

Animal Technician - A Rewarding Job

In looking for a new career I came across the vacancy for a junior animal technician at a contract research organisation. I'd considered this once before as a contract technician but it did not suit my circumstances and besides I liked the idea of being settled and knowing the ins and outs of one place. Having previously worked with animals the role sounded great and just what I was looking for. Admittedly I was a little unsure about working with animals in research as I had no previous knowledge about the industry. I need not have worried as when they showed me around at my interview I saw for myself the high standard of welfare and care shown to the animals. Also having nearly lost my Mum the year before I knew that if this work had not taken place she probably would not still be with me now.

I began as a junior technician but in time progressed and eventually obtained my home office licence enabling me to carry out regulated procedures and take responsibility for all the animals in my care.

I also was offered the opportunity of undertaking other courses which would help me progress throughout my career. I saw other people who had started their career as I had as a junior who having taken these opportunities had built successfully upon their experience and branched off into so many other avenues of the industry. It certainly opened my eyes to the various possibilities and directions that are out there for you to take.

Overall it was an extremely interesting and rewarding job; no two days were the same and there are constantly things to learn, whether you have been an animal technician for two months or twenty years.

Also with it comes the satisfaction that you know you are doing something positive to help future generations, doing your bit to find and develop life preserving drugs which could save and benefit the people and the animals that we love and care for.

