VETERINARY ASSISTANT

RESOURCE CATEGORY	Animal Emergency Response
RESOURCE KIND	Personnel
OVERALL FUNCTION	The Veterinary Assistant performs veterinary support duties under the direct supervision of a Veterinarian and administers medical care to ill or injured animals in one or more of the following competency areas: 1. Companion animals, including pets, service animals and assistance animals 2. Livestock, including food or fiber animals and domesticated equine species 3. Wildlife animals, captive wildlife and zoo animals 4. Laboratory animals
COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS	1. This position can be ordered as a single resource or in conjunction with a NIMS typed team (Veterinary Medical Team). 2. Discuss logistics for deploying this position, such as working conditions, length of deployment, security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment 3. The position typically works 12 hours per shift, is self-sustainable for 72 hours and is deployable up to 14 days 4. Requestor specifies competency areas necessary based on the animal population the position will serve

Each type of resource builds on the qualifications of the type below it. For example, Type 1 qualifications include the qualifications in Type 2, plus an increase in capability. Type 1 is the highest qualification level.

COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	NOTES
DESCRIPTION	Same as Type 2, PLUS: 1. Helps administer anesthesia and diagnostic imaging under the supervision of a Veterinarian 2. Performs other duties commensurate with state board regulations for the position	The Type 2 Veterinary Assistant assists a Veterinarian by: 1. Handling and restraining animals 2. Providing basic medical care to animals 3. Maintaining medical records 4. Performing laboratory tests 5. Assisting with other veterinary support duties under the direct supervision of a Veterinarian	Not Specified
EDUCATION	Completion of a Veterinary Technician or equivalent degree, certificate or formal training	Not Applicable	Students in accredited Veterinary, Veterinary Technology, Veterinary Assistant or equivalent programs may deploy as Type 2 Veterinary Assistants if they meet the training requirements
TRAINING	Same as Type 2	Completion of the following: 1. IS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS-100 2. IS-200: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response, ICS-200 3. IS-700: National Incident Management System, An Introduction 4. IS-800: National Response Framework, An Introduction	The NIMS Training Program defines a national baseline to guide and promote NIMS training. It provides recommendations to assist Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) in developing their own training plans, tailored to their specific needs

COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	NOTES
EXPERIENCE	Same as Type 2	Two years of experience in a practice setting commensurate with the mission	Not Specified
PHYSICAL/MEDICAL FITNESS	Same as Type 2	1. Moderate 2. Is able to work while wearing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) 3. Maintains immunizations in accordance with current AHJ requirements	1. The NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System (NQS) defines Physical/Medical Fitness levels for NIMS positions 2. PPE is mission specific and may vary by work environment; it includes protective footwear, protective clothing for skin exposure, eye and ear protection, respirators, gloves and masks
CURRENCY	Same as Type 2	Routinely provides direct patient care in the competency area specified	Not Specified
PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS	State, District of Columbia or U.S. tribal- or territory-granted active status of legal authority to function as a Veterinary Technician or equivalent, if applicable	Not Specified	Not Specified

NOTES

Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated component and capability.

REFERENCES

1. FEMA, NIMS 508: Veterinary Medical Team
2. FEMA, NIMS 509: Veterinarian
3. FEMA, NIMS, October 2017
4. FEMA, NIMS Guideline for the NQS, November 2017
5. FEMA, National Response Framework, October 2019