

Essential Capabilities of AWA Volunteers

Essential Physical Capabilities

- Quick reflexes and ability to use both hands simultaneously (example: open cage door while handling animal).
- High level of manual dexterity to leash/harness animals and handle small objects.
- Ability to walk unaided on unpaved, uneven, rugged and sometimes muddy and slippery terrain.
- Ability to bend and squat in order to leash/harness an animal.
- Ability to stand for significant periods of time.
- Average vision (with or without correction) to move safely around the building, to be able to observe animal body language without difficulty, and to be able to read notes on animals' paperwork.
- Ability to hear if animal is growling or making sounds indicating fear or pain.
- Ability to hear calls of alarm such as audible warnings from others or sirens.
- Ability to speak and effectively communicate in English verbally as well as in written form.
- Ability to maneuver well in tight spaces.
- Must not have strong allergies to animals or to chemicals, such as those used in grooming or cleaning, that can't be managed by medication.
- Ability to deal with strong and unpleasant odors such as feces
- Ability to cope with a very loud environment.
- Ability to load and unload washer and dryer; fold clean laundry and put away
- Ability to wash and dry food/water bowls and litter pans
- No known concerns about tolerating exposure to zoonotic diseases such as ringworm and mange.

Essential Mental Capabilities

- Ability to understand, remember and follow instructions and procedures.
- Ability to be aware of potentially dangerous situations when working with the animals; ability to remain calm with animals who are upset, behave sensitively and confidently, and show good judgment and act appropriately in these situations.
- Ability to receive, incorporate and sustain instruction and feedback.

Essential Emotional Capabilities

- Ability to cope with unexpected animal behavior without assistance.
- Ability to cope with a highly emotionally-charged environment and in the presence of animals who are homeless, abandoned, injured and/or abused.
- Ability to understand the Animal Welfare Association's policies and positions regarding animal welfare issues and an ability and willingness to appropriately and accurately represent those policies when interacting with the public or otherwise representing AWA.

Please indicate any special consideration(s) you may need in order to meet the essential capabilities of your volunteer position at AWA:

Applicant: Printed Name

Signature

Date