

	Job Description	Number of Positions: 1
	<b>Veterinary Technician – Surgery</b>	

**Description of Role:**

Our veterinary technicians are a crucial part of the Veterinary Services team within Feline Rescue, which includes the Veterinary Medical Director and Veterinary Surgical Director (DVMs), the Veterinary Technician Manager, veterinary technicians, veterinary assistants, and trained medical volunteers. The veterinary technician role for which we are currently hiring will have a primary focus on surgery and anesthesia monitoring. This technician will work under the direction of the Veterinary Surgical Director and Veterinary Technician Manager to prepare and monitor cats through anesthetized surgical and dental procedures. This individual may also be tasked with assisting with intake examinations, foster appointments and shelter cat treatments, as well as completing lab work, pharmaceutical tasks, and administrative duties as needed.

This will be a new role at Feline Rescue that will likely see a slow ramp up to full-time surgical duties as we expand our current surgical schedule. The individual hired for this role will have the option to either start at part-time and increase their hours to full-time over the course of several weeks or start at full-time with the expectation that time will be split between surgery and other clinical and administrative duties initially. Work hours for this position will be 8am-6pm Monday-Thursday.

**Primary Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Accept foster cats and TNR drop-offs and move shelter cats to surgery kennels at the start of the day and discharge or return cats to the shelter at the end of the day.
- Sedate and prepare cats for procedures by intubation, catheterization, clipping and cleaning surgical sites, and occasionally dental radiography and dental cleaning.
- Serve as primary anesthesia monitoring technician for cats during spay, neuter, occasionally dental, and other sedated and anesthetized procedures.
- Assess and act on possible emergency situations before, during, and after anesthetic procedures under the direction of the Veterinary Surgical Director to maintain safety of cats and staff at Feline Rescue.
- Properly draw up, log, administer, and store all controlled substances used in anesthetic procedures.
- Perform various technical skills and lab work such as venipunctures, cystocentesis, SC & IM injections, slide preparation, cytology interpretation, and in-house urinalysis, fecal testing, and bloodwork that may be associated with surgical patients.

- Collaborate and communicate with other members of veterinary staff, leadership, volunteers, and external partners to ensure the well-being of all surgical patients.
- Work in conjunction with veterinary assistants and trained medical volunteers to prep surgical suits before procedures and maintain thorough cleanliness protocols of surgical suit, equipment, and instruments between procedures to meet sterility standards and prevent the spread of disease.
- Adhere to cleaning and maintenance protocols for various surgical and dental machines including the anesthesia machine, the dental radiography machine, and dental drill.
- Ensure adherence to proper procedures for handling and disposal of sharps, biohazard, and hazardous waste to maintain safety standards within the facility.
- Document all surgical care, including anesthesia records, prescriptions, diagnostics, treatments, and/or external communications, in the Animal Shelter Manager (ASM) software.

**Secondary Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Assist with initial physical exams on incoming cats, including administering vaccinations, medical treatments, testing, and specimen collection.
- Assist in providing medical care during foster cat appointments.
- Fill prescriptions as directed by the supervising veterinarian, including data entry, medication preparation, and providing instructions to shelter or foster caregivers.
- Participate in medical rounds at the shelter and intake areas to monitor cat health.
- Liaise with external partners regarding patients requiring emergency or specialty services, ensuring seamless coordination of care.
- Develop and maintain trusting relationships with volunteers, providing support, guidance, and training as needed to ensure effective collaboration in cat care efforts.

**Required skills/experience:**

- Passion for helping cats and expertise in feline handling and surgical care.
- 3+ years working in veterinary medicine (at least 2 years will have been as a CVT or veterinary technician).
- 1+ years of veterinary surgical experience with feline patients that includes anesthesia monitoring and placing ET tubes and IV catheters.
- Able to perform venipunctures and cystocentesis.
- Ability to utilize humane and safe techniques to sedate fractious and/or feral cats.
- Adept in critical thinking and priority management when work volume is high.
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a team.
- Ability to take direction and implement standardized protocols into daily workflow.

**Preferred skills/experience:**

- Certification as a veterinary technician or equivalent experience.
- 2- or 4-year degree in any post-secondary field of education.
- Experience working in a feline-specific veterinary practice or rescue setting.

- Experience working in a high-volume spay/neuter clinic or with feral cat populations.
- Extensive technical knowledge of feline-specific medicine, including behavior, nutrition, pharmaceutical, and nursing care.
- Strong written and verbal interpersonal communication skills for interaction with diverse stakeholders.
- Proficiency in documentation and basic Office365 programs (Outlook, Excel, scheduling software).

**Work Environment:**

- Duties will be performed on-site within standard operating hours (8AM-6PM Monday through Friday).
- Physical requirements include lifting and moving animals, bending, reaching, squatting, kneeling, and lifting up to 50 pounds, and sitting at computer stations.
- Exposure to cleaning agents, allergens, and zoonotic diseases.
- Work may be subject to frequent interruptions and loud/frequent noise.
- Potential exposure to dangerous or fractious animals, bites, and scratches.
- Requires close attention to detail and ability to work in a fast-paced environment.
- Newly hired personnel will receive training on shelter protocols, medical procedures, and software systems as needed to fulfill job duties effectively.

**Time Commitment & Compensation:**

This is a full-time hourly position. Compensation is \$22-28/hr, depending on experience.