### State of North Carolina

Zookeeper

# Class Concept

This is routine care of assigned species of exotic animals at the North Carolina Zoo. Responsible for maintaining Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) standards regarding health and behavior monitoring, assessment, feeding, animal/exhibit holding hygiene, safety, containment, animal records, implementing prescribed preventative medical procedures and medical treatments, providing environmental enrichment, operant conditioning, communicating the Zoo's mission and exhibit themes, and knowledge of the assigned animal's ecology, natural history and key conservation issues. Work is performed under the direction of a Zoo Animal Management Supervisor.

# Recruitment Standards

# Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Working knowledge of basic animal biology, anatomy and physiology.
- Working knowledge of animal's natural history and behavior.
- Working knowledge of life support systems and operations.
- Ability to conduct oral informal pubic presentations.
- Ability to physically capture, handle and restrain live exotic and potentially dangerous animals with use of associated capture equipment.
- Skills to identify and interpret subtle changes in animal health and behavior.

# Minimum Education and Experience

Associate's degree in Biology, Zoology, or related field from appropriately accredited institution, or

High School Degree and two years of animal care experience in a zoo or related facility; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Note: This is a generalized representation of positions in this class and is not intended to identify essential functions per ADA.

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