



# Animal Adoption Policy

## Application and verification:

- Applicant must complete adoption application.
- Applicant/Adopter must be 21 years of age or older.
- Pets will not be adopted to families with children under the age of 5 years old.
- If applicant does not own their own home, they must provide a copy of their lease agreement, showing that pets are allowed. Landlord will be contacted to verify that there is no breed, pet or size restriction.
- At the time of applying for adoption, all family members must be in agreement for the adoption. If adopting a dog, we also recommend/require that any other dogs in the family/home are present/introduced to see if the dogs get along. At time of adoption, all family members must be present or have had a meet & greet with pet prior to adoption.
- References and background checks: Application must include 3 references on adoption application.
  - All personal, professional and veterinary references will be checked.
  - Any applicant with a domestic or animal abuse past will be declined an adoption.
  - Home inspection may be done prior to adoption or at any time after adoption.
  - Processing of applications can take up to 3 business days.
  - Applicant's current veterinarian will be contacted to ensure other pets in the household are up to date with vaccinations and spayed/neutered. If they are not up to date on vaccinations and spay/neutered, the adoption will be denied.

## Adoption fees:

- Adopter must pay in full for pet at the time of adoption.
- **ADOPTION FEES ARE NON REFUNDABLE, EVEN IF THE PET IS RETURNED TO A HEART FOR ANIMALS.**
- If a check is returned for insufficient fund or stop payment, the adopter remains responsible for the full amount of the adoption fee plus any bank or legal fees charged to A Heart for Animals.
- No pet/animal will ever be bartered or traded for goods or services.
- What the adoption fee includes - Prior to adoption:
  - Age appropriate vaccinations at the time of adoption. Vaccine date(s) will be located on the Disclosure form, provided at time of adoption.
  - Fecal test, deworming and microchip.
  - Rabies vaccination - If animal is old enough at time of adoption (minimum age 4 months). If animal is not old enough at time of adoption for rabies vaccination, adopter will be financially responsible for rabies vaccination.
  - Heartworm test and monthly heartworm prevention (for dogs), Combo test aka FIV/FELV test (for cats).
  - Monthly flea/tick preventative.
  - Spay/neuter surgery; see contract for details.
  - For dogs - leash, collar and AHFA id tag.

## Region:

- AHFA adopts to approved applicants within a 100 miles radius of Huntley, Illinois.

## A Heart for Animals

PO Box 986  
Huntley, IL 60142

Phone: 847.868.2432

AHeart4Animals@gmail.com  
www.AHeartforAnimals.org

**Well-being of pet:**

- Applicant/Adopter agree that the pet will, at all times, wear a collar with a current rabies tag, license tag, AHFA id tag and will be in compliance with any state and local laws.
- Adopter shall never transport the pet in an open or closed trailer, pickup truck bed or a boat trailer.
- Adopter agrees that pet shall be treated with kindness and shall be treated as a loved family member.
- Adopter agrees not to put pet in a known/unknown harmful situation.
- Adopter agrees that if pet adopted is a cat, **THE CAT SHALL NOT BE DE-CLAWED.**
- If adopter takes pet on a boat, the pet is required to wear a life jacket.
- Adopter agrees to take pet to a veterinarian for yearly check up, annual vaccinations and if pet is a dog, dog will have annual heartworm test.
- Adopter agrees to take pet to a veterinarian if pet is showing signs of illness.
- Adopter agrees not let pet run free off leash or out of immediate control. If applicant/adopter has another pet that is allowed to roam free or off leash, they may be considered unacceptable to adopt. Adopter must be in compliance with local off leash laws.
- Adopter agrees that cats will be indoor cats only. **CATS WILL NOT BE INDOOR/OUTDOOR CATS.**
- When outside, a dog will never be left unattended, regardless if dog is in a fenced yard, kennel, on a stake/tie out or chain.
- Adopter agrees that pet shall have access to clean water and food at all times.
- Adopter agrees to let AHFA know of any address, email or phone number changes within 1 week of change so that the microchip information can be updated.
- Adopter agrees that if pet is adopted prior to being spayed/neutered, adopter agrees that pet will NOT be used for any breeding purposes, in any shape or form. Adopter will have the pet altered per the criteria stated in our Adoption Contract.
- If adopter is unable to keep adopted pet, adopter agrees to contact AHFA immediately. Pet can not be sold, given away, bartered or ownership transferred to any person, shelter, rescue or organization without AHFA's approval.
- If the pet is relinquished to another entity or individual, the signor of this adoption policy/adopter will be liable for reimbursing AHFA for any expenses related to reclaiming the pet. This includes, but is not limited to, transportation costs, damages, legal fees, fees for medical treatment, any fees charged by the individual/entity in possession of the animal, health certificates for inter-state transfer, etc.
- If AHFA is not contacted prior to rehoming of pet, adopter will be charged \$1,000 and will be responsible for any and all legal/lawyer fees. If any harm or damage, including but not limited to euthanization/death or any condition requiring medical attention, to the animal is caused by the animal not being returned to AHFA, adopter will also be charged \$1,000 in addition to any fees pertaining to the harm or damage to the animal.

Upon adoption, the adopting person assumes responsibility for the rescue pet's actions, health and shall hold A Heart for Animals, Inc. (AHFA) and its individual members free from all claims for personal injury, injury to others, other animals and/or property damage associated with the adoption of the pet.

I have read this adoption policy in its entirety and agree to the above terms. I understand that failure to comply with this adoption policy and the adoption contract, may cause A Heart for Animals Inc. to void adoption and require pet to be returned to A Heart for Animals, Inc. in Huntley, IL.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Adopter/Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Adopter/Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date