

## INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE ADOPTERS

(Please read before submitting your application)



Please accept our sincere thanks for your willingness to bring a formerly homeless pet into your life. For us, animal rescue is not about warehousing the animals indefinitely, but we will not rush the process simply to place more animals. Our ultimate goal is to place every cat and dog into a loving, safe, **permanent** home. We cannot achieve this goal without you!

Our adoption process may seem complicated, and we want to be sure that potential adopters do not find it too confusing or frustrating. We hope that this explanation of our policies and procedures will address most of your questions.

**Step 1: You Submit an Adoption Application** The process begins when you make an initial inquiry (by telephone, email, or visiting the Animal Aid shelter). If you determine that you would like to be considered as an adopter, you will be asked to complete the Animal Aid adoption application and either fax or mail it to our office. Please fill out the application completely; the more information we have about your household, the more quickly we can evaluate your application.

**Step 2: Our Adoption Counselor Makes Contact** Once we receive the application, you should be contacted by an adoption counselor. We try to make initial contact within a day of receiving the application, but of course we cannot make a guarantee. Please bear in mind that our adoption counselors are volunteers with families, jobs, etc., so the application process may not move as quickly as some prospective adopters would like. The adoption counselor at this stage will be calling to let you know that your application is being reviewed, advise you if the animal you are interested in is still available, and go over any questions that might arise from the information you have provided.

**Step 3: Application Information is Verified** The next step will be checks – we confirm ownership of your property (if you are a homeowner) or, for renters, we contact your rental manager to ensure that pets are allowed on the premises. We will also contact your veterinarian to ask questions about the veterinary care that you have provided to your current or former pets. Finally, we may contact one or more of the personal references you have provided on the application.

*At this point, we occasionally decide (often in concert with you) that your household is not a good match for the pet you have in mind. **Please** don't take this personally if it happens. It may be that we feel your family is too lively for a shy pet, that the presence of young children or other animals could pose problems, or that an anxious animal would be left alone too many hours a day. It is always hard for our volunteers to reject an eager and potentially loving adopter, but we feel that our first obligation must be to the animal for which we have assumed responsibility. It is also possible that the Adoption Counselor will suggest you meet a different pet whose personality and energy level they feel more closely matches your household.*

**Step 4: Everyone Meets** If everything checks out fine, the crucial next phase is that we will ask you (and, if possible, everyone in your household – maybe even other pets) to come to the Animal Aid shelter to meet with an Adoption Counselor and the animal you hope to adopt. In some cases (especially with dogs) this may be the first opportunity you have to meet the animal face-to-face, and this meeting is often the key element to the final decision (on our part and yours!) to proceed with the adoption. Even this far along, we sometimes have multiple good candidates for a single animal. We have a five-member adoption team that determines which prospective adopter will be the best match. We try to make our decision based on the household that is the best fit for the pet.

**Step 5: The Home Visit** The last step is the home visit, when the pet is delivered to your home. During the home visit, we will inspect the premises to ensure that the pet will be properly confined (to the house for cats, and with a securely fenced yard for supervised outdoor time for dogs). We will also watch for hazards that might pose a threat to the pet's health. Even at this late stage, the adoption will not be finalized if we cannot be confident that the animal will be housed and maintained appropriately! The visit also gives the adoption counselor a chance to go over any special recommendations we might have for the animal – medical issues, feeding guidelines, socialization recommendations, etc. You will be asked to sign an adoption agreement, a contract outlining your guardian responsibilities. We will also, at this point, collect either an adoption fee (for our S.T.A.R. animals) or a donation to Animal Aid. Except for S.T.A.R. animals, the adoption is not contingent on the size of the donation, **but** it costs a lot for us to provide food, shelter, and medical care to our rescues and we hope that you will be willing to offer us assistance in carrying out our mission.

# Adoption Application for Cat Dog

Animal Aid, Inc.

Have you already spoken to an Animal Aid Adoption Counselor?  Yes  No  
 If Yes, who and when:

Mail to: 5335 SW 42nd Ave Portland OR 97221  
 FAX to: 503-296-4957

How did you hear about Animal Aid?

**Date Received:**

## How can we reach you?

Name	Yr of birth (you must be 18 or older)	Home Phone	Work Phone (if we may contact you there)
Street Address (include Apt #)		Home Email	Work Email (if we may contact you there)
		Cell Phone	Other
City, State Zip Code		Your Employer	

## Tell us about your decision to adopt

Why are you considering adopting?

Describe the type of pet (**personality, energy-level, size, quantity**) that you think would best fit your life:

Are you interested in a specific pet? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If Yes, what is its name? How did you learn about it?	Are you adopting this pet for yourself? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If No, please explain:
Do you have a breed / color preference? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If Yes, please describe:	Age preference? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please describe:
Preferred Sex <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> Either	
Have you ever had one of your cats declawed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If you adopt a cat, do you intend to declaw it? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know If Yes, why?	How many hours a day will your new pet be left alone?

## Tell us about your household

Are there children living in your home, or who visit regularly? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If Yes, what are their ages?	What adults share your home?
Does anyone in the household have animal-related allergies? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If Yes, what steps will you take?	
Is everyone in your household in favor of adopting a pet? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If No, how will you deal with this?	

## Tell us about where you live

Is your residence a: <input type="checkbox"/> House <input type="checkbox"/> Apartment <input type="checkbox"/> Condo <input type="checkbox"/> Duplex <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Home <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	Do you plan to move soon? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If you move will your pet go with you? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If No, where will it go?
Do you: <input type="checkbox"/> Rent <input type="checkbox"/> Own <input type="checkbox"/> Live with family <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	How long have you lived at your current address? Years                      Months
<b>RENTERS ONLY</b> Apt Complex / Mgr or Landlord name: Mgr. Contact Phone	What is the Pet Policy concerning the allowed <b>number</b> and <b>type</b> of pets? Pet deposit amount:                      Pet Deposit Paid? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Describe your home, yard, and neighborhood	
Do you have a pet door? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Where will your new pet stay during the day?
	At night?

Date Received:

Applicant Name:

Tell us about all pets that are currently part of your household		Age	Sex	Altered?	Vaccinations Current?	Microchip or Tattoo?	Licensed?	Where does this pet stay?
Type	Name	Now						<input type="checkbox"/> Indoors / Outdoors <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoors only <input type="checkbox"/> Indoors only
How did you acquire this pet?		Then						
Type	Name	Now						<input type="checkbox"/> Indoors / Outdoors <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoors only <input type="checkbox"/> Indoors only
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Type	Name	Now						<input type="checkbox"/> Indoors / Outdoors <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoors only <input type="checkbox"/> Indoors only
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Type	Name	Now						<input type="checkbox"/> Indoors / Outdoors <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoors only <input type="checkbox"/> Indoors only
How did you acquire this pet?		Then						
Type	Name	Now						<input type="checkbox"/> Indoors / Outdoors <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoors only <input type="checkbox"/> Indoors only
How did you acquire this pet?		Then						
What brand / type of pet food do you use?								
How many litter boxes do you have, and where are they placed?								
Describe how your current pets interact with each other:								

What other pets have you had in the last five years? (Use an additional page if you need to)				
Type of pet	Name	How long did you have it?	What happened to it? Year?	How old was it at the time?

**Date Received:**

**Applicant Name:**

**Planning ahead**

How would you introduce a new animal to your family and current pets?

How will you confine your pet to your property?

Describe how your pet will be cared for if you are away for more than a day:

How would you handle problem behavior (aggression, destructive behavior, marking) on the part of a pet?

Name some reasons that might cause you to give up your pet:

If you become disabled or are no longer able to care for the pet, who will take care of it? What plans have you made?

How much money per year do you anticipate spending on this pet?	Are you willing to go to the expense and time of taking your new pet to a veterinarian for full preventative and medical care at least once a year? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Would you object to a follow-up visit from our representative to see how the pet is doing in its new home? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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**Who handles your pets' medical needs?**

Veterinarian	Clinic Name / Address	Contact Phone

Are any of your pets currently under treatment / taking medications?  Yes  No  
If yes, please describe:

Has a pet died on your premises of distemper, leukemia, parvo, or unknown causes in the last 3 months?  Yes  No  
Have your other cats **tested negative** for feline leukemia and feline AIDS (FeLV/FIV)?  Yes  No  Not tested

**References – professional or personal (non-relative) preferred**

Name	Years Known	Relationship	Contact Phone

I attest that the above information is accurate and give Animal Aid, Inc. permission to verify any of the above. I understand that giving false information is grounds for denying my application.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Note: Applicant must be at least 18 years of age to sign an adoption contract*