

animals science potential discovery benefits

If you want to work with animals *and* you want a career with solid employment, real benefits, and growth potential, think about laboratory animal science.

Organizations that conduct animal research include colleges and universities, research hospitals, biotechnology firms, pharmaceutical and medical device companies, contract research organizations, and government agencies.

These organizations are at the leading edge of discovery in science and medicine; much of their work depends upon responsible, ethical animal research. They are seeking a better understanding of how all living things work, and they are developing medicines, surgical techniques and medical devices that will benefit people and animals.

Regulatory agencies require that new medicines and new medical devices be tested in animals before they are tested in humans.

So research organizations need excellent animal care staff. *Maybe you.*

You could work with laboratory mice and rats, which make up about 90% of all laboratory animals. Or you could be working with lots of other species, including cats and dogs, monkeys, rabbits, guinea pigs, fish, frogs, goats and sheep, ferrets, birds, and even sea slugs. Your team might be performing animal research in cancer, heart disease, addiction, arthritis, depression, Parkinson's or Alzheimer's disease, flu, diabetes or any of hundreds of other disease conditions that affect people or animals.




The Career Ladder

Industrious, committed individuals have great opportunities for career advancement. As you get more and more experience and training, you will gain more responsibility. You may even find yourself managing other staff members and facilities as a supervisor or manager. Your initial job will depend upon your experience and education (high school diploma, laboratory animal care certificate, associates degree, bachelor's degree). If you increase your knowledge and experience, in part through the successful achievement of certifications from the American Association for Laboratory Animal Sciences http://www.aalas.org/certification/tech_cert.aspx, you will find increasing career rewards to accompany your broadening skills.

Laboratory animal science training and careers also can lead in other beneficial directions, such as working for the companies that sell equipment and supplies to animal research facilities.





Can you make the grade?

- Do you want to work with animals?
- Do you love and respect animals and believe they deserve excellent care?
- Are you prompt and conscientious about workplace rules?
- Are you willing to work hard?
- Can you read and listen to directions and follow them carefully?
- Are you physically able to lift and move items that weigh up to 50 pounds?
- Do you want to learn new things and contribute to the advancement of science and improved healthcare for humans and animals?

If you answered *YES*, then laboratory animal science may be for you.

How to Learn More about Careers in Laboratory Animal Science

Curious?

Interested?

Want to know more?

The Massachusetts Society for Medical Research (MSMR) has created a web page full of information about:

- Education and training requirements
- Schools and colleges that offer training in laboratory animal science
- Detailed job descriptions for different laboratory animal science positions

Go to the MSMR website at www.MSMR.org and click the Career Training navigation button.

And good luck in your career!



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A Career in Laboratory Animal Science



Think **About** It.



**Massachusetts Society
for Medical Research**