ASSISTANT BEHAVIOR TECHNICIAN

Job Classification
Position Title: Assistant Behavior Technician
Descriptive Title: Assistant Behavior Technician
Shift: Saturday – Wednesday, 7 a.m. – 4 p.m. or 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Night/Weekend/holiday work may be required.
FLSA: Normally Non-Exempt
Risk Level: 3

Primary Function
Provide enrichment and training to chimpanzees and improve chimpanzee well-being via observational studies and evaluation of enrichment and training procedures. Reports to Director of Behavior and Research.

Duties and Responsibilities
Please note this job description is not designed to cover or contain a comprehensive listing of activities, duties or responsibilities that are required of the employee for this job. Duties, responsibilities and activities may change at any time with or without notice.

• Prepare and distribute enrichment items for chimpanzees and/or to husbandry staff for distribution, according to approved schedule.
• Plan enrichment and training schedules according to goals and with senior staff approval.
• Carry out chimpanzee training objectives using positive reinforcement according to approved plans.
• Conduct behavioral observations according to approved schedule.
• May assist with behavioral studies and data entry and summarization.
• May assist with chimpanzee socialization procedures including introductions.
• Maintain and oversee enrichment records.
• May participate in and may lead education programs.
• May concentrate on enrichment, training or behavioral research responsibilities.
• May assist husbandry, veterinary or other departmental staff as directed.
• Assist in training animal care staff on enrichment and operant conditioning procedures.
• Assist other animal care staff in maintaining food preparation areas.
• Order supplies.
• Work with volunteers and visiting scientists.

Education and Experience Preferred

Entry Level: Minimum requirement of a H.S. diploma, GED, and coursework in a relevant field is required. Intern experience is allowed. One years’ experience providing enrichment and/or training to primates or exotics is required. Primate experience is preferred.
Other requirements and working conditions

- This work will require bending, carrying, kneeling, lifting, listening, pulling, pushing, reading, speaking, squatting, standing, stooping, stretching, walking, watching and writing.
- Must be able to routinely lift and carry 50 lbs. for short distances.
- Work may involve considerable outdoor work in various weather conditions.
- Potential exists for animal bites and scratches.
- Potential exposure to unpleasant odors, animal wastes, animal tissues and body fluids, toxic chemicals, zoonotic diseases (tuberculosis, shigella etc.), infectious agents (Hepatitis B, C, HIV, etc.).
- Participation in a medical monitoring and surveillance program that includes hepatitis B and other inoculations is required.
- Safety training, equipment, clothing and supplies will be provided.
- Duties may require driving Chimp Haven’s vehicles which requires a valid driver’s license. Must also meet Chimp Haven’s motor vehicle operating standards.