###

**Pathology Technician**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Job grade** | Level 2 | **Reports to** | Wildlife Veterinary Pathologist |
| **Directorate** | Zoos and Engagement, Wildlife Health Services | **Function** | To provide technical support to ZSL’s pathology programmes |
| **Contract**  | Permanent contract (full-time) | **Location** | In person- with frequent, regular travel to ZSL Whipsnade and London Zoos |

**Responsibility for resources**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Direct line reports** | **0** | **Responsibility for other resources** | Health and Safety, hazardous chemicals, archives, databases |
| **Financial resources** | **0** |

**Our vision and mission**

The Zoological Society of London (ZSL) is an international conservation charity, driven by science, working to restore wildlife in the UK and around the world. Our vision is a world where wildlife thrives and every role, every person in every corner of ZSL has one thing in common – we are all conservationists, and passionate about restoring wildlife.

**Purpose of the role**

The purpose of this role is to support the delivery of pathology by the Wildlife Health Services (WHS) team across both ZSL London and ZSL Whipsnade Conservation Zoos, and the Institute of Zoology’s pathology research programmes. Reporting directly to the Wildlife Veterinary Pathologist (WVP), the pathology technician will assist pathologists and veterinarians in the conduct of pathological investigations. This will include practical assistance during post mortem examinations (handling samples, taking photographs etc.), facilities management (ensuring laboratories are stocked, cleaned and maintained), archive management (appropriate storage and cataloguing of samples) and administrative work (data entry).

**Please note that this job involves animal carcasses which may be in a state of decay and unpleasant to work with; applicants should be certain that they are able to work under such conditions.**

**Key responsibilities**

* To assist the WVP with post mortem investigations
* To maintain post mortem facilities
* To safely and efficiently archive samples (including frozen, wet and paraffin-embedded tissues and microscope slides) and maintain said archives such that samples are not lost (e.g. monitoring freezers, arranging servicing)
* To be responsible for the safe running of the post mortem facilities, ensuring compliance with Health and Safety protocols and procedures.
* To be responsible for sample receipt, and submission of samples to external laboratories for further testing as required.
* To undertake general laboratory duties including, for example, stock-taking, ordering of consumables and maintaining clean working conditions and adhering to standard operating procedures.
* To develop and maintain up to date and accurate databases of samples and results, and to record and collate information for reports in a timely manner.
* The duties and responsibilities described are not a comprehensive list and additional tasks may be assigned from time to time that are in line with the level of the role.

**Person Specification**

|  |
| --- |
| Experience |
| Essential | * A degree in biological sciences
* A willingness to work with animal carcasses and tissues
* Demonstrable interest in wildlife conservation and/or anatomic pathology
 |
| Desirable  | * Experience in anatomic pathology
* Experience in laboratory management
 |
| Knowledge and skills |
| Essential | * Strong organisational skills and time management
* Able to work independently and within a team
* Skills in using MS office packages, especially Excel, or equivalent software packages
 |
| Desirable | * Experience working with animal tissues
* A relevant post-graduate qualification (e.g. MSc)
* Experience with statistics and ability to use R or equivalent statistical packages
* Experience working within a multidisciplinary team.
* Experience of teaching and/or supervising students
 |
| Additional requirements |
| Essential | * Full UK driver’s license
* This position will be based in the Wildlife Health Services Department in Regent’s Park, London, NW1 4RY, with ~1-2 days/week at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo, Dunstable, LU6 2LF
* Routine working hours are anticipated, however, there may be need for some flexible working hours during the week, on rare occasion, dependent on urgency of diagnostic requirements.
* The postholder will be expected to comply with and promote Health and Safety policies and procedures for safe laboratory working.
* Strong commitment to creating a culture that lives ZSL values and commitment to safeguarding, equality and diversity (collaborative, inspiring, inclusive, innovative, impactful and ethical).
 |