



Sienna Ranch

3232 Deer Hill Road
Lafayette, CA 94549
www.siennaranch.net
(925) 283-6311

Job Posting Animal Care Assistant

ORGANIZATION

Sienna Ranch provides immersive nature programming, farm education and compelling outdoor experiences for youth pre-K to teens. Our program offerings include woodshop, natural building, archery, horseback riding, gardening, science, pottery, survival skills, homesteading skills, naturalist skills and much more. Sienna Ranch is situated on a 21-acre family-owned ranch in Lafayette, CA.

POSITION SUMMARY

The Animal Care Assistant is an integral part of our animal care team. Animal Care Assistants are responsible for maintaining the safety and care of our animals including horses, goats, sheep, chickens, ducks, and cats. This position works independently with minimal supervision while also being a part of a dynamic team that regularly interacts with students and teachers. Applicants must be able to take direction, possess critical thinking skills, and exhibit good communication. Animal Care Assistants report to the Sienna Ranch Animal Care Manager and Operations Director.

SCHEDULE SUMMARY

Non-exempt. Part-Time. Year-round or Summer seasonal positions available.

School Year: Average 3-12 hours weekly (1-4 days), must include 1 weekend shift

Summer (June 3rd-August 16th): average 12-20 hours per week, one weekend shifts required

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS

Essential Job Functions include but are not limited to the following:

- Completing basic animal husbandry skills such as maintaining a clean animal pen, ensuring animals have access to fresh clean water, and are safely secured within their pens. Additional animal husbandry tasks included grooming, hoof picking, hoof/nail trimming, among others.
- Cleaning out the animal accommodations daily and changing bedding as set forth by the Animal Care Manager.
- Assisting with moving animals around the site, including weekend horse turnout.
- Monitors all animals for signs of illness, distress or unusual behavior; makes clear notations and reports problems regarding health and behavior of animals to the Animal Care Manager and Animal Care team.
- Ensuring that the animal enclosures are maintained to the standards set forth by the Animal Care Manager..
- Handling animals firmly but gently using interaction methods and best practices outlined by the Animal Care Manager.
- Following health and safety procedures within the workplace.
- Learning garden maintenance (watering on weekends, assisting with plantings and weeding).
- Assisting with student drop off and pick up (on weekdays only).
- Assisting with minor facilities and landscaping tasks.
- Often lift and carry materials weighing up to 50 lbs.
- Animal Feeding shifts (all feeding shifts are logged as 1 hour at minimum rate).
- Supporting Horse Camp riding program/instructors as horse handler during riding lessons.

REQUIREMENTS

- A sincere passion for connecting to animals, children, nature, and working in all weather
- Experience/familiarity working with animals and particularly livestock (horses, goats, sheep, ducks, chickens, cats). Other experience can include 4H, animal apprenticeships, vet clinics, animal shelters, or pet daycares
- Committed to being a solution-oriented, self-motivated community member in a cooperative, team-oriented atmosphere

- Be a model of kindness, flexibility and professionalism
- Able to check and respond to email communications within 24 business hours
- Current First Aid and CPR for Adult and Child certifications, and clear TB test results (or ability to acquire before first day or work), and ability to pass FBI/DOJ background check for working with children
- Current COVID vaccination certification
- Certificate of completion for California Child Abuse Mandated Reporter Training
- Minimum age requirement: 16 years old. Applicants currently in school must provide a valid work permit.

COMPENSATION

- Hourly Rate: \$16.00/hour

APPLICATION

Email cover letter, resume, and contacts for THREE professional references to ops@siennaranch.net. Please make sure to include your name, phone number and email address. Applications will be considered as they are received in order to fill this position as quickly as possible.

Sienna Ranch is dedicated to building a culturally diverse and pluralistic team committed to teaching and working in a multicultural environment. We strongly encourage applications from people of color and other groups traditionally underrepresented in outdoor education.

We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, gender identity, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.