Job description

Job title:	Software Developer (PHP)
Type of employment:	Full-time.12-month contract, with possibility to extend
Salary:	c.£50,000 per annum
Location:	Remote working initially, with possibility to extend. Office is based at Belgravia House, Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 2AF
Reporting to:	Head of Digital and Communications
Direct reports:	None

Background

RCVS Knowledge is a charity whose mission is to advance the quality of veterinary care for the benefit of animals, the public and society. We do this by providing a range of resources and services to veterinary surgeons, veterinary nurses and the wider veterinary industry. We are the charity partner of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, which sets, upholds and advances the educational, ethical and clinical standards of veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses.

RCVS Knowledge is in an exciting period of growth. Our expanding resources are highly regarded by the veterinary profession, and our digital services are core to delivering our mission. This new post has been created to fulfil our commitment to enhancing their functionality, robustness and accessibility.

Job purpose

The PHP Developer will shape the future direction of digital services at an exciting time in the charity's development, working with service owners to define and deliver sustainable enhancements across our platforms.

The role is based within a multi-skilled team, comprising communications and design staff. The postholder will also work closely on a day-to-day basis with the software development team at the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, in order to share technical best practice and ensure aligned technical approaches to projects.

This is a new 12-month role, with the possibility to extend based on the delivery of the key responsibilities outlined below.

Key responsibilities

- Develop and customise in-house Moodle e-learning platform
- Upgrade software of in-house PHP-based journal (Open Journal Systems), and build and implement new functionality
- Deploy applications to production environments, including WordPress
- Assess legacy infrastructure, make recommendations for upgrading/migrating legacy in-house applications and carry out upgrade/migration projects, as prioritised by Head of Digital and Communications
- Act as first line of support for any issues with the Knowledge digital portfolio

Other

- Work closely and collaboratively with both teams and wider colleagues
- Maintain an awareness of software development best practice and trends, undertaking professional development as required
- Undertake any other duties relevant to the objectives of the post
- Contribute to the wider activities of RCVS Knowledge, as appropriate

Essential criteria

- Proven ability to work tactfully, collaboratively and productively with colleagues at all levels of technical proficiency
- Initiative, energy and enthusiasm, and ability to work efficiently on several projects at once
- Ability to work independently within a multi-skilled team

Skills, knowledge & experience

- Excellent working knowledge of PHP, Moodle and WordPress in particular
- Experience administering Linux servers with MySQL and Apache
- Experience deploying applications to production environments
- Experience using GitHub or equivalent VCS
- Experience of writing documentation

Desired skills, knowledge & experience

- Experience of handling system upgrades
- CI/CD
- Front-end development experience
- Working knowledge of Bash and/or Python scripting
- AWS or Azure certification