VENTURA COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

CLASS TITLE: ZOO ENRICHMENT TECHNICIAN

BASIC FUNCTION:

Under the direction of the Dean of Business and Technology Division, assist in providing guidance and instructional assistance to students in the handling, training, care and psychological well-being of zoo animals; assist in the care of the non-human primates in the college’s collection; perform various clerical duties related to maintaining documentation of an enrichment program for non-human primates at the college, as required by the United States Department of Agriculture.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES:

Maintain and evaluate enrichment program for zoo animals, especially non-human primates, including supervision of implementation of new enrichment. E

Provide guidance to students in the training, handling and enrichment of non-human primates. E

Assist instructors in supervising work of students at America’s Teaching Zoo, specifically with the zoo’s primate protocol. E

Provide documentation and reports of Enrichment Program to the U.S Department of Agriculture. E

Develop new enrichment practices through research for the zoo. E

Assist students with enrichment demonstrations for the public. E

Interact with the public regarding the care, training and well-being of primates at the zoo. E

Maintain communication with other facilities regarding care of primates on loan. E

Assist veterinarian with capture, restraint, handling and medication of primates, including yearly T.B. testing. E

Assist with the yearly EATM program student selection process. E

Assist with the assigning of animals to students. E

Assist graduates of the EATM Program regarding care and training of primates. E

Ensure student compliance with rules and regulations of the EATM program and America’s Teaching Zoo; assist with Student Handbook and Zoo Manual revisions. E

Provide basic first aid to animals when needed. E

Established July 1998
Operate office equipment including typewriters, computers, printers, and copiers. 

Operate vehicles.

Perform related duties as assigned.

**KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:**

**KNOWLEDGE OF:**

- Methods, equipment and materials used in the care, handling, restraint, training, and presentation of animals
- Normal and abnormal behaviors of many species of non-human primates
- Basic components of a psychological well-being program for non-human primates
- Animal nutrition, health, and safety practices
- Basic veterinary first aid
- Public relations techniques
- Animal training techniques
- Modern office practices, procedures and equipment

**ABILITY TO:**

- Design, produce and evaluate a psychological well-being program for a variety of species of non-human primates
- Design and produce educational materials for both student and public on psychological well-being of non-human primates
- Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing
- Work independently with little direction
- Operate modern office equipment including micro-computers
- Plan and organize work
- Prepare and maintain records and files
- Operate a vehicle, observing safe and defensive driving practices
- Understand and follow oral and written directions
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with others
- Work cooperatively with others
- Meet schedules and time lines
- Train and provide work direction to others
- Perform clerical duties such as filing, duplicating, typing, and maintaining records

**EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:**

Any combination equivalent to: completion of two years of college course work in biology, education, or related field and some paid experience working with non-domestic animals including two years experience working with non-human primates. Some experience working with students in an organized setting is desirable.
ZOO ENRICHMENT TECHNICIAN (continued)

LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

Valid CPR certification
Valid First Aid certification

WORKING CONDITIONS:

ENVIRONMENT:

Animal facility, outdoor theater, and office environment
Subject to offensive odors from animals and feces
Subject to driving to various sites to pick up and deliver animals and supplies

PHYSICAL ABILITIES:

Lifting and carrying animals, supplies and equipment weighing up to 50 pounds
Hearing and speaking to communicate with students
Seeing to observe students, animals, and facility conditions
Holding and restraining animals for treatment
Dexterity of hands and fingers to operate and repair equipment and to administer treatments to animals
Standing for extended periods of time

HAZARDS:

Exposure to animals exhibiting unpredictable temperaments