



Position Qualification for Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services  
Animal Emergency Response

## VETERINARY ASSISTANT

<b>RESOURCE CATEGORY</b>	Animal Emergency Response
<b>RESOURCE KIND</b>	Personnel
<b>OVERALL FUNCTION</b>	<p>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:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Companion animals, including pets, service animals, and assistance animals</li> <li>2. Livestock, including food or fiber animals and domesticated equine species</li> <li>3. Wildlife animals, captive wildlife, and zoo animals</li> <li>4. Laboratory animals</li> </ol>
<b>COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This position can be ordered as a single resource or in conjunction with a NIMS typed team (Veterinary Medical Team).</li> <li>2. Discuss logistics for deploying this position, such as security, lodging, transportation, and meals, prior to deployment</li> <li>3. This position typically works 12 hours per shift, is self-sustainable for 72 hours, and is deployable for up to 14 days</li> <li>4. Requestor specifies competency areas necessary based on the animal population the position will serve</li> </ol>

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
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<p>Same as Type 2, PLUS: The Type 1 Veterinary Assistant has a Veterinary Technician or equivalent degree, certificate, or formal training and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.Helps administer anesthesia and diagnostic imaging under the supervision of a Veterinarian</li> <li>2.Performs other duties commensurate with state board regulations for the position</li> </ol>	<p>The Type 2 Veterinary Assistant assists a Veterinarian; specifically, this position:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provides proper handling and restraint of animals</li> <li>2. Provides basic medical care to animals</li> <li>3. Maintains medical records</li> <li>4. Performs laboratory tests</li> <li>5. Assists with other veterinary support duties under the direct supervision of a Veterinarian</li> </ol>	Not Specified
<b>EDUCATION</b>	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 below.
<b>TRAINING</b>	Same as Type 2	<p>Completion of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. IS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS-100</li> <li>2. IS-200: Incident Command System for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents</li> <li>3. IS-700: National Incident Management System, An Introduction</li> <li>4. IS-800: National Response Framework, An Introduction</li> </ol>	Not Specified
<b>EXPERIENCE</b>	Same as Type 2	Two years of experience in a practice setting commensurate with the mission	Not Specified



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COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	NOTES
<b>PHYSICAL/MEDICAL FITNESS</b>	Same as Type 2	1. Performs duties under moderate circumstances characterized by working consecutive 12-hour days under physical and emotional stress for sustained periods of time 2. Is able to work while wearing appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) 3. Keeps immunizations up to date and commensurate with mission	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.
<b>CURRENCY</b>	Same as Type 2	Routinely provides direct patient care in the competency area specified	Not Specified
<b>PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS</b>	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



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## NOTES

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

## REFERENCES

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1. FEMA, NIMS 508: Veterinary Medical Team
2. FEMA, NIMS 509: Veterinarian
3. FEMA, NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System, November 2017