Job Description: Clinical Intern (Unpaid)

The Clinical Intern supports PAWS veterinary technicians and other staff in the care and medical treatment of animals in our Grays Ferry shelter and low-cost clinic. The intern interacts with animals at all stages, including strays, those surrendered by their owners, and client-owned pets being treated in our clinic. Many are injured or ill, some with severe or infectious diseases. This internship may include the opportunity to observe spay/neuter surgery performed on shelter animals in PAWS’ surgical suite, as appropriate and possible.

Duties include, but are not limited to:

- Cleaning cages and kennels to maintain sanitary living environments for the animals and to help prevent the spread of disease.
- Following established protocols regarding infectious disease control, including ringworm, feline panleukopenia, canine parvovirus, and other conditions.
- Administering medications to animals, including those who may be very ill or aggressive.
- Understanding that humane euthanasia is a rare but necessary step in cases when an animal’s condition becomes untreatable.
- Understanding the nature of shelter medicine and the delivery of low-cost veterinary care to pet owners with limited resources, and how it varies from the scope of services available in private practice.
- Assisting clients with check-in procedures and paperwork during our high-volume walk-in hours.
- Promoting a humane and caring attitude towards pets and treating all animals with compassion at all times, including those who are sick, injured, feral, or aggressive.
- Helping to maintain sanitary facilities at all times to have a clean and presentable space.
- Following established procedures governing safe work practices.
- Working cooperatively with staff and volunteers.
- Paperwork and computer file organization.
- Other duties as assigned.

Education and experience required:

High school diploma or equivalent required. Bachelor’s Degree or some college preferred. Experience working or volunteering in an animal rescue, shelter, or veterinary practice preferred. Customer service experience preferred.

Specific job skills required:

- Ability to read, write, and understand English (other language proficiency a plus)
- Ability to communicate respectfully and patiently with a wide variety of audiences
- Maturity, good judgment, a professional appearance, and a calm, tactful demeanor

Direct Supervisor: Veterinary Tech Manager

Time Commitment: 15/20 hours per week, 3 month period

To apply: Please email resume and cover letter to clinicalintern@phillypaws.org.