



VOLUNTEER POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position: Dog Team Grooming Attendant*

Locations: Gold Coast ONLY

GOLD COAST	Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays: 8:00am – (12:00pm to 4:00pm) <i>Finishing time varies and is dependent on appointments</i>
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Reports To: Dog Team Staff Member / Team Leader Volunteer

Responsibilities: This position involves assisting the Groomer on site. The position involves holding the dogs whilst the Groomer tidies and cleans the animal. Often the animals are new to the shelter and may be frightened, jumpy or reactive. A calm, steady and mature personality is required to ensure the dogs do not become distressed. **Please note:** *This role will not teach you how to become a groomer.* The role is simply as a calm and mature assistant to the Groomer. This role is also includes helping keep the hydrobath room clean and presentable.

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 our Volunteer Department for more information.

Physical Capacity Required:

- Moderate level physical fitness with the ability to lift up to 20kg.
- 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.
- Clear vision, ability to see animal’s body language, see obstacles and hazards.
- Ability to hear if an animal is in distress, giving low sounds or initial warning sounds that the animal is indicating fear.

Mental Capacity Required:

- Highly developed communication and interpersonal skills.
- Hardworking and show initiative when required.
- Attention to detail particularly regarding procedures, 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 dogs 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, dog training and handling techniques.

Volunteer characteristics: Hard working, reliable, efficient, courteous manner, good attitude to work.

Performance Goals: At the end of 3 months with a minimum of 48 volunteer hours, be assessed prior to graduating to become a regular volunteer.

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

*Denotes an advanced position and some prerequisites apply. Ideally positions are offered to current regular volunteers who demonstrate reliability and dedication on a weekly basis as well meeting the capabilities and showing an aptitude to meet the responsibilities of this role.