

# Dane County Humane Society

## Animal Medical Services

### Medical and Surgical Assistant Internship 2023

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**Reports to:** Shelter veterinarians and Veterinary technicians

**Supervised by:** Veterinary technicians

Summer internships will start the week of 6/5/2023 and go through 8/25/2023, where interns will average 16-19 hours per week working in AMS and on assignments. There will be a **mandatory** orientation prior to the start of the internship on 5/31/2022. Interns may have the option to extend selected internship shifts until the start of spring semester 2024. Interns are required to complete weekly educational reading assignments and submit an article assignment at least 2 weeks prior to the end of internship.

#### **Qualifications/Requirements:**

- Availability for two or three consecutive weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to around 5:30 p.m.; either a Monday/Tuesday or Thursday/Friday combination.
- Sophomore or higher standing at an accredited college, Bachelor's degree, or current student in DVM program
- Must have proficient animal handling and restraint skills
- Previous experience in a veterinary setting is preferred
- Pursuing a degree in an animal related field preferred if undergraduate student
- 2 week notice required for time off request during the 12 week internship
- Once proficient, interns may help train volunteers or other interns

#### **Scope of Internship:**

Our objective each morning is to accomplish high-quality, high-volume spay and neuter surgeries in our clinic. We also perform special procedures and dental surgeries. By the end of internship, interns should have a full understanding of every aspect of efficient surgical prep, patient monitoring and procedures.

- We may perform as many as 30 surgeries in a morning.
- We need to work safely, quickly, and efficiently.
- We must be efficient, **but we never sacrifice safety for speed.**

The first part of this internship will involve rotations for training in each area of surgery. Following a midday break, the focus in the afternoons will be assisting with medical cases in the clinic and shelter as well as other routine clinic duties as assigned. See learning objectives below for more examples of tasks.

**Learning Objectives:**

- Proper animal handling and carrying
- Procedure for gathering animals within shelter
- Animal ICU cleaning, care, and treatments
- Surgical and anesthesia set-up
- Restrain and medicate surgical animals
- Anesthesia monitoring and troubleshooting
- Surgical recovery
- Clean, pack, and sterilize surgical equipment
- Surgical prep duties
- Data entry into Petpoint and data printing
- Post-operative patient care
- Venipuncture
- Assist with foster medical appointments
- Assist and complete medical exams
- Calculate drug dosages
- Complete various laboratory procedures (i.e. fecal flotation, urinalysis, cytology)
- Subcutaneous fluid administration
- Oral and SQ medication administration

**Evaluation Criteria:**

- Intern has completed the minimum required hours
- Intern displays a firm grasp and understanding of surgical flow, patient handling, shelter protocols, basic diagnostics and duties listed above
- Displays a strong work ethic and cooperative attitude
- Intern has completed all readings and article assignments