East Bay SPCA’s Surgical Support Internship

Purpose: Surgical support interns will assist during surgery days for our East Bay SPCA shelter animals. Most surgeries are routine spays and neuters, and other surgeries including mass removals, enucleations (eye removal), and amputations are performed as needed.

Location: Our Oakland campus is located at 8323 Baldwin Street, Oakland and our Oakland Spay & Neuter Surgery Center is located at 410 Hegenberger Road, Oakland. Parking is available on-site at both locations. The nearest BART station is Coliseum.

In this internship you’ll learn:
- How to handle animals safely while minimizing their stress
- About common infectious diseases in shelters, and how to avoid their spread
- How to set up the surgical prep area and surgery room
- How to prepare animals for surgery
- How to give injections
- How to monitor animals during and after surgery to ensure they’re stable and recovering appropriately
- Principles of surgery – about surgical instruments, suture, and minimally-invasive surgery
- How to clean, organize, and wrap surgical packs, and principles of sterility
- Cleaning principles to prevent disease spread

Time Commitment:
- 8 hours per week.
- Shifts available on Mondays and Wednesdays between 8:30am and 5:00pm. This can be a full 8 hours on Monday or Wednesday (preferred), OR 4 hours each day on Monday and Wednesday.
- An additional 1-2 hours per week outside of these scheduled hours may be required to review training materials.
- If you are absent for more than 2 of your assigned shifts, you may be dismissed from the program.

Training:
- Training by our shelter veterinarian and medical support team is provided.

Requirements & Qualifications:
- At least 18 years of age
- Commit to a regular weekly shift or biweekly shift
- Basic animal handling skills preferred
- Veterinary or medical background preferred
- Must be able to sit or kneel on the floor to assist with recovering patients

Complete our Surgical Support Internship Application to apply.