

Terms and Conditions Information

Please see the information below regarding the position you have applied for and your training. It would be helpful for you to familiarise yourself with the details prior to interview in order for you to prepare any questions that you may wish to ask.

1. The Position

We are recruiting Trainee Official Veterinarian who will initially work as Veterinary Meat Hygiene Inspectors. Whilst you are in this position, you may be assessed and offered the opportunity to become an Official Veterinarian. You can apply to be selected for the OV course at any time after you become employed as a Trainee Official Veterinarian/VMHI.

The Veterinary Meat Hygiene Inspector (VMHI) multi–area relief cover position involves working in various red and white meat abattoirs in England. The role involves carrying out post-mortem inspection of carcasses and offal and assisting the Official Veterinarian in other duties such as hygiene and animal welfare controls. The work will not be based in one location initially and will therefore require travel between different premises. As such, you should be aware that you will be required to drive to these premises. There may be the opportunity to take up a fixed VMHI position at a later stage.

Only those applicants with a desire to undertake further training to become an Official Veterinarian should apply for this position.

2. Terms and Conditions

Your rate of pay will be £9.37 per hour before income tax deductions (tax is approximately 25%), increasing to £9.86 per hour after six months service and £10.10 per hour after 12 months service. This salary is based on an estimated working week of 40 hours; you will be paid for actual hours worked. Your salary will be paid on a four weekly basis.

You will also receive £300 accommodation allowance for the first month when your first placement has been confirmed.

At your induction training course, you will be provided with a company car, post mortem inspection equipment, protective clothing and a company mobile telephone. We also provide paid accommodation during your initial training period only (approx. 3-4 weeks). You will need to pay for your own meals (lunch will be provided whilst you are training at the Leeds office). You will be able to claim the mileage to and from your training plant(s). Please note that you will need to pay for the petrol yourself and then claim it back in your expenses. Training is unpaid. If you require us to book the accommodation for the first week when you start working in your permanent area, we are more than happy to help. We will also provide you with references to rent accommodation.



3. Travel time & Mileage

Travel time is not paid from home to plant and plant to home; it is paid when travelling between plants when you are working at more than one plant in a day.

4. Contract Period

This is a permanent position. There is a probationary period of three months during which your performance will be assessed.

5. **RCVS Registration**

Please be aware that in order to work as a vet in the United Kingdom you need to be registered with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) in the UK. Please log on to their website: www.rcvs.org.uk if you want to know which documents you need in order to register.

Upon an offer of employment, we will help you with your registration with the RCVS in terms of arranging the appointment and assisting you with the correct documentation. It is your responsibility to pay your membership fee to join and renew every year. Please note that you will need to send all the required documents to us at least one week before coming to the UK to attend the course. We can also assist you with obtaining the official translation of the required documents.

6. Training

The VMHI training course consists of approximately one week of theoretical training in Leeds and three to four weeks of practical training that may be organised anywhere in England; as such you must be prepared to travel. The total period of practical training depends entirely on you and how quickly you will become conversant with the work as a VMHI.

6. Training Costs

The theoretical and practical training referred to above is free for those who remain available to commence work at any time following completion of the training and who subsequently complete a minimum working period of nine months.

Anyone who is not able to take up a position offered to them within the three months following completion of their training, or who leaves the position prior to the completion of the training course or the minimum nine month period will be required to pay £750 as a contribution to the cost of their training and the £300 accommodation allowance, should they have received it.



7. **Prior Training in your Own Country**

In order for you to be better prepared to take up a VMHI position, we strongly advise that you visit a slaughterhouse in your own country and do some practical training there before you come to England. You can contact any of your local slaughterhouses and ask if they would allow you to do some training at their premises (it would be beneficial if you could obtain some knife skills training).

8. Driving

As an employee, you will be required to drive a car in England and your training and subsequent work will involve a significant amount of travel. It is therefore essential that you are a competent driver and have held a driving licence for at least one year. At the interview we will be asking you questions about your driving skills and history.

Please note: as part of your induction, you will be required to undergo a half hour driving assessment with a qualified driving instructor.