SUMMARY:
Animal Shelter Attendants assist with maintaining the health, comfort, cleanliness, and wellbeing by providing food, water, medication, etc. to all animals in the shelter. The Animal Shelter Attendant is responsible for cleaning and sanitizing animal cages on a daily basis. Incumbent is responsible for assessing animal behavior and implementing animal behavior treatment plans in the shelter environment. They work under the direct supervision of the Shelter Supervisor and general direction of the Animal Shelter Manager. They must perform any function deemed necessary to contribute to a smooth, efficient, and humane operation of the Terrebonne Parish Animal Shelter. As with all positions within this department, response at any time may be required to assist with workload or in any emergencies that may arise.

BASIC FUNCTIONS:
1. Performs all housekeeping, cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting procedures in animal holding rooms and throughout the facility.
2. Receives animals. Performs intake procedures such as vaccinating, microchip scanning, photographing, deworming, etc.
3. Provides daily nutrition to all shelter animals according to their species, age, weight, etc.
4. Bathes, flea dips, and/or grooms animals when necessary to prevent suffering and to enhance adoptability.
5. Assesses shelter animals’ behaviors. Uses a canine behavior assessment model to evaluate the dogs’ temperament. Monitors animal’s temperaments for adoptability.
6. Assesses condition of animals’ health and notifies the veterinary staff of sicknesses and/or injuries in shelter animals. Gives medication and vaccinations to animals as needed.
7. Assist with euthanasia and disposal of euthanized animals when necessary.
8. Assists Animal Control Officers with the placement of impounded animals from their trucks.
9. Replenishes supplies in appropriate areas throughout the shelter.
10. Assists veterinarian with surgery and treatment of animals including having basic knowledge of sterilization techniques.
11. Runs errands as directed.
12. Properly cleans and sanitizes food bowls, litter pans, crates, etc. daily.
13. Maintains cleanliness of shelter grounds by removing trash and cleaning/sanitizing when necessary.
14. Performs general maintenance and minor repairs on shelter equipment.
15. Assists public in viewing shelter animals and answering questions about policies and procedures, pet care, animal control ordinances, etc.
16. Maintains medication, vaccination, daily log, and other records as required.
17. Performs other duties as assigned or deemed necessary.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:
1. Must be able to obtain and maintain certification in Canine Behavior Assessment.
2. Must be able to learn and practice all applicable safety rules and regulations.
3. Must be courteous and understanding of the public in the sensitive environment of animal control.
4. Must possess a practical knowledge of the overall operations of the division while using analytical judgment and appropriate decision-making abilities.
5. Must be able to work extra hours during a normal week, weekends, holidays, and disasters.
6. Must possess and maintain a valid Louisiana driver’s license.
7. Must be capable of reading and writing sufficiently to understand and carry out basic instructions.
8. Must have effective written and oral communication skills, including the ability to understand applicable scientific concepts and terminology.
9. Must have an affinity for animals and respect for their welfare.
10. Must have basic computer skills.
11. Must not have a fear of handling animals.
12. Must be dependable, focused, reliable, and able to work both independently and as an effective member of a team.
13. Must be able to perform tasks without direct supervision.
14. Must be able to lift up to 50 lbs and roll loaded carts/cages throughout the facility.
15. Must be able to bend and stretch to inspect and disinfect cages as well as mop floors.

EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE:
1. Must possess high school diploma or GED.
2. Experience handling animals preferred.

EQUIPMENT USED:
Pickup Truck, control pole, cat tongs, bitestick, small tools, chemical sprayer, industrial washer/dryer/dishwater, autoclave, scale, computer, printer fax, syringe pole, etc.

WORKING CONDITIONS:
Works in an animal shelter environment where there is daily exposure to noise, chemicals, cold/heat, dust, disease, and odorous conditions.