

Surgical Recovery Nurse

Type/Hours: Part Time

Clinic: Snip Happens @ TCHS

Reports To: Clinic Manager

Position Summary

Snip Happens @ TCHS is hiring! Taylor County Wisconsin Humane Society, Inc (TCHS), a nonprofit animal shelter located in Medford, is dedicated to educating our community on responsible pet ownership, the importance of spay/neuter, and providing loving and caring homes for all animals. In pursuit of this mission,

TCHS has founded Snip Happens @ TCHS, a high-quality, high-volume spay/neuter (HQHVSN) clinic immediately adjacent to the shelter, in order to provide reduced-cost surgical services for vulnerable pets throughout Taylor County and the surrounding areas.

Snip Happens @ TCHS is seeking an adept, compassionate, and efficient Certified Veterinary Technician (CVT) to join our HQHVSN clinic. This position works closely with the Shelter Veterinarian to provide exceptional medical and surgical nursing care for shelter and community animals while also contributing to client education, disease prevention, and development of an expanding community clinic program. We are looking for someone who understands that high-volume does not mean rushed or impersonal. Every patient deserves attentive, compassionate care and every client deserves professional, respectful service. The ideal candidate for this position is highly proficient in anesthesia and patient nursing, values a cohesive team, and is committed to maintaining a high standard of animal care and client service.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

Clinical Responsibilities

- Provide medical and surgical nursing care under the direction of the Shelter Veterinarian.
- Follow established protocols for animal intake, vaccination, sanitation, and medical care.
- Maintain a clean, organized, and biosecure treatment area.
- Prepare, administer, and accurately document medications and treatments.
- Maintain complete and accurate electronic medical records.
- Communicate medical conditions, treatment plans, and post-adoption care instructions to clients and caregivers.

Medical Responsibilities

- Promote a calm, low-stress environment for all patients.
- Recognize signs of pain, fear, illness, and distress, and respond appropriately.
- Provide preventive, routine, urgent, and emergency nursing care as needed.
- Perform procedures including venipuncture, sample collection, Gram stains, ear cytology, blood smears.
- Place intravenous catheters.
- Calculate and administer medications and intravenous fluid therapy.
- Perform basic physical assessments and recognize normal versus abnormal findings.
- Follow the Five Rights of Medication Administration.
- Maintain controlled substance records.
- Assist with managing medical inventory, equipment maintenance, and sanitation.

Surgical & Anesthesia Responsibilities

- Prepare patients for spay/neuter and other surgical procedures.

- Calculate, prepare, and administer anesthetic medications within legal scope of practice.
- Intubate patients and monitor anesthesia within legal scope of practice.
- Prepare sterile surgical packs, instruments, and operating areas.
- Assist the veterinarian during surgery as needed.
- Administer local and regional anesthetic blocks according to protocol or veterinary direction.
- Monitor patients before, during, and after anesthesia to ensure safe recovery.

Qualifications

Required Experience

- Current Wisconsin Certified Veterinary Technician (CVT) in good standing.
- Two years of experience as a Certified Veterinary Technician in medical and surgical practice, including anesthesia monitoring; or Three years of experience as a Veterinary Assistant with demonstrated proficiency in anesthesia, surgery, and patient nursing.

Preferred Experience

- Experience in HQHVSN surgery.
- Experience in shelter medicine.
- Experience in public health, laboratory animal medicine, agriculture, or animal science is also valued.

Professional Skills

- Ability to work independently and collaboratively within a team environment.
- Strong problem-solving abilities, initiative, and adaptability.
- Excellent organizational and time-management skills.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills.
- Attention to detail and commitment to following established procedures and protocols.

Commitment to Animal Welfare

- Demonstrated passion for animal welfare and humane care.
- Respectful, compassionate, and nonjudgmental approach when working with diverse populations.

Flexibility & Resilience

- Ability to work weekends (max. two Saturdays per month) and special events as needed.
- Ability to remain calm and make sound decisions in fast-paced or stressful situations.
- Willingness to perform a variety of duties in support of clinic operations.

Physical Requirements & Work Environment

This position is physically demanding and requires:

- Frequent standing, walking, bending, kneeling, and lifting.
- Ability to lift and carry up to 50 pounds safely. Heavier lifting will always require assistance from another staff member.
- Exposure to cleaning chemicals, animal dander, and noise.
- Direct interaction with dogs and cats of varying sizes, temperaments, and behavioral histories.
- Ability to work in a fast-paced spay/neuter clinic environment while maintaining high standards of animal care and customer service.

Why Join Snip Happens?

This is more than a veterinary nursing position—it's an opportunity to help establish one of the only HQHVSN programs in northcentral Wisconsin thereby directly reducing the number of cats and dogs taken in by shelters and the number of animals who do not make it to safe shelter and suffer needlessly due to overpopulation. You'll work alongside a collaborative team committed to providing exceptional medical care for vulnerable animal populations while developing expanded community veterinary services that improve access to care throughout Taylor County and beyond. If you're passionate about surgery and want your work to have a meaningful impact on both animals and people, we'd love to hear from you!

Pay: Starting \$27.00 per hour for CVT