



Animal Welfare Department Veterinary Services **LOW INCOME SPAY/NEUTER PROGRAM**

The City of Albuquerque Animal Welfare Division provides follow-up medical services for animals adopted within the last 10 days and free spay/neuter services for **low income qualified citizens** of Albuquerque.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

HOW DO I QUALIFY?

- **Qualification is based upon:**
 - Residence **within the City of Albuquerque**
 - Total household income
 - Proof of current government assistance
 - Limit of **2 pets per household**

- **Disqualified:**
 - Pet owners under 18 years of age
 - Dogs weighing 50 pounds or more
 - **Any pet weighing less than 3 pounds**
 - Aggressive animals
 - **Any animal assessed by the City veterinarian as a surgical risk**

INCOME GUIDELINES

<u>FAMILY SIZE</u>	<u>ANNUAL GROSS INCOME</u>
1	\$21,150
2	\$24,150
3	\$27,150
4	\$30,150
5	\$32,620
6	\$35,000
7	\$37,400
8	\$39,800

DO I HAVE TO QUALIFY TO RECEIVE VETERINARY SERVICES?

Yes. You must qualify as low income to receive complimentary spay/neuter, vaccine, and microchip services. Proof of qualification is required at the time you drop off your pet.

WHAT IF I DON'T RESIDE IN ALBUQUERQUE?

Please refer to the CABQ website, the Yellow Pages, or your local city/county government agency for other options.

CAN I BRING MY PROOF OF LOW INCOME WHEN I PICK UP MY PET?

No. Proof must be presented at check-in or services will not be rendered.

WHAT PROOF DO I NEED?

- **Two paycheck stubs** dated within the last month for each wage earner in the household

OR

- **Bank statement** showing direct payroll deposits of your last two paychecks

OR

- **W2s or other tax documentation** for the last calendar year

OR

- **Government assistance award letter:** award letter detailing the amount of Food Stamp EBT, TANF, Medicaid, or SSI (must be dated within the current calendar year)

*****NEW BEGINNING OCTOBER 4, 2011*****

SPAY/NEUTER SERVICES

Free spay/neuter services for low income qualified citizens of Albuquerque will begin October 4th, 2011.

- **Walk-in, first-come-first-served** basis ONLY: no appointment needed or available
- **Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday ONLY**
- **Eastside Shelter ONLY**
- **ONLY THE FIRST 20 PETS WILL BE TAKEN.**
- Drop-off time is from **7:30 to 8:00 am**
- Proof of qualification **MUST** be presented at drop off or services will not be rendered.
- Surgery patient pick-up is from **3:00 to 5:00 pm**

Note: If you fail to pick up your pets, they will be kept overnight. Overnight fees will apply and must be paid before your pet will be released to you.

WHAT WILL BE DONE FOR MY PET?

- Female pets will be **spayed**; male pets will be **neutered** (surgically sterilized).
- **Microchip** implant with free registration (unless your pet has one)
- **Vaccinations** against common canine and feline diseases
- **Rabies vaccination** if three months of age (unless you bring proof of prior vaccination within the last year)
- **Rabies tag and city license** will be issued.
- **Your pet's future care is your responsibility.**

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW BEFORE I COME?

- Dogs **MUST** come on a leash.
- Cats **MUST** come in a carrier; if you bring 2 cats, bring 2 carriers.
- Aggressive animals will be turned away.
- Each pet will be examined by a veterinarian prior to surgery. If your pet is sick or considered a surgical risk, surgery will not be performed.
- **Do not feed your pet after 9:00 pm the night before surgery.**
- **Give your pet water all night long.**

WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING WITH ME?

- Driver's license or official ID card
- Social security number
- Current proof of low income status; **services will not be rendered without it.**
- Proof of vaccines within the last year if you do not want your pet revaccinated. Proof is a **rabies certificate**, *not* a pet health record.
- An alternate contact number for the microchip registration: someone who has a different phone number than yours. **If your pet is already microchipped, please tell us!**
- If someone else is going to drop off or pick up your pet, they need a **signed and dated letter of authorization** from you and their driver's license or official ID.

For example: "I, (your name), authorize (your friend's name) to transport my pet (your pet's name) to and from AWD for spay/neuter surgery on (the date)."

I QUALIFY, BUT I DON'T DRIVE. ARE THERE ANY OPTIONS FOR ME?

Yes!

- Have someone pick up a paperwork package for you at any AWD location.
- Fill out the paperwork in advance (package must be filled out properly to be valid).
- Have a friend, neighbor, or relative transport **your paperwork, your ID, your proof of income, and your pet.**
- Provide this person with a **signed letter of permission** authorizing them to transport your pet. **They must present their ID** so we know we are releasing your pet to the proper person.

For example: "I, (your name), authorize (your friend's name) to transport my pet (your pet's name) to and from AWD for spay/neuter surgery on (the date)."

Completing your paperwork early will shorten your check-in time! We encourage everyone to do this!

WHERE DO I TAKE MY PET?

- Animal Welfare Division East Side Animal Shelter
- **8920 Lomas NE** (between Wyoming and Eubank on the south side of Lomas)
- Turn south off of Lomas onto **Herndon**, just east of the Hyundai car dealership.
- The veterinary clinic is the **north door** (on your left as you face the building).

MY PET'S INCISION IS INFECTED. WHAT DO I DO?

Return to the **East Side clinic** within 10 days of surgery from **2:00 - 4:00 pm** any day of the week.

GENERAL HOURS OF CLINIC OPERATION

Surgery patient drop-off: 7:30 to 8:00 am **EAST SIDE CLINIC ONLY**

Surgery patient pick-up: 3:00 to 5:00 pm **EAST SIDE CLINIC ONLY**

Rabies vaccine clinics: (for **ADOPTED ANIMALS ONLY) **1:00 to 3:00** every **Wednesday and Thursday** at both **East side and West side locations**. These clinics are not open to the public.**

Recheck appointments: (for post-operative complications within 10 days of surgery **IF they occur) **2:00 to 4:00** seven days a week at the **EAST SIDE CLINIC ONLY**.**

If you have any further questions, please call 311.