



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
invites applications for:

## Wildlife Veterinarian

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**SALARY:** \$64,020.00 - \$97,213.00 Annually

**JOB TYPE:** Civil Service Permanent Full-Time

**DEPARTMENT:** Game Commission

**LOCATION:** Dauphin County

**OPENING DATE:** 05/07/19

**CLOSING DATE:** 05/21/19 11:59 PM

**JOB CODE:** 53321

**POSITION NUMBER:** 50257178

**UNION:** Non Union

**BARGAINING UNIT:** B3

**PAY GROUP:** ST09

**BUREAU/DIVISION CODE:** 00234270

**BUREAU/DIVISION:** Bureau of Wildlife Management-Wildlife Health Section

**WORKSITE ADDRESS:** 2001 Elmerton Avenue

**CITY:** Harrisburg

**ZIP CODE:** 17110

**CONTACT NAME:** Holly Koppenhaver

**CONTACT PHONE:** 717-787-7836

**CONTACT EMAIL:** gamevacancybids@pa.gov

### THE POSITION:

Due to the continuation of a need for a statewide wildlife veterinarian, this position is necessary for the agency to maintain its ability to evaluate, research, and combat wildlife health issues. The diagnostic procedures with respect to the scope of necropsy and ancillary testing, as well as the need for expertise in diagnostically-relevant fields (e.g. pathology, toxicology, virology, etc.) will make this a unique position and will require a very specific candidate. In addition, there is growing state-wide interest in optimizing inter-agency coordination and communication to maximize value of current systems and improve wildlife health and disease management.

**IMPORTANT: YOU MUST APPLY TO THIS VACANCY POSTING, MEET ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, COMPLETE THE SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS, AND RECEIVE A SCORE. YOUR SCORE IS ONLY VALID FOR THIS SPECIFIC VACANCY. ONCE THIS POSITION IS FILLED, YOUR SCORE IS NO LONGER VALID.**

- Full-time employment

Work Hours, Monday through Friday, 7:45 am to 4:00 pm with a 45 minute lunch

## **DESCRIPTION OF WORK:**

The Wildlife Veterinarian is responsible for all matters affecting the health and survival of wild birds and mammals across the state.

Designs and conducts surveillance, disease outbreak investigations, and surveys to document and characterize diseases affecting or involving wildlife; designs and implements research projects on the diagnostic, pathologic, epidemiologic and occupation/public health aspects of specific wildlife diseases, wild animal physiology and drugs used in the treatment and immobilization of wild animals; collects, prepares, examines and analyzes biological samples from living or dead wildlife; performs necropsies; collects, compiles and analyzes wildlife disease data, determining host, environment, and epidemiologic factors associated with wildlife morbidity and mortality; maintains records, prepares reports and composes correspondence related to this work.

Consults with and makes recommendations to agency personnel and outside agencies regarding control strategies for wildlife diseases that are across agency and public/private sector boundaries; interprets and evaluates findings and implements control programs as they relate to the conservation and management of wildlife resources; cooperates with the State and U.S. departments of agriculture, Pennsylvania Department of Health, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Centers for Disease Control, and university extension personnel in surveillance and control of reportable and foreign animal diseases.

Provides education and outreach to various sectors; provides expert theoretical and technical knowledge in the areas of veterinary medicine, epidemiology, toxicology and quantitative methods as they relate to wildlife diseases and disease monitoring activities of the agency; interprets and explains State and Federal laws and regulations pertaining to animal health status; consults with other veterinarians and experts on animal health problems; lectures before wildlife management and veterinary students and conservation officer trainees on the subject of wildlife diseases, chemical immobilization, and field necropsy. Prepares scientific papers for publication and presents scientific papers before regional and national wildlife health meetings; provides information on wild animals and their diseases to the press and public; writes Game News articles and provides information for the agency website on wildlife diseases; designs and implements wildlife disease-related training programs for agency personnel; and serves as adjunct faculty at The Pennsylvania State University in the Department of Veterinary Biomedical Sciences.

The Wildlife Veterinarian provides oversight of all pharmaceuticals used in the immobilization and treatment of wild animals by agency personnel. Related tasks include acquiring and maintaining permits for the legal purchase and use of drugs, acquiring, accounting for, and distributing drugs to agency personnel, and ensuring proper destruction of drugs and related supplies.

In addition, the Wildlife Veterinarian provides chemical immobilization capacity for wildlife biologists and wildlife conservation officers for bureau research projects, and restoration /relocation programs; devises and improves capture techniques and aids for biologists to use in the field as research and management tools; directly participates in wild bird and mammal capture and health testing; provides humane euthanasia for sick, injured or nuisance wildlife presented by agency staff; and provides health testing and veterinary expertise to game farm superintendents.

The Wildlife Veterinarian provides the Bureau of Wildlife Protection with forensic services; independently conducts or identifies other expert sources of chemical, physical, radiological and toxicological analyses required in the investigation of violations of wildlife protection laws; maintains Transmittal of Evidence records while evidence is in possession; and testifies on results of forensic analyses in court as an expert witness as needed.

The Wildlife Veterinarian prepares the Wildlife Health Section budget; assigns priorities to study proposals and work programs, operational/response plans, and research projects to initiate and carry out research, disease surveillance and response programs. The wildlife veterinarian is responsible for maintenance of the wildlife health database and hires and directs additional staff as needed.

### **Essential Functions:**

1. Knowledge of veterinary medical laboratory equipment & techniques
2. Apply veterinary medical knowledge to wildlife
3. Conduct exams & necropsies
4. Interpret & analyze data
5. Write scientific & popular articles
6. Speak effectively before diverse groups
7. Prepare training materials
8. Organize & conduct workshops
9. Coordinate field activities

10. Be available to work outside scheduled work hours

## REQUIRED EXPERIENCE, TRAINING & ELIGIBILITY:

### Qualifications:

- PA residency currently waived for this title
- **Minimum Experience and Training Requirements - One year of experience as a veterinarian in the research and/or diagnosis of wildlife diseases and a doctorate degree in veterinary medicine from an AMVA or AVMA approved college or university**
- **Necessary Special Requirement - possession of a license to practice veterinary medicine as issued by the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners**
- **This position requires that applicants possess a minimum of 1 year experience in designing, implementing, and analyzing free-ranging (i.e., non-captive) wildlife research projects on the diagnostic, pathologic, epidemiologic and occupation/public health aspects of emerging wildlife diseases with population level impact to free-ranging wildlife.**
- Must be able to perform essential job functions

**A transcript needs to be submitted with your application. You may upload your document as an Attachment during the application process. You must still complete the application and answer the supplemental questions. All documents MUST be uploaded prior to the submission of your application.**

**Veterans:** Pennsylvania law (51 Pa. C.S. §7103) provides employment preference for qualified veterans for appointment to many state and local government jobs. To learn more about [employment preferences for veterans](#), visit our website at [www.employment.pa.gov](http://www.employment.pa.gov), or contact us at ra-cs-vetpreference@pa.gov.

## EXAMINATION INFORMATION:

- **Score valid for this specific posting only**
- Score based on information reported on application and supplemental questions
- Provide complete and accurate information or:
  - application processing may be delayed
  - disqualification may result
- Based on your answers to the application supplemental questions regarding education, you may be instructed to attach a copy of your college transcripts to your application.
- May only test once under this announcement
- Email notice of test results provided
- Only most recent exam score(s) is (are) counted

**Further information on testing, assistance for persons with disabilities, veterans' preference, and other items can be obtained from:**

Harrisburg: 2nd Level, Strawberry Sq. Complex, 320 Market St., P.O. Box 569, Hbg., 17108-0569; Telephone (717) 783-3058

Philadelphia: 110 North 8th St., Suite 503, Phila., 19107; Telephone (215) 560-2253

Pittsburgh: 411 Seventh Ave., Room 410, Pgh., 15219; Telephone (412) 565-7666

Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS): 711 (hearing and speech disabilities or other individuals)

Internet: <https://www.employment.pa.gov/Additional%20Info/Pages/default.aspx>

APPLICATIONS MAY BE FILED ONLINE AT:  
<http://www.employment.pa.gov/>

Position #CS-20191244-53321  
WILDLIFE VETERINARIAN  
SE

OUR OFFICE IS LOCATED AT:  
613 North Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

[jobs@pa.gov](mailto:jobs@pa.gov)

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## Wildlife Veterinarian Supplemental Questionnaire

- \* 1. Do you possess at least 1 year experience in designing, implementing, and analyzing free-ranging (i.e., non-captive) wildlife research projects on the diagnostic, pathologic, epidemiologic and occupation/public health aspects of emerging wildlife diseases with population level impact to free-ranging wildlife?  
 Yes  
 No
- \* 2. If you are claiming experience in the above question, please list the employer(s) where you gained this experience in the text box below. The employer(s) and a description of the experience must also be included in the appropriate sections of your application if you would like the experience to be considered in the eligibility decision. If you claimed you do not have experience, type N/A in the text box below.
- \* 3. Do you have 1 year of experience as a veterinarian in the research and/or diagnosis of wildlife diseases?  
 Yes  
 No
- \* 4. If you are claiming experience in the above question, please list the employer(s) where you gained this experience in the text box below. The employer(s) and a description of the experience must also be included in the appropriate sections of your application if you would like the experience to be considered in the eligibility decision. If you claimed you do not have experience, type N/A in the text box below.
- \* 5. Do you have a doctorate degree in veterinary medicine from an AMVA or AVMA approved college or university? If yes, you must attach your transcripts for this education to be considered in the eligibility decision. Transcripts **MUST** be uploaded prior to the submission of your application.  
 Yes  
 No
- \* 6. You must complete the supplemental questions below. These supplemental questions are the exam and will be scored. Failure to provide complete and accurate information may delay the processing of your application, or result in a lower-than-deserved score or disqualification. You may attach a resume, but you **must** also complete the application **and** answer the supplemental questions.

All information you provide on your application and supplemental questions is subject to verification. Any misrepresentation, falsification or omission of material facts is subject to penalty. If requested, you must provide documentation, including names, addresses, and telephone numbers of individuals who can verify the validity of the information you provide in the application and supplemental questions.

**If you have read and understand these instructions, please click on the "Yes" button and proceed to the exam questions.**

- Yes
- \* 7. Do you possess a license to practice veterinary medicine as issued by a State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners?  
 Yes  
 No
- \* 8. If "yes", you **MUST** provide your license number, issuing state, and expiration date.

\* Required Question