



South Bend Animal Care and Control Adoption Policies

IN THE CORPORATE CITY LIMITS/PET LIMIT IS (3) THREE/ INCLUDES CATS

South Bend Animal Care and Control handles 4,000 animals per year. In spite of this overwhelming number, we try to ensure that every animal leaving the shelter is healthy and free of any disease. We want you to understand that any time you adopt a pet from an animal welfare organization, you do take a certain risk. We do our best to screen adoptive animals for possible health and temperament problems so that we place only healthy, well adjusted pets into new homes. However, there is always a chance that the animal is incubating a disease at the time of admission and not showing any clinical signs. Since many of our animals are strays, it is impossible to tell where they have been and what they may have come in contact with. Therefore, an animal that appears healthy may have been exposed to disease before admission. The vaccinations it receives on admission would be ineffective in combating the disease.

Please have your new pet health checked within 7 days of the adoption by a licensed veterinarian. We will only offer a refund or replacement for an animal diagnosed by a licensed veterinarian to have an incurable disease within seven days of the adoption date. If you as the new pet owner, elects to treat the pet's illness without first consulting us, you will be responsible for any costs incurred in the treatment.

To protect all animals involved, any dogs or cats currently owned or kept by the adopter must have current vaccinations before a new pet is placed in the household. South Bend Animal Care & Control will not be held liable for any illnesses that may be passed from a newly adopted pet because an owned pet is not current on their vaccinations.

The shelter makes no claims or representations as to the behavior, or the temperament of the animal(s) we place up for adoption. Since most of our pets have minimal behavioral training, we expect the pet's new family to put forth a sincere effort to train their new pet. We will be happy to give you helpful training tips or advice. **We do not give refunds for trainable behavior problems**, you must be willing to work with your new pet and accept this responsibility.

Landlords of rental properties or mobile home parks must give approval for the adoption before the placement of the new pet. All the adults living at the residence are required to give approval of the adoption before placement. Applicants must be 18 years or older. For these and other reasons, **we do not adopt pets as gifts. We will provide a certificate for the payment, but we will require the adopting family to fill out the adoption application and visit with their new pet prior to approval.**

South Bend Animal Care and Control does reserve the right to refuse an adoption application for any reason. The future welfare of the pet is our #1 concern. A pet will require a DAILY commitment of time and money for the years to come. We do our best to make sure that the animals are entering an environment that is compatible with that specific breed. **The mandatory 24-72 hour waiting period gives you,** the adopter, time to consider the choice of your new prospective pet and that you are willing to accept the possible 15 year commitment. **Sometimes, circumstances beyond our control require additional time in processing the application.** The application also helps us determine if the animal you are adopting is compatible with your lifestyle. We hope that you will agree that the animal's welfare must be our first and foremost consideration.

South Bend Animal Care and Control reserves the right to conduct post adoptive inspections and to remove the pet if it is not being properly taken care of.

Thank you so much for your patience and wanting to help a homeless shelter pet

SOUTH BEND ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL PET ADOPTION APPLICATION

105 S Olive
Phone (574) 235-9303

South Bend In 46619
Fax (574) 235-7611

To ensure that this adoption is in the best interest of both you, your family and the animal you select, we ask that you answer the following questions completely and honestly. Please remember that our #1 priority is finding the best home for the animals under our care. Also, consider that most of them have already had a difficult life and we do not wish for that to continue. Therefore, we reserve the right to deny an application for any reason that we think is not in the best interest of the animal. We may also suggest an alternate animal to assure that we are approving the best match possible.

DATE: _____ TIME: _____ am pm

NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE _____

HOME PHONE: () _____ WORK PHONE: () _____

► List ALL of the animals that currently reside with you:

	Pet #1	Pet #2	Pet #3	Pet #4	Pet #5
Name?					
Breed?					
Sex?					
Neutered?	Yes No				
Age?					
Shots current?	Yes No				
City license?	Yes No				
Pet Lives?	Inside Outside				

► What is the name of the vet/clinic that has the current vaccination records for your pet

_____ Phone #(_____) _____

► Not including the ones you have listed have you had any pets in the past? YES - NO

► If yes, what happened to them? _____

▶ What type of home do you live in?
___ Townhouse ___ Condo ___ Apartment ___ Mobile Home ___ Single-Family House

▶ Do you own this home YES RENT LAND CONTRACT

▶ If you rent or are buying on a land contract we will require permission from the property owner in order to complete your application. Please specify landlord, rental agency or land contract holder:

Name: _____ Phone: () _____

▶ How long have you lived at your current residence? _____

▶ If less than three years, what was your previous address?

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

▶ How long did you reside at this residence? _____

▶ Are you planning to move in the next six months? YES NO

▶ What will you do with your new pet if you move? _____

▶ Do you live with your parents? Yes No

▶ Do all members of your household want this pet? YES NO

▶ How many adults in the household? _____

▶ How many children in the household? _____

▶ Ages of the children? _____

▶ Who will be responsible for the daily care of your pet? _____

▶ Are there any known allergies to animal fur in your household? YES NO

▶ Where will your new pet be kept:

▶ during the day? _____

▶ at night? _____

▶ while you're not home? _____

▶ while you're on vacation? _____

▶ How will you train your new pet or correct inappropriate behavior?

▶ How will you discipline your new pet? _____

▶ What will you do if your new pet shows destructive behavior? _____

▶ What kind of animal behavior(s) do you feel unable to accept and possibly return him/her to us?

▶ How will your new pet be kept from running loose?

▶ Do you have a fenced yard or dog run? YES NO

If yes, please describe the enclosure, including the dimensions height and size of the fence:

▶ Approximately how much do you think it will cost to care for this animal each year?

Food \$ _____ Vaccines \$ _____ Toys \$ _____ Misc. \$ _____

▶ Are you financially prepared to provide this care and commitment? Yes no

▶ Have you ever adopted or applied to adopt an animal from us before? YES NO

If yes when and why _____

▶ Which pet are you interested in adopting? (Please be descriptive as possible)

Intake number on card _____

Physical description _____

▶ What are your reasons for wanting to adopt this pet? _____

▶ Have you ever brought an animal to our shelter or to another shelter? Yes No

If so please explain the reason: _____

▶ Do you understand

the local requirements for pet licensing? Yes no the mandatory rabies vaccination for dogs, cats & ferrets?

Yes __ No __ the Ordinance against allowing your dog or cat to run at large? Yes No

you must keep your pet restrained by a leash (no longer than 6') when off of your property Yes No

By signing this application I have read and agree to abide by the following conditions or terms:

- ▶ I will not to allow my pet to become a public nuisance because of loud or frequent barking, biting or intimidating passers by, running loose or other behavior that may infringe upon the rights of others
- ▶ I realize that I must **IMMEDIATELY** remove and properly dispose of any waste from my pet on any property
- ▶ I will provide proper and sufficient food and fresh water on a daily basis to my new pet
- ▶ I will have adequate facilities at my residence that will protect my new pet from the elements and provide a space that will allow him/her to freely move about and not be required to lie, sit or stand in his or hers own excrement.
- ▶ I will provide any and all veterinary treatment that my new pet may require throughout his/her lifetime.
- ▶ I will return him/her to South Bend Animal Care and Control if I am unable to properly care for my new pet.
- ▶ I will not to sell, give away or abandon my new pet without first contacting South Bend Animal Care and Control.
- ▶ I will not mistreat, abuse, fight or use my pet for experimental or medical research purposes OR allow anyone else to do so.
- ▶ I will allow South Bend Animal Care and Control to review my home at any reasonable time and to remove my pet if the home is unsuitable or if it is officers determined that my pet is being neglected or mistreated in any way.
- ▶ I will abide by all Local, State and Federal laws that pertain to my new pet.
- ▶ I will pay all reasonable costs, including court costs and attorney fees, incurred by South Bend Animal Care and Control in enforcing this contract if I fail to comply with its terms.
- ▶ I will have my pet neutered by the date specified in the Spay/Castration agreement.
- ▶ I will have my new pets health checked by a licensed veterinarian within 72 hours of the adoption.
- ▶ I understand that South Bend Animal Care & Control makes no representations or guarantees about any animal's temperament or health and that a pet's behavior may change after it leaves the shelter and accustoms itself to a new home.
- ▶ Any comment that an animal may be good with children or other animals or is housebroken is based upon information provided by the previous owner.

We strongly recommend that pets be closely supervised when they are with children

- ▶ I understand that The City of South Bend will not be liable for any future injury or damage which may be caused by your new pet.
- ▶ I understand that The City of South Bend makes every effort to adopt only healthy animals but makes no guarantees or representations about any animal's health and will not be liable for any future veterinary care or treatment the animal may need. Refunds will only be given for health related illnesses diagnosed by a veterinarian.

I understand that South Bend Animal Care and Control will be contacting my veterinarian for vaccination and health histories for any pets that I have owned and authorize him/her to release that information to S.B.A.C.C. I am also aware that if my current pets are not up to date, the adoption may be delayed until they are vaccinated and acquire the immunity provided by the vaccines. Please be considerate of any delays we are only trying to assure that our pets are placed in the best possible home.

South Bend Animal Care and Control reserves the right to deny an application for any reason(s). These reasons may include but will not be limited to; misinformation given on this application, unvaccinated pets, inadequate facilities, past record of nuisance pets, recommendation of veterinarian or other animal welfare organization, history of animal abuse or neglect or already at the maximum number of pets.

To the best of my knowledge the information in the above application is correct and true.

Signed _____ Date _____

Thank you for completing the application. Our staff will need at least 48 hours to review your application so please allow us the time and call back tomorrow afternoon @ (574) 235-9303. The application is designed to help us determine if the adoption is in the animal's best interest and to assist you, the adopter, in finding an animal most compatible with your lifestyle. We hope that you will agree that the animal's welfare must be our first and foremost consideration.

We want you to understand that any time you adopt a pet from an animal welfare organization, you do take a certain risk. We do our best to screen adoptive animals for health and temperament so we place only healthy, well adjusted pets into new homes. However, there is always a chance that the animal is incubating a disease at the time of admission without showing any clinical signs. Since many of our animals are strays, it is impossible to tell where they have been and what they may have come in contact with. This simply means that the animal appears healthy and if it has been exposed to disease before admission, the vaccinations it receives on admission would be ineffective in combating the disease. Please have your new pet health checked within 7 days of the adoption

ADOPTION PROCESS

- Complete and sign the application then turn it in
2. A 72 hour waiting period is required for us to review your information, verify current pets health status, verify property ownership, check our files as well as the Humane Societies for past nuisance complaints. Please remember that we consider the animals well being as our top concern and reserve the right to deny an application for ANY reason
 3. Call us in 72 hours to check on the status of your application
 4. We will then set up an appointment for you to pick up your new pet

WHEN YOU PICK UP YOUR NEW PET YOU WILL NEED TO SHOW PROOF OF:

1. Prepaid rabies vaccination receipt from your veterinarian
2. Vet appointment card to receive rabies vaccination and a health check within 7 days of the adoption.

BASIC FEES

- Canines*
\$75.00
- Felines*
\$60.00
- City License*
\$10.00 (if residing within the City limits)

We are a not for profit organization and the adoption fee goes to cover the care for the animal as well as covers our costs for the below procedures and medications.

Additional fees maybe added for neutering, rabies vaccination or additional medical care expenses that have already been provided to the animal. We will inform you upfront if they apply. These procedures would have been required as a condition of adoption and were most likely provided to us by a veterinarian at a discount. They would reflect the actual costs to us.

THE ADOPTION FEE INCLUDES

- Microchipping
- First vaccinations (excluding rabies)
- First worming for puppies