



Job Description

Section 1 – Job Details

Job Title

Location

Grade/Pay
Band

Business Unit

Section 2 – Summary of role

The jobholder will be working in a team of veterinary pathologists to deliver a range of research and surveillance projects focused on high-impact, notifiable and zoonotic diseases of production animals as well as supporting the work of the Pathology & Animal Sciences Department and the wider Agency toward achieving our objectives of protecting public health, preventing farm animal disease and promoting animal health and welfare.

The Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) is an executive agency of the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, and works on behalf of the Scottish Government and Welsh Government. Our diverse teams of over 2,000 skilled and committed professionals come together to provide research, advice and support to UK Government for safeguarding animal, public and plant health for benefit of the environment and economy.

Section 3 – Job description

You will be working together with fellow pathologists and scientists across the APHA to deliver high quality, inter-disciplinary scientific projects, focused on a wide range of notifiable and zoonotic diseases of production animals. You will be using your veterinary pathology skills to aid in the investigation and identification of emerging, exotic and notifiable diseases and advancing the understanding of disease pathogenesis in animal models, while supporting the analysis and dissemination of your scientific findings.

Section 4 – Responsibilities

1. Conducting post-mortem examinations and tissue sampling for scientific research projects and statutory disease surveillance activities, often working within ACDP3 and SAPO3/4 classified biocontainment facilities.
2. Conducting microscopic examination of tissues for research projects and diagnosis of statutory diseases.
3. Collaborating with scientists from APHA, other governmental and scientific institutes and academia across the UK and abroad.
4. Communicating quality, evidence-based advice and scientific data through written reports, presentations and scientific publications.
5. Maintaining veterinary and scientific expertise through Continuing Professional Development, whilst also supporting the development of your colleagues.
6. Working to various Quality and Health and Safety standards, including ISO9001, ISO17025, Good Laboratory Practice, Animal Scientific Procedures Act (ASPA), Specified Animal Pathogens Order (SAPO), Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens (ACDP) guidance.

Section 5 – Other Information

Assessment

You must provide a comprehensive CV in the provided template and give a 500-word personal statement describing your skills and experience.

Experience and skills

- Veterinary degree
- Member, or eligibility for membership, of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)
- Veterinary pathology skills (gross and histopathology), analysis, interpretation and communication of scientific data. All levels of expertise will be considered; on the job training will be available.
- Interest in developing a career in pathology and research is essential

As part of the assessment process you will be asked to give examples of Behaviours and Experience using Situation, Task, Action, Result (STAR). If successful for an interview you will be asked to give a presentation and details of this will be given at the time.

Behaviours

- **Working together (application and interview)**
- **Communicating and Influencing (interview only)**
- **Delivering at pace (interview only)**
- **Managing a quality service (interview only)**

Technical

- Veterinary pathology expertise and skills, including post-mortem examinations, tissue sampling and gross and microscopic pathological examination of tissues

Ways of working

The post is full-time, we may consider two part-time staff on a job-share basis if continuity can be arranged. The role is based at Weybridge where the team is located and due to the nature of the role and duties required. Flexibility in working hours is required if called upon to finish a particular urgent task or call upon in an event of an outbreak.

Employment into Civil Service is governed on grounds of [Civil Service Nationality Rules \(CSNR\)](#) and subject to [UK Immigration Rules](#), including the new-points based immigration system.

Animal Plant Health Agency (APHA) is a Skilled Worker Licence sponsor and can provide Sponsorship into [certain roles](#), subject to both parties meeting the UK Visa and Immigration requirements. Due to CSNR changes, APHA are able to provide sponsorship for role into the following Standard Occupational Classification codes;

- **2216 Veterinarians – all jobs**

The successful candidate will need to comply with a number of health protocols and to have any necessary vaccinations. This will be arranged by the Health Team, Weybridge. The use of protective clothing and Respiratory Personal Protective Equipment (RPPE) will be required.

Due to access requirements to biosecure areas, individuals must be physically able. The work of the post can be physically demanding.

Depending on the areas of work involved you will be expected to undergo a pre-employment medical assessment.

The successful candidate should not keep pigs or poultry or live on premises where there are domestic livestock or poultry. Temporary restriction on contact with poultry, livestock or rodents may apply under some circumstances.

Staff will be required to work rostered on-call duties, weekends, Bank Holidays and occasional evenings. You may be eligible for overtime payments and where overtime is approved you will receive appropriate payment.

Travel will be required to attend training courses and undertake farm visits. You must have a valid driving licence, or be able to call upon suitable alternate means of transport.

Closing date for applications is Sunday 27th February at 23:55.