



VOLUNTEER POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position: Small Animals Attendant.

Locations: Gold Coast

GOLD COAST	8:30am - 12:30am	7 days week.	You choose 1 day.
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Reports To: Education Co-ordinator

Responsibilities: Daily cleaning of our small animal pens which will involve hands on work moving animals to an outdoor enclosure prior to a complete clean out of their housing. You must ensure that the animals remain stocked up with food, water, and bedding. Small animal food preparation is a part of this role and the ongoing care of the small animals housed at the shelter for education purposes. You will be required to assist in keeping the shelter environment presentable, helping with laundry duties and general tidying up.

Stress: Please note that while the shelter is a wonderful place to visit, sometimes working in a shelter environment may cause stressors to certain individuals, namely those who have either a history of / or are predisposed to: anxiety, depression, mental health issues, are in physically poor health or have been diagnosed as being on the ASD spectrum.

If you fall into these categories please feel free to contact the Volunteer Manager who can discuss suitable alternatives.

Physical Capacity Required:

- Moderate level physical fitness with the ability to lift up to 10kg.
- Ability to cope with bending up and down and being on your feet for most of the shift.
- High level of manual dexterity, ability to manage multiple objects at once.
- Ability to walk unaided on grounds, pathways, grass, stairs and sometimes slippery and muddy pathways and yards.
- Confidence with guinea pigs, rats, mice and birds.

Mental Capacity Required:

- Highly developed communication and interpersonal skills.
- Hardworking and show initiative when required.
- Attention to detail particularly regarding regular routines, hygiene and sanitization.
- Ability to comply with Standard Operating Procedures, Workplace Health and Safety Guidelines
- Work in a safe manner without risk to themselves, others or the environment.
- Correctly use all personal protective equipment provided.
- Comply with all emergency and evacuation procedures, respond appropriately to safety incidents

Emotional Capacity Required:

- Calm and confident with guinea pigs, rats and people.
- Not easily distressed, not easily upset.
- Mature and emotionally secure. The shelter environment can be a trigger for some people with emotional or mental trauma.
- Ability to cope with changes, busy working environment and demanding schedule.
- Gentle and mature disposition with demonstrated affinity with animals.
- Not bothered by strong smells or getting dirty.

Autonomous / Unsupervised Capacity Required:

- Demonstrated ability to take direction from team members in supervisory roles.
- Ability to work autonomously while managing your own time effectively.
- Ability to work as part of a team.

Skills Gained: Animal husbandry experience, work experience in a shelter environment, small animal handling techniques, rat and guinea pig enrichment and care.

Performance Goals: At the end of 3 months be assessed and complete compliance checklist prior to graduating to a regular volunteer.

Time Commitment: Commitment within the hours above on 1 regular day per week over 3 months.