



APS 3 - Animal Technician

Job Reference Number: JCG/05242/21

Salary: \$61,630 - \$67,907 (plus Super)

Position Location: Enoggera - QLD

Employment Status: Ongoing & Non-Ongoing Expected Employment Opportunity - Full time
(37.5 hours per week)

Security Level: Baseline Vetting

Group: Joint Capabilities Group

Division: Joint Health Command

Contact Officer: Mike Edstein

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Closing Date: 11:30pm (AEDT), Friday 19th November 2021
Extensions may be granted in exceptional circumstances only



Your Role

The role of the Animal Technician is to carry out animal care and technical procedures on mice and non-human primates for scientific research purposes in accordance with the Code.

The Animal Technician will be required to:

- Clean mice and non-human primate cages, replenish food and water, and disposal of waste materials (time allocation about 45%).
- Assist the Animal Facility Manager to maintain, collate and report accurate records of the health of animals (about 5%), stocktaking and provision of consumables (about 5%), technical support of animal studies (about 25%), supervise and train an animal carer (about 10%), and general maintenance and administration of the facility (about 10%).
- Participate in a weekend/public holiday roster for maintenance of the animal colonies.
- Support researchers in technical procedures on mice including drug administration (oral and subcutaneous injection), blood collections, reading of blood smears for malaria parasites and euthanasia.
- Catch and hold non-human primates for veterinary procedures and research investigations.

Our Ideal Candidate

The ideal candidate will have a proven record in executing the role and responsibilities as an Animal Technician in accordance with the Code (Chapter 2.5) in the management and wellbeing of mice and non-human primates for research purposes.

The candidate will be able to demonstrate excellent day-to-day support of the Animal Facility Manager to ensure that animals are provided food, water, enrichment and clean cages in a clean environment. The candidate will have a proven history of maintaining facility equipment and consumables, and excellent skills in supervising and training an animal carer.

The candidate will possess good technical skills such as drug dosing, adverse event monitoring, and blood sampling in supporting investigators in evaluating the tolerability and efficacy of antimalarials against rodent malaria. Using good oral and computer skills the candidate will be able to demonstrate accurate recording of facility documentation and animal health records to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.

Our Organisation

Defence's purpose is to defend and protect Australia and advance its strategic interests.

Defence achieves this aim through the provision of military capabilities, promoting security and stability and providing support for the Australian community and civilian authorities, as directed by the Government.

Defence is an integrated workforce with military and civilian personnel working together across the spectrum of Defence activities. Our greatest asset is our people.

Defence Australian Public Service (APS) employees are engaged in an array of critical positions, enabling our three services: Navy, Army and Air Force, to fulfil key defensive roles as well as providing a range of peacetime services. Defence employs APS employees across Australia and around the world. Defence is committed to the recruitment of the right people, in the right numbers at the right time - whether it is creating, acquiring or delivering.

We set high standards, live our values, have an inclusive culture and hold ourselves accountable.

In Defence you will enjoy experiences and opportunities that, as an APS employee, you simply wouldn't get with any other organisation.

The variety of jobs we have is greater than you think — with the right qualifications you are able to undertake interesting, challenging and unique work. This ranges from intelligence and strategic policy right through to human resources, communications, infrastructure, engineering and information technology.

Defence is firmly committed to building an inclusive and capable workforce that is reflective of the community it serves. Defence capability is reliant on our capacity to attract and retain the best possible talent regardless of gender, age, culture, religion, ability or sexual orientation.

Defence strives to accommodate requests for reasonable adjustment for people with disability to assist in the application process and if successful, the inherent requirements of the position. If you have individual requirements that need to be accommodated in order to participate in an interview or assessment centre please inform the contact person listed on the front of this Information Pack.

For confidential advice, please contact: diversitypolicyandprograms@defence.gov.au.

[Defence's Reconciliation Action Plan 2019-2022](#) can be viewed online.

[RecruitAbility](#) applies to this role.

Defence has a framework of [values](#) that work alongside the APS Values. These reflect the traditions and identities of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and the APS. The values underpin the Defence corporate culture, contribute to achieving organisational goals and the basis of the behaviours expected of our people and leaders; both APS and ADF.

Defence provides relocation assistance to eligible APS employees required to relocate. The level of assistance will vary depending on the reason for relocating and your personal circumstances. For more information, please download the [APS Relocation Assistance Handbook](#).

Our Group

Joint Capabilities Group (JCG) is a diverse group responsible for delivering joint capabilities including education and training, health services and logistics in support of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and is a leader in information warfare. JCG is instrumental in ensuring ADF warfighting effectiveness and supporting the delivery of Government directed outcomes. The work in JCG is fast paced, exciting and directly supports Defence's mission to defend Australia and its National Interests.

JCG consists of the Australian Defence College, Information Warfare Division, Joint Military Police Unit, Joint Health Command, Joint Logistics Command, the Australian Civil-Military Centre, Joint Support Services Division and the Guided Weapons and Explosive Ordnance Enterprise Task Force.

Our Team

The Department of Drug Evaluation at the ADFMIDI provides technical advice to Defence on vector borne diseases of military importance such as malaria and dengue and performs research into intervention methods including antimalarial drugs and vaccines to protect Australian Defence Force personnel from vector borne infections. The Department's team comprises scientists and research assistants who, through pre-clinical and clinical studies, perform parasitological and pharmacological investigations of new and standard antimalarials to prevent and treat drug resistant malaria. For pre-clinical studies, the Animal Technician will work with animal staff, veterinarians and researchers in caring and maintaining mice and non-human primates for studying the tolerability, drug blood concentrations and potency of new candidate antimalarials against rodent and human malaria.

Desirable Qualifications, Experience or Training

- Proven knowledge and experience in animal husbandry and care, including the conduct of associated technical procedures
- Willingness to provide evidence of vaccinations for: Hepatitis A; measles, mumps and rubella (MMR); tetanus and pertussis, seasonal influenza, and SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), and a negative IGRA tuberculosis screening test.
- Diploma in Animal Technology or equivalent.
- Proven knowledge and experience in animal care and technical procedures involving mice and non-human primates in a scientific research environment
- Proven knowledge and experience in working with small animals in complying with the Australian Code of Practice for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes (the Code). NHMRC 8th Edition 2013 (Updated 2021).
- Proven experience with drug administration (e.g., oral and subcutaneous injection), blood sample collection and euthanasia techniques using mice
- Computer knowledge including MS Office.

How To Apply

Apply for this role by submitting your application through our [online recruitment system \(eRecruit\)](#) located at Defence APS Careers. If you have any questions regarding this role, email the contact officer.

For more information please refer to the [Applicant User Guide](#). Further advice on addressing selection criteria can be found in '[Cracking the Code](#)' publication located on the Australian Public Service Commission website.

Vacancies will be extended **in exceptional circumstances only**. Applicants requesting an extension must contact the Contact Officer **24 hours prior** to the vacancy closing date.

Assessment Criteria

In your application you should provide a copy of your current Resume/CV and address the following:

With reference to the position details and qualification/experience requirements provided in the information pack, provide examples to demonstrate your knowledge and proven ability to:

- Provide animal husbandry and care of animals, including the conduct of technical procedures such as restraint and administration of medication to maintain the wellbeing of animals.
- Apply the principles of the Code in the care and animal husbandry of animals such as mice and non-human primates for scientific purposes.
- Clean mice and non-human primate cages, replenish food and water, and disposal of waste material to provide a clean research environment for animals.

(Limit your total response to 600 words).

PLEASE NOTE: Defence APS Careers is for job seekers only. We do not accept unsolicited resumes or applications from recruitment agencies and/or search firms and will not pay fees to any such organisations unless arranged with the provider prior to advertising the vacancy.

Eligibility

Employment with the Department of Defence is subject to conditions prescribed within the Public Service Act 1999.

Citizenship – To be eligible for employment with Defence, applicants must be an Australian citizen. Only in exceptional circumstances can this requirement be waived.

Health Assessment - As a condition of engagement, a mandatory pre-employment health assessment may be required where there are physical or medical requirements for the role. Your contact officer can provide further guidance on whether this is required for your role.

Security Clearance – The Australian community requires the highest level of integrity from Defence employees. The preferred applicant will be required to successfully undergo the [security clearance](#) vetting process at a specified clearance level.

Further information can be provided in the [Australian Government Security Clearance Applicant Guide Book](#). Please ensure that you read this information thoroughly and confirm that you meet the minimum requirements to be eligible to hold a security clearance at the required level. Please ensure that you are able to provide the necessary documents if you apply for the position. The security clearance level required for this position can be found on the front page of this Information Pack.

More information on the security clearance vetting process is available on the [AGSVA website](#).

Thank you for your interest
Department of Defence