

The Animal Cause, Inc. Adoption Application

You must be at least 21 years old to adopt

1) Applicant(s) Name:

2) Date:

3) Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

4) Email:

5) Best number to reach you:

6) Date of Birth:

7) Name of pet(s) you are interested in adopting:

8) Name of spouse:

9) Name of employer(s) for you and your spouse:

10) How long have you been employed by this employer(s) for you and your spouse:

11) Are you or your spouse current/active military, entering the military, other military related career/information. Please detail:

12) Are you or your spouse a student;

Yes

No

13) Do you or your spouse travel frequently:

Yes

No

14) Who will take care of your pet(s) when you are away for extended periods:

15) How many children are in your household and what ages:

16) Number of adults living in your home:

17) Are all adults in household in agreement regarding adoption of a pet:

Yes

- No

18) Please describe your living situation:

- Apartment
- Condo
- House
- Mobile home

19) Do you...

- Own
- Rent

20) How long have you lived in your current residence:

21) Do you plan to move soon:

- Yes
- No

22) If yes, will you provide us with your new address:

- Yes
- No

23) How many pets currently live in your home:

24) Number and gender of dogs and approximate weights:

25) Are they sterilized (spayed/neutered):

- Yes
- No
- Currently have no dogs

26) On heartworm preventative:

- Yes
- No
- Currently have no pets

27) Number of cats in home:

28) Are all of your pets currently vaccinated?

29) Please provide information on your current veterinarian:

- Vet Name:
- Address:
- City:
- State:

- Phone:
- Email Address:

30) Have you ever rehomed or given up a pet before:

- Yes
- No

31) If you have rehomed a pet before, please explain:

32) Do you ensure your pets have collars with ID tags or microchipped?

- Yes
- No

33) Do you have a fenced backyard:

- Yes
- No

34) Will you need to chain or tether your pet while in the yard:

- Yes
- No

35) If you don't have a fenced yard, how do you plan to exercise your new pet?

36) What is the purpose of getting a new pet, are you looking for a

- new family member
- guard dog to alert you to strangers, etc.
- an outside dog to keep strangers away

37) Are you planning to have your new pet attend training for basic obedience:

- Yes
- No

38) Would you seek a trainer's help with behavior issues and/or to help with establishing boundaries:

- Yes
- No

39) How many dogs have you owned in the last 10 years, including current:

- Lost
- Given away
- Sold
- Death

- Never had a pet

40) Do you have a swimming pool? If you have a pool, how will you protect a dog from falling in:

- Yes
- No

41) Do you have a dog door?

- Yes
- No

42) How many hours per day will the dog be alone?

- 0-3 hours
- 4-7 hours
- 8+ hours

43) Where will the dog be during alone time?

- Crate
- Separate Room
- Run of the House

44) When will your new pet stay outside, alone:

45) Are you prepared for and willing to accept the expenses of yearly booster shots and proper care for possibly 10-15 years:

- Yes
- No

61) Who will care for your pet(s) in the event of your death:

62) Will you agree to return this new pet to The Animal Cause, Inc. if you can not keep him or her and to notify us if he or she is lost or dies:

- Yes
- No

63) Will you allow The Animal Cause, Inc. to conduct home visits:

- Yes
- No

64) Any additional information you would like to add when we consider your application:

Adopting a new pet is a wonderful and rewarding experience, but it requires preparation and commitment.

Here are some key things to consider:

1. Choose the Right Pet for Your Lifestyle

Pet Type: Consider what kind of pet suits your living situation, daily routine, and energy level. For

example, a dog requires daily walks and more active playtime, while a cat may be more independent.

Size and Breed: Research different breeds and their temperaments, especially for dogs and cats. Some breeds require more exercise or grooming than others.

Age: Puppies and kittens require a lot of training and attention, while older pets may be more settled but could have specific health needs.

2. Prepare Your Home

Pet-Proofing: Remove hazards like toxic plants, chemicals, sharp objects, and small items that could be swallowed.

Safe Spaces: Create a designated area where your new pet can feel secure as they acclimate to their new surroundings.

Supplies: Stock up on essentials like food and water bowls, a bed, toys, a collar with an ID tag, a leash (for dogs), and a litter box (for cats).

3. Understand the Financial Commitment

Initial Costs: Adoption fees, vaccinations, microchipping, and initial supplies.

Ongoing Costs: Food, grooming, regular vet check-ups, flea/tick prevention, and potential pet insurance. Emergency vet visits can be costly, so budget for unexpected expenses.

4. Vet Care

Find a Veterinarian: Have a vet lined up for a health check within the first week of adoption.

Vaccinations & Microchipping: Ensure your pet is up-to-date on vaccinations and consider microchipping for safety.

Spaying/Neutering: If not already done, schedule this procedure to help prevent overpopulation and reduce certain health risks.

5. Nutrition and Diet

Quality Food: Choose pet food that meets your pet's age, breed, and health requirements. Consult your vet for dietary advice.

Feeding Schedule: Establish a consistent feeding schedule to help with digestion and behavior.

6. Training and Socialization

Obedience Training: For dogs, basic training is crucial for a well-behaved pet. Start with commands like "sit," "stay," and "come."

Socialization: Introduce your pet to different environments, people, and other animals to develop confidence and reduce anxiety.

Litter Training: For cats, provide a clean, accessible litter box to encourage proper bathroom habits.

7. Exercise and Mental Stimulation

Daily Activity: Dogs need regular walks and playtime, while cats benefit from interactive toys and climbing structures.

Mental Stimulation: Use puzzle feeders, training exercises, and games to keep your pet mentally engaged.

8. Establish Routines

Consistency: Pets thrive on routines for feeding, bathroom breaks, exercise, and sleep.

Patience: Allow time for your new pet to adjust. They may be anxious or shy at first, but with patience, they'll learn to trust and feel at home.

9. Behavioral Understanding

Learn Their Body

Language: Understanding

Pet signals (e.g., wagging tails, purring, growling) will help you respond to their needs and emotions.

Addressing Issues: Be prepared to deal with behavioral issues like separation anxiety, chewing, or scratching. Professional trainers or behaviorists can be helpful.

10. Commitment

Long-Term Responsibility: Pets can live for many years, so be ready for a long-term commitment. They'll depend on you for love, care, and companionship throughout their lives.

11. Emergency Preparedness

First Aid Kit: Keep a pet-specific first aid kit handy for minor injuries.

Emergency Plan: Have a plan in place for who will care for your pet in case of emergencies or travel.

By considering these aspects before adopting, you'll create a loving and safe environment for your new pet and build a strong, lasting bond.

There is a 3-3-3 rule when adopting a new furry family member!

Pets take time to adjust!

- It takes 3 days for them to decompress
- 3 weeks to learn your routine
- 3 months to feel at home

Here's some additional things to keep in mind:

The monthly cost of owning a dog can vary depending on several factors, such as the dog's size, breed, health, age, and the owner's lifestyle choices.

On average, you can expect the monthly cost to range between \$60 to \$200 or more.

Here's a breakdown of common expenses:

1. Food:

Small breeds: \$10-\$30

Medium breeds: \$20-\$50

Large breeds: \$50-\$100

2. Treats and Chews:

\$5-\$30

3. Toys:

\$5-\$30 (depending on how often they need replacement)

4. Preventative Medications:

Flea, tick, and heartworm preventatives: \$20-\$50

5. Grooming:

Short-haired breeds: Minimal to \$10 (if grooming at home)

Long-haired breeds: \$30-\$90 (if taken to a professional groomer)

6. Routine Vet Care:

\$20-\$60 (averaged monthly from annual checkups, vaccinations, etc.)

7. Pet Insurance (Optional):

\$20-\$60 (depending on coverage)

8. Training and Pet Care Services (Optional):

Training classes: \$20-\$50 (per session, averaged monthly if ongoing)

Dog walking/pet sitting: \$50-\$300 (depending on frequency)

Total Estimated Monthly Cost:

Low-End: \$60-\$100

High-End: \$150-\$300+

The total can vary significantly based on your dog's needs and lifestyle choices you make. Unexpected health issues can also add to the cost, so it's good to be prepared for occasional higher expenses.

Most people give up on a new pet after a few months. Training is essential to help your new pet understand the boundaries you want to establish in your home. Training is also a great way to form a quicker bond with your new pet and establish you as the "top dog" in your house! It's important to set aside money for this vital expenditure so this relationship is sustainable and your pet has a forever loving home!

Training a new dog is indeed crucial for establishing a well-behaved and happy relationship between you and your pet. Proper training helps ensure that your dog understands boundaries, follows commands, and adapts to your household's routine. Here are a few key tips to help sustain effective training:

Start Early: Begin training as soon as you bring the dog home, regardless of its age. Early training helps establish good habits and prevents unwanted behaviors from becoming ingrained.

Be Consistent: Consistency is key. Use the same commands, gestures, and responses to your dog's actions. Everyone in the household should follow the same rules to avoid confusion for the dog.

Use Positive Reinforcement: Reward good behavior with treats, praise, or playtime. Positive reinforcement helps the dog associate following commands with pleasant outcomes, making them more likely to repeat the behavior.

Short, Frequent Sessions: Dogs, especially puppies, have short attention spans. Keep training sessions short (5-10 minutes) and frequent throughout the day to maintain engagement without overwhelming your dog.

Socialization: Expose your dog to different people, animals, and environments to help them develop confidence and reduce anxiety in various situations.

Patience and Calmness: Training takes time, and setbacks are normal. Always remain patient and calm, avoiding any punishment that might cause fear or anxiety.

Seek Professional Help if Needed: If you're struggling with specific behaviors or want to ensure you're on the right track, consider enlisting the help of a professional dog trainer.

With patience, consistency, and positive reinforcement, you can create a loving and structured environment that benefits both you and your dog.

Remember, training can cost between \$20-\$50 per month and it's important to find a reputable trainer in your area.

Terms and Conditions:

I understand that The Animal Cause, Inc. retains the option to deny any application. The Animal Cause, Inc. is waiving the \$350 adoption fee but requests a tax deductible adoption donation to help defray medical and other expenses to cover the previous care of your new pet . The Animal Cause, Inc. reserves the right to conduct follow up visits to ensure the pet has been well maintained, current on vaccinations and is adjusting well to its new family.

Statement Of Understanding:

As a potential adopter, I do hereby certify that all of the information contained in this application is true and complete. I further understand and agree that, if chosen as an adoptive or foster home, I will comply with the following conditions of adoption:

- 1) I am at least twenty-one (21) years old;
- 2) I understand that this dog MUST be an INDOOR pet;
- 3) I understand that no dog adopted / fostered from The Animal Cause, Inc. may be allowed off lead, outside a fenced area, at any time or for any reason;
- 4) I further understand, if for ANY reason, that this dog does not work out, I will return it to The Animal Cause, Inc..
- 5) The animal will be spayed/neutered (if not done prior to adoption).
- 6) That no unsterilized animal will be bred prior to sterilization or The Animal Cause, Inc. has the right to confiscate the animal from my possession and take legal action against me as a result of breach of contract.
- 7) As a potential adopter or foster, I represent that no member of my household has ever been charged with cruelty to animals.
- 8) Should The Animal Cause, Inc. representatives deem it appropriate, the animal may be confiscated and the adopter will be liable for any and all costs associated with legal action; up to and including punitive damages and legal representation.
- 9) Lastly, I understand the costs and responsibilities associated with pet ownership and the long term commitment therein. My family and I are prepared for the current and future needs of the animal we are about to adopt. We additionally understand that training is likely required to make this adoption successful and are willing to make that commitment. Should we have any questions we will contact The Animal Cause, Inc. as they are fully committed to making this adoption process a success for us.

By clicking the next check box, I submit that all of the information provided in this application is deemed reliable and accurate.

I HAVE READ AND AGREE: _____

Date: _____