JOB POSTING
RESEARCH ASSISTANT (SUMMER INTERNSHIP)
Full Time Temporary – Shelter Medicine Advancement

Summary
The Research Assistant, under the direction of the Senior Manager, Shelter Medicine Advancement, will assist with a research project evaluating a test for feline panleukopenia virus. They will be responsible for helping develop data collection forms, assisting with patient identification, sample collection and recording, and assisting with an initial draft of a manuscript for publication. The goal of the project is to better assess the value of the SNAP Parvo test and the Parvo PCR test for diagnosing feline panleukopenia, with the ultimate goal of quickly and accurately identifying this infection and saving more lives of cats, particularly vulnerable kittens, in a shelter.

Job Duties
• Assist with development of data collection forms
• Help identify patients that need testing
• Work with shelter staff to collect samples from patients
• Work with intake and foster staff and foster parents to run diagnostic tests on foster animals
• Submit samples to laboratory and run in-house tests
• Maintain an accurate, up-to-date database of patient data and test results
• Assist with data analysis and manuscript preparation
• If needed, liaise with other shelters that wish to collaborate with this study
• If needed, travel to other shelters to collect samples
• Assist with a parallel project describing cats with otitis media, if needed
• Be aware of and work within the regulations of all shelter policies and protocols
• Work in compliance with the provisions of the OHSA and its regulations, including understanding and adhering to the requirements of the Health and Safety Manual, and any other rules and regulations established by the Toronto Humane Society
• Work cooperatively with all shelter staff and volunteers
• Other duties as required by the primary investigator

Job Requirements
• Completed first or second year DVM program at a Canadian university
• At least one undergraduate statistics course
• Understanding of basic research methodology
• Prior involvement in research projects and data publication is highly recommended
• Excellent feline handling skills, strong animal care and biosecurity knowledge
• Self-starter able to work independently with minimal supervision, as well as part of a team
• Excellent verbal and written communication skills
• Ability to multi-task, prioritize and adapt to change
• Excellent knowledge of Microsoft Excel, proficient in Word, PowerPoint and Outlook
• Organized with meticulous attention to detail

Work Conditions
• Interaction with employees, management, volunteers and foster parents
• Flexible hours, including evenings, weekends, and holidays
• May involve the lifting, carrying, pushing, and/or pulling of heavy to moderately heavy objects and materials and some combination of climbing and balancing to include stooping, kneeling, crouching, and crawling
• Performance of essential functions may require exposure to adverse environmental conditions, such as dirt, dust, pollen, odors, wetness, humidity, temperature and noise extremes, hazardous materials, traffic hazards, bright/dim lights, toxic agents, animal/wildlife attacks, animal/human bites, disease, pathogenic substances, or rude/irate customers.

Interested applicants should forward a cover letter and copy of their resume to:
Dr. Linda Jacobson - ljacobson@torontohumanesociety.com

The Toronto Humane Society is a respectful and inclusive workplace. We are committed to championing accessibility, diversity and equal opportunity. Requests for accommodation can be made at any stage of the recruitment process. Applicants need to make their requirements known when contacted.