

# KHS Externship Expectations

*The Kansas Humane Society Externship Program is designed to increase awareness of shelter medicine and population management through open communication and student observation. It is our goal to increase the anesthesia and surgical skills of the Externship Participants through one on one mentorship and repetitive practice; a well rounded quality learning experience.*

## What KHS Expects of Externs

- The participant should be aware of their limits and must communicate honestly concerning current clinical abilities with the DVM on duty.
- Each participant must be willing to expand their current knowledge and skills; not just perform repetitively what they knew before they came to KHS.
- Participant must openly listen to instruction, learn methods shown by the DVM on duty, and allow for positive correction when necessary.
- Any activity that places the patient's life at risk will be intercepted by the KHS DVM. The student will cease immediately, being allowed to proceed only as approved by KHS DVM.
- Participants are expected to function as part of the team, learning about the medications and methods used at the Kansas Humane Society.
- Participants are expected to assist with patient evaluation and care, medical rounds, examination of surgical patients, and other duties as requested by the DVM on duty.
- Participants are responsible for their physical safety:
  - Understand the body language of animals
  - Handle animals only if completely comfortable and confident
  - Recognize and be responsible for taking breaks when experiencing fatigue or needing nourishment
- Externship participants will provide their own scrubs and appropriate shoes for standing long periods of time

## What the Extern Should While at KHS

- Practice scrubbing, gowning and gloving, and changing gloves while sterile
- Practice performing multiple spays and neuters on dogs and cats
- Performing physical exams on shelter animals
- Working hard! Learning a lot! Improving your skills and knowledge!