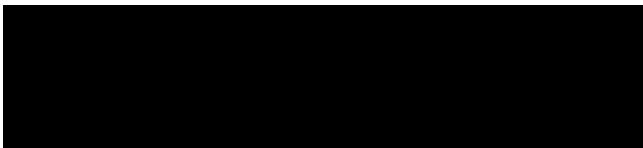




Animal Shelter Worker



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An animal shelter worker is a person who works in an animal shelter caring for animals. These people will often provide companionship to surrendered pets, interact with the animals, and evaluate the animals' behavior, health, and emotional state.

An animal shelter worker may have a wide range of job duties which may include;

- Feeding and watering animals
- Grooming animals as needed
- Cleaning kennels
- Training and exercising pets
- Evaluating pet health and temperament
- Assisting in placing pets with suitable homes
- Administering medications to ill pets
- Collecting strays
- Promoting adoption within the community
- Promoting the importance of spaying and neutering pets
- Animal shelter workers are often expected to complete tasks which require manual labor, such as capturing, lifting, or restraining animals.

Most animal shelter positions require that interested parties attend a training program offered by the shelter. Others may not require any previous experience or training. An understanding of basic canine communication, behavior, training, and emergency procedures are helpful for this field.

A career as an animal shelter worker has the potential to provide a decent living. The majority of work in an animal shelter is often provided by volunteers. Many animal shelter programs do not have the additional funding to hire full-time employees. Some government funded agencies, such as animal control, do offer full-time positions along with benefits.