, veterinary technicians are actively involved in teaching students in the veterinary technician program. Assistance is provided to faculty members' research activities that require support for sample collection, animal prosection, and specimen preparation.

#### DESCRIPTIONS OF LEVELS OF WORK

##### **Level I: Veterinary Technician I (Diagnostic Pathology) 4679(4082)**

Employees at this level assist diagnostic laboratory faculty with prosection of animals and teaching of students. They are responsible for unpacking, processing, and distributing all materials received by the diagnostic laboratory; for the inventory and stocking of all supplies; for the maintenance and cleanliness of the laboratory and its equipment; and for setting up the teaching laboratories. They work under the direct supervision of higher level technicians and diagnostic laboratory faculty and follow both written and oral instructions. They may train veterinary students, lower level veterinary technicians and students in the veterinary technician program.

A Veterinary Technician I (Diagnostic Pathology) typically –

1. processes, including unpacking, sorting, labeling and distributing materials received by the diagnostic laboratory including animal cadavers, fresh and fixed animal tissues, and specimens collected from live or dead animals such as feces, urine, blood, tissue swabs, and body fluids
2. assists diagnostic faculty in the necropsy laboratory including euthanizing animals, weighing animals, placing animals in appropriate storage facilities, and positioning animals on tables before prosection
3. processes routine fixed tissues specimens and assist faculty with specialized specimens including proper trimming and orientation of specimens before histologic processing, collection of specialized specimens, such as brain and spinal cord, and preliminary preparation of specimens for electron microscopy

4. orients students and lower level technicians to proper prosection techniques including demonstrating proper animal positioning, postmortem techniques, sample collection, and animal disposal procedures
5. unlocks, locks, sets up, stocks, maintains, and cleans the necropsy laboratory including preparing tissue fixatives and solutions, cleaning and sterilization of instruments, ordering of all supplies
6. maintains data records and other records required by various laboratories and clinical services
7. takes photographs of necropsy tissue specimens
8. maintains, labels, records, and distributes teaching specimens for pathology laboratories; assists with laboratory set up and tear down as well as clean up
9. performs other related duties as assigned

**Level II: Veterinary Technician II (Diagnostic Pathology) 4680(4082)**

Employees at this level supervise/train lower level veterinary technicians, veterinary medicine students, pathology graduate students, residents/interns and student employees in necropsy procedures, specimen processing, equipment operation, and diagnostic laboratory policies and procedures. They work closely with faculty and pathology graduate students performing procedures and medical/diagnostic tests. They work under general supervision from a faculty member and follow both written and oral instructions.

A Veterinary Technician II (Diagnostic Pathology) typically –

1. supervises lower level veterinary technicians, veterinary students, graduate students, interns/residents, and student employees in diagnostic laboratory prosection techniques and specimen collection procedures and policies
2. supervises and is responsible for all activities associated with the receipt, processing, and distribution of all materials submitted to the diagnostic laboratory including trimming, processing, placement, recording, and disposal of all fixed tissue specimens
3. operates and maintains all equipment and instruments used in the diagnostic laboratory including laminar flow hoods, autoclaves, centrifuges, mechanical hoists, band saws, and other equipment
4. orient graduate students, interns/residents, veterinary students, and veterinary technician students to prosection techniques and specimen collection
5. supervises all activities related to specimen photography
6. assist faculty with special teaching, service, and research activities that require advanced veterinary technical training
7. performs other related duties as assigned

**MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR ENTRY INTO ALL LEVELS**

## CREDENTIALS TO BE VERIFIED BY PLACEMENT OFFICER

1. (A) possession of minimum acceptable qualifications required for the Veterinary Technician class  

and

one year of paramedical veterinary experience comparable to that gained as a Veterinary Technician that included specialized on-the-job training and/or experience in diagnostic pathology  

or
- (B) graduation from a professional nursing program; and one year of training and/or experience as a medical nurse; and experience in the handling of animals

## PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES NEEDED TO UNDERTAKE JOB

1. skill in operation, maintenance, and preparation of diagnostic equipment and medical and surgical equipment
2. ability to respond effectively in emergency situations
3. ability to organize and carry out duties efficiently so that time schedules can be met
4. ability to handle large and small animals and heavy equipment
5. ability to use equipment and supplies safely
6. manual dexterity
7. ability to euthanize animals
8. ability to understand sterile techniques and to collect samples without microbial contamination
9. ability to place, position, light, and properly photograph tissue specimens
10. ability to orient and trim fixed tissues for histologic embedding
11. ability to enter data and keep computerized records
12. ability to meet and work with clients
13. willingness to work in an environment that may expose employees to zoonoses, pollutants, and other health hazards, including low level radioactive compounds

ADDITIONAL MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR ENTRY INTO

**Level I: Veterinary Technician I (Diagnostic Pathology)****4679(4082)**

## CREDENTIALS TO BE VERIFIED BY PLACEMENT OFFICER

none

## PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES NEEDED TO UNDERTAKE JOB

1. knowledge of instruments and terminology commonly used in veterinary medicine and critical care
2. ability to assist and instruct lower level veterinary technicians, veterinary medical students, and veterinary technical students in diagnostic equipment or instrumentation
3. ability to maintain cleanliness of examination rooms, contents in diagnostic areas, and the sterility of instruments and supplies
4. ability to maintain stock of medical supplies
5. knowledge of prosection techniques

**Level II: Veterinary Technician II (Diagnostic Pathology)****4680(4082)**

## CREDENTIALS TO BE VERIFIED BY PLACEMENT OFFICER

1. two years of work experience comparable to that gained as Veterinary Technician I (Diagnostic Pathology)

## PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES NEEDED TO UNDERTAKE JOB

1. meets the Minimum Acceptable Qualifications for Veterinary Technician I (Diagnostic Pathology)
2. skill in the operation of laboratory and diagnostic equipment
3. ability to supervise lower level veterinary technicians, veterinary medical students, and veterinary technician students
4. ability to instruct lower level veterinary technicians, veterinary medical students, and veterinary technical students in protocol and procedures and also in the use of specialized equipment or instrumentation
5. ability to operate independently and anticipate the needs and directions of staff and students
6. ability to accurately observe, record, compile, and assimilate data
7. ability to explain terminology used in veterinary surgery

- 8. ability to read and assimilate technical materials relating to veterinary medicine

Veterinary Technician I (Diagnostic Pathology).....	NEW
Veterinary Technician II (Diagnostic Pathology).....	NEW